

Aurora House News

The light of a new day...



Fall 2021

Newsletter Volume 14 Issue 3

Patient and families served: 1,174

Age Range: 6 wks - 103yrs

Average Length of Stay: 35 days

Students #: 5,013

FALL \$150,000 MATCH CHALLENGE

You can achieve 2X the IMPACT today!



X2=



Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, a matching gift of up to \$150,000 will be donated to Aurora House to help us continue to provide compassionate care for those in our community who need it most. We have until December 31st!

We are challenging our friends, family, and supporters, to help us do something amazing and reach our goal! We cherish every donation* and work hard to ensure every dollar is put to work providing compassionate care to our residents. But we need your help!

Every dollar you donate will be matched dollar-for-dollar, doubling your donation and doing twice as much good! If you donate \$10 your donation instantly becomes \$20! If you donate \$500 your donation will become \$1,000!!

*Did you know? The CARES Act allows for up to \$300 per taxpayer (\$600 for a married couple) in an above-the-line deduction for charitable gifts made and claimed on taxes in 2021. Please talk with your accountant to learn more.

Home is where the Heart is

Eugene and Erma Smith met in their teens and have been inseparable ever since. This beautiful couple has been married for 68 years and have had a wonderful life together. Their love is evident as they settle for their afternoon nap together at Aurora House and Erma's smile shines through. Eugene was diagnosed with cancer and Erma never left Eugene's side despite her own health issues. As time went on it became difficult for Eugene's family to care for him at home, and they were told about Aurora House and the services we provide for those who have been diagnosed with a terminal illness. After several conversations the decision was made to have Eugene become a resident of Aurora House, and our staff has become like family. We look forward to Erma and Gail, their daughter, visiting daily. It really brings a smile to Eugene's face.

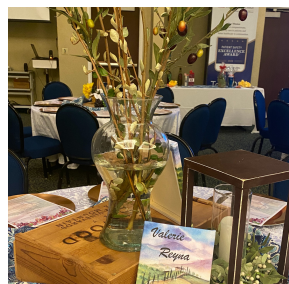


Our caregivers make sure to create a kind, compassionate and peaceful place with 24 hour care. We know Eugene loves milkshakes, so our caregivers spoil him with weekly strawberry milkshakes, and his family brings him daily vanilla milkshakes. Our staff loves to help him with his daily routine of shaving and getting ready for Erma. They spend every day together, laughing, watching TV, eating Whataburger - one of Eugene's favorite foods, making sure they make every minute count. Residents and families both benefit from having more days together to focus on love, care and respect as life is nearing the end—and your donations make all the difference. Please consider donating TODAY!

A Community comes Together

Aurora House's Administrative Professional's Day has always been a signature event to celebrate and shed light on administrative professionals' devoted, valued work. This year was no different, but what made it even more special is our community coming together to support Aurora House. "2020 was a difficult year for everyone, and Aurora House was no exception, but seeing our community come out and support our mission means everything. We truly have an amazing village. Today is truly about the special people who spend their final days at Aurora House," shared Marisela Gonzalez, Aurora House executive director. The Aurora House Board of Directors welcomed over 300 guests in a 3-day event held August 10-12 at the Knapp Conference Center.

Our preview party amazed our guests with a beautiful centerpiece that gave a vineyard feel. The luncheon's Tuscan theme featured beautiful centerpieces that brought in the feel of the Italian countryside.



The silent auction featured some great local stores, who graciously donated items to help our cause. Our "Under the Tuscan Sun" event had some wonderful Italian dishes prepared especially for Aurora House by Chef Roberto Torres. Many thanks to our wonderful community leaders who volunteered their time to be our beverage servers. Their warmth to our guests made all the difference. The style show, a favorite part of the event, featured models wearing Lionel's Western Wear and Boutique clothing and a show of stunning Consuela bags and accessories.

A huge thank you to our Masters of Ceremony, Dr. Edwin Esteves and Miles Buillon, who kept the guest laughing and engaged, and to Mr. Weslaco (Jeffery Casares) & Little Miss Weslaco (Violet Kerr) for their help selling raffle tickets. Our community helped us raise over \$40,000 to help continue our mission and we are truly grateful for all of the support. Thank you to all of our Diamond, Gold, Silver, and Bronze Sponsors.

