



2014 YEAR IN REVIEW

--~-- BETTER THAN WE --~--
EVER IMAGINED

OUR MISSION

Guiding the way: Providing the finest care through the end of life.

OUR VISION

Foster hope, healing and respect through an unwavering commitment to what we do, through the education of our patients, families and the community, and through our interdisciplinary teamwork.



1991

A \$1 million pledge by philanthropist and noted thoroughbred horse owner Jeanne "Jinny" Gilchrist Vance paves the way for the creation of a new hospice.



1994

Hospice of Baltimore, with a patient population of about a dozen to start, begins serving patients and families in Baltimore City and Baltimore County, providing home-based care.



1996

Gilchrist Center Towson, a beautiful, peaceful 24-bed inpatient hospice, opens on the campus of GBMC. Thirteen years later, the center is expanded, adding 10 patient rooms.



1997

Hospice of Baltimore merges with Hospice Services of Howard County, expanding our reach.



1998

The Endowment for Charitable Care is created, and funded by our dedicated supporters, to assist us in our efforts to care for all hospice-appropriate patients, regardless of their ability to pay.



2004

We celebrate 10 years of service. During that time we provided care for 10,600 patients.

“I NEVER IMAGINED
WE WOULD BE WHO WE ARE TODAY. BUT LOOKING BACK,
I KNOW WHY WE FIND OURSELVES IN THIS EXTRAORDINARY POSITION:



“WE’VE LEARNED TO LISTEN MORE,
TO APPRECIATE HOW EACH PERSON
APPROACHES THE END OF LIFE,
AND TO BE THERE FOR PATIENTS AND
FAMILIES AS THEY FACE THE CHALLENGES
OF THIS FINAL JOURNEY.”

- W. Anthony Riley, M.D.
Gilchrist's founding and current Medical Director



2008

Hospice of Baltimore officially becomes Gilchrist Hospice Care, in homage to Jinny Gilchrist Vance and her enduring legacy.



2009

Gilchrist partners with Nkoaranga Lutheran Hospital's hospice and palliative care program in Tanzania in an effort to preserve the global reach of hospice.



2010

Gilchrist Kids is created, expanding our reach to patients of all ages and offering care for parents-to-be whose unborn children have been diagnosed with a fatal condition. The program soon becomes a model for pediatric hospice care, spurring other hospices state-wide to create their own programs.



2011

Gilchrist opens the 10-bed Gilchrist Center Howard County in the heart of Columbia in an effort to better meet the needs of Howard County residents.

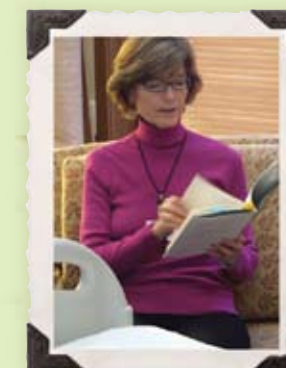


Gilchrist is honored to receive the Circle of Life Award from the American Hospital Association.



2012

Three new programs are added to enhance Gilchrist's care for patients and families: We Honor Veterans, Music Therapy program and End of Life Doula program.



2014

Gilchrist joins forces with Joseph Richey Hospice, known for its care of the underserved, and adds that hospice's inpatient facility to its comprehensive services.

TWO DECADES, ONE FAMILY

When Doug Huether was asked, nearly two decades ago, to help fund a new, peaceful home-away-from-home hospice center in Towson, he didn't hesitate. After all, he'd seen hospice at work a few years earlier, when his first wife was in the final stages of her battle with cancer. And when, several years after making that initial pledge toward the construction of what would become Gilchrist Center, he was approached about being on the Gilchrist Hospice Care board, he knew he had to say yes.

"I just remember there was enthusiasm and a high level of morale and caring — at the board level, at the executive level and among those who provide care for Gilchrist's patients," said Mr. Huether. "Everyone seemed so interested in helping, so dedicated. It made me want to be a part of shaping the organization's future."

In the years since, he's witnessed the caring of the Gilchrist staff through the end of life journeys of family and friends. And he's watched the organization grow — adding a children's hospice program, working with a hospice overseas, striving to provide care for patients earlier through their end of life journeys.

