

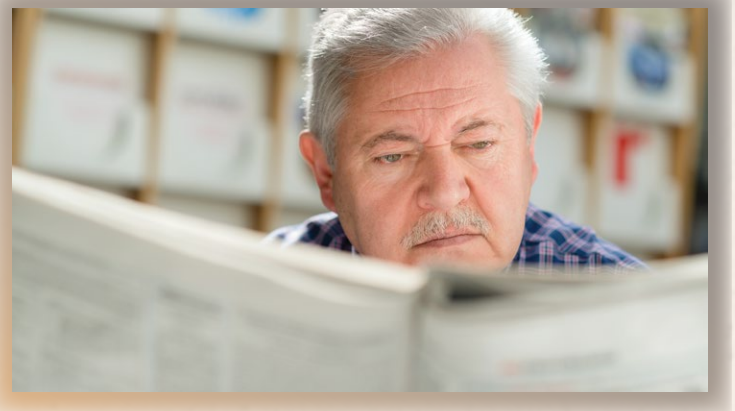
Dear Friend,

“Your organization’s good work keeps popping up on my radar screen, so I just had to make this gift!” This note from Martin came with his donation and it had us intrigued. We just had to ask for specifics when we called to thank him. Martin was more than happy to explain.



“It started back before Christmas,” he began. He came home one day to find his wife shopping for clothes and toys for toddlers on Amazon. All of their grandkids are much older than that, so he asked what she was up to. The members of her crafter club were joining together to buy holiday gifts for a family they had “adopted” who had a child in pediatric hospice care with Hospice of the Chesapeake. Their hopes were to lift that family’s spirits and lighten their terrible load. “That actually brought tears to my eyes,” Martin said.

Next, early in the new year, Martin was reading an obituary for an elderly woman from his church in which her family asked that, instead of flowers, gifts be made to Hospice of the Chesapeake. “I’m reading more obituaries these days and have noticed that your organization is often appreciated for its skilled, compassionate care at end of life.”



Then, a couple weeks ago, he was out walking the dog when he spotted his neighbor all dressed up in his Navy uniform. “Have you forgotten you’re retired?” Martin asked. “He told me he volunteers for Hospice of the Chesapeake doing honor salutes for patients who are veterans. When I asked how that worked with COVID and all, he said, ‘We get creative. Sometimes we do the ceremony outside their window or using Zoom.’” Martin was impressed.

“There’s one more thing,” Martin said. “I’m a member of a Facebook group here in our retirement community. Neighbors have been sharing heart-wrenching stories about how they’ve not been able to be with a dying loved one or have a proper memorial service. They talk about how COVID has them feeling cut off from their families and lonely. But several people have mentioned how they’ve been helped by the Chesapeake Life Center’s free bereavement care resources, sharing links to these helpful videos.

“All that added up to my realization that Hospice of the Chesapeake is an amazing resource for our community – only more so in these COVID times. It is worthy of my support.”

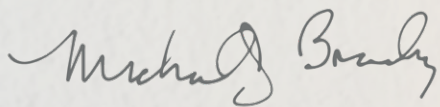
What Martin and many others in the communities we serve in Anne Arundel, Charles and Prince George’s counties are noticing is how our wrap-around, patient- and family-centered care has made us uniquely able to adapt to the challenges of the pandemic.

Many of you have kindly asked how our front-line team is holding up as they continue to provide hospice, supportive and bereavement care. They are stretched to their limits, but incredibly committed.

If you are able, we would be most grateful for a mid-winter gift to help us keep them protected and well-supported as they keep shining the light of our many essential and acclaimed programs and services throughout these dark days.

More than ever, we are here for you and our community. And more than ever, we depend upon the community to support our nonprofit mission of “caring for life throughout the journey with illness and loss.”

With gratitude,



Michael J. Brady
Acting Chief Executive Officer



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