Our community support also continued after the event was over with student leaders from Weslaco High School helping to breakdown our decorations, clean up was done in record time. Our event committee did a spectacular job with this event. We are so thankful for our "Village"!



Andrew Levine M.D., P.A.
Board Certified Nephrologist
Specializing in Kidney Disorders & Treatment



Donna
Medical Clinic



Thank you!
TO ALL OF OUR SPONSORS



Burns Building
Construction, Inc.



Aurora House News

Donations

Donations

ADL Services
Albert & Susann Long
Aledia Rangel Baez
Alejandro L. Estrada
Alicia Cardenas
Alma Garza
Andres Rios
Andrew Hernandez
Andy Scott
Annete Baker
Araceli Cantu
Audrey Eoff
Barbara Diedrich
Becky Contreras
Betty Lou Vitek
Betty Pilcher
Blanca Munoz
Brian Humphreys
Carol Ann Rosiere
Carol Kirkpatrick
Charles Vaughan
Christopher & Minerva St. John
City of Weslaco
Claudia Trejo
Community Foundation Lyster Family Fdn. Fund
Courtney Lairsen
Craig Wiegand
Cynthia Cintron
David Miller
Dennis Martinus
Diana Gonzalez
Dimas or Consuelo Martinez (Payless Properties)
Donna Brundige
Dora Briones
Elizabeth Lopez
Eloy Gonzales & Marisela Gonzalez
Erasmus & Esther Torres
Esteban Hernandez
Eugene R. Vaughan
Fanny & Buddy Ross
Frances Tovar
Francis M. & Amy Grohs Stroschein
Gary & Jeanne Fears
Gene Gay
George Mccaleb
Hollon Oil Company c/o Steve Wilson
Innette Ortiz
Jacqueline Galloway
James & Sondra Plowman
Jennifer E Vasquez
Jennifer Mccaleb
Jesusa Villarreal
Jill Hartley
Jim & Phyllis Landgrebe
JoAnna Ybarra
John & Doris Jacobson
John & Ellen Allen

John and Patty Ellis
Jose (JP) Rodriguez
Karen Smith
Karen Heilman
Kathy Damalas
Kathy Olinger
Kathy Scheuerman
Kendra Scott Design
Kevin Bloomquist
Life Giving Outreach Ministries/Crossroads
Lillie L Delgado
Liz Free
Loretta Barbee
Love of Christ Lutheran Church
Magic Valley Retired School Personal Assoc.
Marco Flores
Margie Perez Realtor
Maria Delia Ramirez
Marilew Lary
Mark Williams
Martha P. Saenz
Mary Martinez
Mayra Medina
Michael Zink
Michelle Vargas
Monica Tafolla
Mr. & Mrs. Art Beckwith
Mr. & Mrs. Rhonda & Robert Garza
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald D & Carmen Hicks
Mutiat Adeoye
Nancy Aldrich
Norma Martinez
Oralia Tafolla
Patricia Long
Patty Depue
Pete & Jo Peters
Ramon Montalvo
Raul Cabaza
Robert & Billie Vanderveer
Robert & Mary Ester Losoya
Roberta Malone
Rodrigo Reyna
Rodriguez Bail Bonds
Rosemary De Leon
Ryan & Jode Vaughan
Sally Ross
Samantha Humphreys
Sandra Herrera
Sandra Lynn Charlton
Sheryl L. Henry
Shirley Knutson-Nelson
Stephanie Castillo
Stephen Charlton
Stephen R & Dawn M Jones
Tammi J Greer
Terry & Amy Louise Perkins
Thelma Lopez
Thomas and Sharon Newcomer
Tom & Lynn Carter
Tom and Sheila Shidler

June 2021 - September 2021

Verda Nelson
William E. & Betty Locke
Yolanda Salinas
Yolanda Valdez
Zurlo's All Electric

In Kind

Alma Garza
Becky Contreras
Becky Gonzalez
Celina Gonzalez
Charmain Bradford
Diana Sanchez
Eloy Gonzales & Marisela Gonzalez
Esther Garza
Evyllinda Gonzalez
Felicita Jimenez
Geneieve's HOPE Foundation
Gloria Vega
Guadalupe Gomez
Ignacio Andrade
Irma Smith
James Fuller
Janie (CNA)
Javier Martinez
Jolynn Rosales
Kathy Scheuerman
Life Medical Supply
Literary Review Club
Logan Gonzales
Lynncare Hospice Services
Marisol Sanchez (CNA)
Mark McCaleb
Martin Gonzalez
Melissa Hernandez
RGV ACO Health Providers, LLC
Ruth Mac Dowell
San Martin De Porres Church
SJ Hospice Services LLC.
Sonia Kamp
United Hospice Care Services, LLC

Thank you!