These days, Mr. Huether and his family continue to be among Gilchrist's biggest boosters — helping to set policy on the board, working as volunteers, and donating, both personally and through their Huether-McClelland Foundation. While Mr. Huether retired from the Gilchrist board last year after serving 13 years, including two as its chairman, he remains an honorary member of the deliberative body; his former board seat is now held by his son, Rick. Mr. Huether's wife, Anne Lee, works as a volunteer for the organization. And a third generation is being primed to help contribute to Gilchrist's continued success.



Long-time donor and Gilchrist board member, Doug Huether (left) with his children — son Rick Huether and daughter Cathy McClelland. Rick now serves on the Gilchrist board in his father's seat and Cathy supports Gilchrist through the Huether-McClelland Foundation.

"AS A FAMILY,
WE'VE GIVEN TO GILCHRIST
FOR NEARLY 20 YEARS. THEY
HAVE BECOME PART OF OUR
COMMUNITY. IT'S IN OUR FAMILY'S
DNA TO CONTINUE THAT SUPPORT."

— Rick Huether, Gilchrist Board Member



A HEARTFELT HELLO FOR MANY YEARS

Before she became a familiar face — the nice lady manning the front desk at Gilchrist Center Towson with a smile every Tuesday morning — she was just like the families she sees each week: a loved one struggling with the end of life journey of a beloved family member.

Rosanna DeBardi found herself in that position twice in the years before she joined Gilchrist as a volunteer. And both times, it was the kind and gentle Gilchrist staff who guided her through the worst days.

Shortly after her first experience in the mid-1990s, she began to donate to Gilchrist, giving what she could to an organization that had helped her so much. More than a decade ago, a few years after the death of her mother, she began working one day a week at the front desk of Gilchrist Center, greeting families and giving directions and talking with loved ones.

"As a former nurse, I can't say enough good things about Gilchrist," she said.

"VOLUNTEERING & DONATING
ALLOW ME TO GIVE SOMETHING BACK IN SOME SMALL WAY
FOR THE SUPPORT GILCHRIST GAVE ME SO MANY YEARS AGO."

— Rosanna DeBardi, Gilchrist donor & volunteer

20 YEARS OF CARE

Crystal Brown-Ukah and Kimberly Butler have been working as hospice aides at Gilchrist Hospice Care for so long that it would be difficult, if not impossible, to count the number of lives they've touched.

After all, the two women, among the first staff hired by Gilchrist two decades ago, are on the front lines of caregiving — helping patients with personal care or just sitting for a moment or two to talk while a patient eats lunch. For Kimberly, the job came at a critical point in her life, helping her to process a devastating loss. For Crystal, it was a chance to provide the same joy she had offered at a previous position — where she would dance her wheelchair-bound patients to

their lunch seats or paint their nails after giving a bath — to patients approaching their final days.

These many years later, both are still committed to ensuring that their patients get the best care possible when they need it, and to “making” a patient's day simply by being there for them.

“I think that's what keeps me here. It's that moment when I hear a patient or a family member say, ‘Thank you so much,’” said Crystal, who now supervises other hospice aides. “I tell them that I take care of every patient like they're my own family members. I tell the aides they have to do the best job possible for their patients.”



Kimberly Butler (left) and Crystal Ukah-Brown, have both worked for Gilchrist from the start.

During the past two decades, Gilchrist's commitment to guiding the way for patients and families has inspired donors, volunteers and employees alike — some for as many as 20 years, as shown on the previous pages — to assist us in our efforts to provide the finest care through the end of life.

The following pages provide a more recent snapshot of our care — of programs we've added and enhanced and partnerships we've cherished — as we look to the future and strive to ensure that Gilchrist Hospice Care continues to be

— BETTER THAN WE —
EVER IMAGINED

“LOOKED UP AND IT WAS 20 YEARS LATER. IN THOSE 20 YEARS, GILCHRIST HAS BEEN CONSTANTLY MOVING FORWARD — NOT BACKWARD, NOT STAGNATING.” — Kimberly Butler, Gilchrist hospice aide for 20 years.



Gilchrist Kids nurse, Erin Batton (far right), enjoys a special moment with the Greco Family. Sadly, Rosie Greco died on August 23rd in her parents loving embrace.

