



# IH OHANA HAPPENINGS



IT'S ABOUT LIVING!



WHERE  
WE'RE  
GOING:  
SAVE THE  
DATE!

ISLANDS  
HOSPICE:  
PATIENT  
PROGRAM  
SPOTLIGHT

WHERE WE'VE  
BEEN:  
RECENT  
EVENTS

## WHERE WE'RE GOING: SAVE THE DATE!

### UPCOMING VOLUNTEER TRAINING SESSION:

Tuesday, February 26th, 5:00 p.m. at the Islands Hospice office, 1301 Young St.

**March 10 - 16: Patient Safety Awareness Week** -- *PSAW* is an annual recognition event intended to encourage everyone to learn more about health care safety. During this week, the **Institute for Healthcare Improvement** seeks to advance important discussions locally and globally, and inspire action to improve the safety of the health care system – for patients and the workforce.

**March 23: Walk on the Wild Side Event**, celebrating **National Kidney Month**, 11:00 a.m. -- 4:00 p.m., arts, crafts, prizes and more! Fort St. Mall & Chinatown, Register at [kidneyhi.org/wows](http://kidneyhi.org/wows)



## ISLANDS HOSPICE



### PATIENT PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT:

#### HELPING US GRIEVE SPIRITUALLY: (HUGS) PROGRAM

IH chaplain, Paul Patterson (pictured top left), didn't know when he purchased a "get well" bear for his first hospice patient it would inspire a movement to provide stuffed animals to patients for spiritual care. When Patterson was called over to the bed during a visit and saw the patient cuddling the bear, he had a vision that similar gifts could have a deep and meaningful spiritual impact.

Patterson says, "The idea for **HUGS (Helping Us Grieve Spiritually)** came as a way for the spiritual team of chaplains to provide better care and break the stigma that chaplains only come to pray for the dying." HUGS speaks to the fact that each family is different and responds to unique spiritual needs, but hugs are universal, "everyone feels better after a hug."

In a recent chaplain meeting, the team talked about the need to educate families on their services and provide a personal touch. The idea surfaced after Patterson observed "a few of his patients would play with the fabric of soft items [such as] the sheets and blankets used for care and [he] noticed a trend regarding a heightened sense of touch for end-stage dementia patients." At that point, Paul "spoke to a few family members and care home operators and then experimented with various stuffed animals until the right size, texture and appropriate animal was found."

When Paul decided to carry the "HUGS" dog around the office for a few days, "the attention given more or less solidified the birth" of the program. He says, "Special recognition must be given to Chaplain Paige as she was instrumental in clearly identifying the purpose behind the name" of the program.

HUGS has the potential to bring families together and start conversation. HUGS reminds us that, no matter how small, a gift given from the heart is actually quite big.

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## IH PATIENT PROGRAM: SPOTLIGHT, CONT.

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"HUGS is unique because he is the first. I haven't heard of any hospice providing or using stuffed animals for spiritual care. Each HUGS given is particular and special to the care given by that chaplain. Each one is anointed with oil, blessed and then fragrance scented with lavender... which promotes peace and lowers anxiety."

-- Paul Patterson, IH Chaplain

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### Do you know about our "Blossoms of Hope" program?

It brightens and enriches the lives of hospice patients and allows the community to participate in the Islands Hospice mission of bringing hope, support, and life-enriching care to those facing life's end.

Through our Blossoms of Hope program, participating local florists generously donate one to two floral arrangements per month, which are picked up and delivered to our patients' homes by Islands Hospice volunteers. Thank you to our volunteer delivery drivers and florist partners below for bringing joy to our patients in their time of need.

This month we received beautiful arrangements from **Waiahole Nursery & Garden Center!**



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## WHERE WE'VE BEEN: CELEBRATING RECENT EVENTS



<= Let's hear it for the Pain PIP team! They did an amazing job with the nursing education this month!

Congratulations to all those participating in the "Down with the Pounds Challenge!"

Can you tell who is about to weigh in? => The toes know... :)

Congratulations to **Glory Acedera** for being the "biggest loser" after the first two-week weigh in! So far the group has dropped a total of 124 lbs. Way to go!!

Follow us on FB to find a yummy, healthy new recipe to try each Friday!



Like us on FB & Instagram to keep up with all things Islands Hospice & wish your IH Ohana Happy (work) Anniversaries!