Aurora House News

Memorials & Honorariums

In Loving Memory



Archie Miles
Anna Smith

Arllys Patterson
Teresa Mize

Bobby Lackey
Eugene R. Vaughan

Dorothy Andrew
Terry & Amy Louise Perkjns

Eugene "Gene" Damalas
Mr. & Mrs. Rhonda & Robert Garza

Evangelina Martinez
Javier Martinez

Felipe Garcia
Mr. Faustino Villanueva Jr.

Frank & Laura Shopbell
Helen Lavin

Gus Moreno
Ramon Montalvo

Jesus Covacevich
Anthony Covacevich

John J. Bruemmer
B. W. & Ingelise Jones

Juan Dominguez
Carlos Melguizo

Judy Mammel
Dennis Mammel

Ken
Lois Tryggstad

Lloyd D. May
Deborah May

Lucille Wakefield
B. W. & Ingelise Jones

Patricio Briones
David Briones

Pragedis Samudio
Felix & Maria S. Hernandez

Robert Garza
Atanacio Jr. Hinojosa

Rolando Perez Sr.
Belinda Saenz

Ronnie Dirks
Alfred Dirks

Ruth Ann Kennedy
Mary & Steve Kolarik

In Kind

Dorothy Andrew
Linda Brown
Nancy Johnson

Isidoro Herrera
Manuel Herrera

Josefina Alaniz
Becky Contreras

Marco Hernandez
Steven Hulet

Maria Gomez
Becky Gonzalez

Ramon Rodriguez
Rebecca Anzaldua

Roberto Cruz
Roberto Garza

Paver

Judy and Bobby Lackey
Eugene Richard Vaughan

June 2021 - September 2021

In Honor of

Jose M. Quiroz
Yolanda Quiroz

Lay Person's Ministry
Love of Christ Lutheran
Church

Polly Lovell
Elizabeth & Subram
Gopal Krishnan, MD

Sr. Therese Corkery
Louis Bartscher

Sulema Cuellar's Birthday
Sulema Cuellar

In Kind

Antonia Guajardo
Ninfa Villa

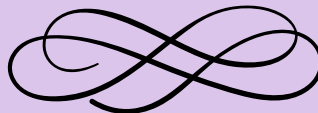
Maria Gomez
Becky Gonzalez

Memorial Gifts

Friends and family members of a hospice patient remember a loved one in various ways: sometimes with flowers, a card, and sometimes it is with a more lasting tribute in the form of a memorial gift.

Through memorial gift-giving you remember your loved one in a very meaningful way and at the same time you help other hospice patients in need.

To make a donation visit
<https://aurorahouse.org/donations/> or
use the envelope provided with the newsletter.



Give Online

- Visit [www.aurorahouse.org/donations/](https://aurorahouse.org/donations/) and click on MONTHLY with your credit or debit card. One time donations are greatly appreciated.

Donate by Check

- You can also write a check to Aurora House and specify Annual Giving in the memo line. Check can be mailed to P.O. Box 976, Weslaco, Texas 78599

Aurora House News

Your commitment through monthly or quarterly giving is vital to Aurora House's ability to continue to serve our community and ensures that our residents spend their last days surrounded by compassion, dignity, comfort, and peace.



Thank you

TO ALL OUR COMPASSIONATE GEMS

Giving Made Easy

An Easy Way to Give Your Support

You can schedule monthly or quarterly gifts through ACH (Automated Clearing House) debits.

ACH debit allows you to make your donation electronically. It is a more efficient, cost-effective program for both you and Aurora House.