NAVIGATING THE UNKNOWN TOGETHER

After months spent preparing for the birth of their youngest daughter, who they knew would suffer from a fatal genetic condition, the live birth of little Rosie brought both joy — and confusion — for Megan and John Greco. While they were thrilled that they would be able to take Rosie home from the hospital, they had no idea what her future would look like or how long she might live; after all, most babies with Trisomy 18 die before or shortly after birth.

Their Gilchrist Kids' nurse, Erin Batton, offered a bit of information; in a rare twist of fate, she was caring for another baby with the same condition, she said, this one a bit older than Rosie.

Within weeks of Rosie's birth, Erin had set up a meeting between the two moms, and Megan, who had spent months searching the Internet and social media groups for information, was finally able to see, first-hand, the joys and challenges of day-to-day life with a baby with Trisomy 18.

"We're trying to figure out what kind of future we can have with Rosie to maximize her time here, and to know we've done everything we can for her," Megan said. "It was important for us to know that there are people who have gone through this and everyone is surviving. Everyone is getting through it. Erin gave us that gift."

While the two mothers have not seen each other since that first meeting, they continue to ask Erin about each other, while continuing their personal end of life journeys. Knowing Rosie will not be with them long has made the Grecos cherish the little moments — watching their older daughters, Mia and Macey, "love on Rosie," and celebrating even the slightest weight gain.

Ultimately, having the Gilchrist team by their side has helped them navigate the unknown with Rosie.

IT WOULDN'T BE THE SAME EXPERIENCE WITHOUT THE GILCHRIST KIDS TEAM. THEY HAVE BECOME LIKE A PART OF OUR FAMILY." — Megan Greco

A NEW WAY TO CHANNEL FEELINGS

With some gentle guidance and a sweet new melody, Gilchrist Music Therapist Lacy Kidwell turned her patient into a songwriter.

It had been two years since Susan Smith's cancer diagnosis, and Lacy's patient was struggling, both with the effects of her disease and a recent loss of independence that came with her move to a skilled nursing home. Susan, who has cognitive limitations, was finding it hard to put her feelings into words.

Lacy noticed that during her visits with Susan, her patient's answers to gentle questioning often sounded like song lyrics. And so, she began working with Susan to come up with the right melody and the right words. Within weeks, the two — with Lacy on her keyboard and Susan singing along — had written and recorded a new song, aptly titled "Please Cancer Go Away."

"The music offers her a safe place. She can channel what she's feeling through the melody and lyrics," Lacy said.

For Susan, the songwriting exercise also offered an opportunity for her to take back some of the control she had lost over her life as her health declined. Lacy provided guidance — for the melody, the speed of the music and the words, for example — but Susan made all of the final decisions. When they were finished, Lacy gave Susan a CD copy of the song, and a mini boom box so she could listen to it whenever she wished.

"Music helps me understand and express some of the things that are hard to talk about," Susan said. "It makes me more upbeat."

"MUSIC THERAPY IS A REALLY EASY WAY FOR SOME PATIENTS TO ACCESS THEIR FEELINGS AND EXPRESS THEM. IT'S MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR PATIENTS TO FIND THEIR VOICES." — Lacy Kidwell, Gilchrist Music Therapist





Nkoaranga staff visit with a Gilchrist patient while on their trip to Baltimore last year.



A young Nkoaranga patient is given a comfort doll — one of many such dolls lovingly made by Gilchrist volunteers.

HELPING FROM A WORLD AWAY

When Gilchrist Hospice Care decided to partner with Nkoaranga Lutheran Hospital's hospice and palliative care program in Tanzania five years ago, it was just one of dozens of American hospices who had pledged to offer \$5,000 a year in financial support, as well as friendship and technical assistance, to hospices in Africa.

Within two years, and with the future of Nkoaranga in jeopardy due to a loss of basic funding, Gilchrist set itself apart from its peers, stepping up to fully support its partner's shoestring operating budget and needed extras through fundraising.

These days, Gilchrist not only serves as a financial lifeline for Nkoaranga but has also provided support to add a palliative care doctor to its small staff, purchased a four-wheel drive vehicle to serve as an ambulance through rough terrain and begun work on a building campaign to create a dedicated unit for hospice and palliative care. Gilchrist staff and volunteers have also traveled to Tanzania to visit Nkoaranga twice and brought the Tanzania hospice's staff to Baltimore last year.

For Robin Stocksdales, who serves as the project manager for the partnership, the generosity of both coworkers and the community working on behalf of Nkoaranga has been humbling.

"The enthusiasm and pride surrounding the partnership by our staff has been amazing," said Robin. "Our partners in Tanzania are always e-mailing to thank us for our kindness and compassion. They are deeply grateful."

"ALL WE KNEW
FIVE YEARS AGO IS THAT
WE WANTED TO PARTNER WITH
NKOARANGA AND RAISE \$5,000 A
YEAR. WE HAVE FAR SURPASSED
THAT BY RAISING OVER \$300,000."

— Robin Stocksdales, Gilchrist's Nkoaranga Liaison

THE NEXT 20 YEARS

Throughout Gilchrist Hospice Care's 20-year history, there has been one constant: a focus, first and foremost, on the patient and family and on building meaningful relationships. It is these very personal relationships — the deep connection we make with our patients during their last transition, from life to a gentle and peaceful death — that have provided the foundation for our care and helped us to grow and expand to become one of the best hospice organizations in the country, the "platinum" standard, if you would, for hospice care.

As I look to the next 20 years, I can't help but to reflect on the last 20 and offer credit, and thanks, to some of those whose leadership and vision got us to where we are today: to our founding benefactor, Jeanne "Jinny" Gilchrist Vance, who dreamed of creating an extraordinary hospice accessible to all; to our first president, Carol Peltier, who worked with a core group, some still with Gilchrist today, to turn Jinny's vision into reality; to my predecessor, Catherine Boyne, whose steady hand turned Gilchrist from a small organization to the largest hospice in Maryland while still maintaining a very personal and homegrown feel; and to our incredible staff, whose dedication and compassion continues to be our greatest asset.

Their efforts helped to create a hospice with insight and foresight, with financial stability and sustainability, with heart and passion. They allowed me, during the past four years, to add programs that enhance the experiences of our patients and families and ensure access for all to our wonderful care. They allowed Gilchrist to help friends a half a world away. And they provided strong footing for our next initiatives — outreach to historically underserved populations and the addition of hospice "residences," for example.



I would be remiss, however, if I forgot to offer credit and add a heartfelt thanks to you, our loyal donors, whose steadfast devotion to our mission assisted us in our efforts to provide the finest care through the end of life during the past 20 years. We could not have built a hospice so wonderful, so accomplished, so caring, without your support. Thank you for joining us on this amazing journey. We hope we can continue to count on your support in the years to come.

Sincerely yours,

Cathy Hamel
Gilchrist Executive Director

"I AM HONORED TO HAVE BEEN TASKED
WITH LEADING THIS AMAZING ORGANIZATION INTO
THE FUTURE; WHAT A GIFT!" — Cathy Hamel

SINCE 1994 WE...

CARED FOR
40,000 & 100,000
patients loved ones

CONTRIBUTED
300,000 hours of
volunteer support

EARNED A PRESTIGIOUS
award for recognition as one of the best hospices
in the United States from the American Hospital Association:
THE CIRCLE OF LIFE AWARD

BECAME THE LARGEST
hospice in Maryland.

RAISED FUNDS FOR
home care, inpatient care, grief support
and new programs for a total of:
\$61,913,947

WON THE GLOBAL
PARTNERSHIP AWARD
with Nkoaranga Lutheran Hospital's Palliative Care Program from the
Foundation for Hospices in Sub-Saharan Africa (FHSSA) in recognition
of our partnership in Tanzania

SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASED THE
annual number of patients under our care to
5,000 per year

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Our Board of Directors supports Gilchrist Hospice Care by spending countless hours discussing ways to expand and enhance our award-winning programs, while at the same time, continuing to be stewards of our precious resources - your generous contributions. We would like to acknowledge the hard work of the following Gilchrist board members for Fiscal Year 2014.

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HELP OUR PATIENTS MAKE THE MOST
OF THE TIME THAT REMAINS BY MAKING
A GIFT TO GILCHRIST HOSPICE CARE.

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Gilchrist Hospice Care provides services without regard to race, color, creed, sex, sexual orientation, disability, religion, ability to pay or national origin.



WE HONOR VETERANS

A NON-PROFIT HOSPICE

A GBMC AFFILIATE