For more information, please contact
Marisela Gonzalez
956-973-9690 or
aurorahousefoundation@yahoo.com

Wish List

Household

- Plastic Cups
- Paper Plates
- Disposable Utensils
- Foam Cups 8 oz.
- Antibacterial hand Soap
- Hand Sanitizer
- Laundry Detergent (HE Only)
- Foil Paper
- Parchment Paper
- Plastic wrap
- Coffee filters
- Garbage bags- 13-gal/ 30 gallons
- Freezer bags gallon sizes
- Ziplocs 1 gallon & 1 quart
- Paper Towels
- Toilet Tissue
- Air Freshener (sprays)
- Light Bulbs
- Kleenex
- Windex
- Disinfectant wipes
- Adult size wipes
- Latex Free Nitrile gloves Medium
- Clorox
- Floor Cleaners (Faboloso/Pine Sol)
- Powder Cleaner (Ajax)
- Napkins
- Dish Soap

Groceries

- Fresh Fruits/Seasonal Fruits
- Fresh Vegetables
- Meats - Chicken/Beef
- Frozen Juices
- Butter/ Margarine
- Milk
- Eggs
- Instant Tea (sweet & unsweetened)
- Tea bags
- Coffee mate
- Coffee: regular & decaf
- Soft Drinks: all flavors
- Lemonade Mix
- Bread
- Lunch meat
- Artificial Sweetener
- Sugar Substitutes
- Sugar
- Oatmeal
- Potatoes
- Rice
- Pinto Beans/ Lentils
- Olive Oil
- Vegetable Oil
- Cooking Spray
- Bread Crumbs
- Garlic Powder/Garlic Salt
- Crackers: Ritz, Saltine, Club
- Flour
- Cake Mix/Frostings
- Mayonnaise
- Pancake Mix/Pancake Syrup
- Honey
- Peanut Butter/Jam/Jelly
- Fruit snack cups
- Apple sauce
- Pudding Cups

Office

- Copier Paper 8½ X 11
- Pocket Folders
- Small sticky notes
- Plastic File Boxes
- Manila Folders
- Dividers
- Highlighters
- Binders with plastic cover in front

Gift Cards to HEB, Walmart, & Home Depot Are Appreciated.

Aurora House Events

Upcoming Events*



The Board of Directors, staff, and supporters of the Aurora House invite you to turn off the darkness for families in need of our support. Much like the traditional Christmas hymn, "Silent Night", Aurora House provides a peaceful, calm, quiet shelter for patients and their families. Throughout the year our caregivers provide physical comfort as well as emotional support, so that our patients can approach death with dignity and peace in their hearts. The light that shines and ensures that "All is Bright" is the love and dedication of our benefactors, supporters, volunteers and individual donors.

Friday, December 10, 2021

7:00 PM

Valley Nature Center

301 S. Border Ave

Weslaco

Please join us for this very special evening of festive food, good friends, silent auction, raffle, music, and holiday cheer. Cocktail attire is encouraged.

For more information on tickets or sponsorships, please call (956) 973-9690 or email Mari@AuroraHouse.org.

Aurora House Foundation Board of Directors

Mark McCaleb

President

Melanie Riley

Vice President

Stephen Charlton

Treasurer

Rhonda Garza

Secretary

Yoli Salinas

Mitty Reyna

Dr. Rafael Rodriguez

Lincoln Talbert

Kevin Bloomquist

Oralia Tafola

Annette Rios- Barrera

Laura Lopez

Marisela Gonzalez

Executive Director

Diana Gonzalez

Administrative Assistant/
Volunteer Coordinator

Becky Contreras

House and Grounds Supervisor

Araceli Cantu

Caregiver Supervisor

Alma Garza

Jessica Aguiniga

Celina Gonzalez

Jackie Moreno

Christina Perez

Chris Martinez

Cynthia Vasquez

Hilda Gonzalez

Juanita Espinoza

Melissa Calderon

Caregivers

Save the Date



1st Mid Valley Health & Wellness Fair

Saturday, February 26, 2022

2:00PM-6:30pm

Location: Weslaco Boys and Girls Club - Gym 300 N. Airport Dr. Weslaco Texas 78596

The Aurora House Foundation, along with the Boys and Girls Club of Weslaco and RGV Theme Runs, invite you to participate in our 1st Mid-Valley Health & Wellness Fair.

The fair is designed to help promote the prevention of mental and physical diseases by connecting our community with services available to promote a healthy lifestyle. Our hope is that the Mid-Valley Health & Wellness Fair will provide access to preventative education and services. We hope you can Join US!



80's Retro Glow Run Vol. 6

Saturday, February 26, 2022

We're back for Volume 6!!

Location: Mayor Pablo Peña Park

Cost: Proceeds to benefit Aurora House Foundation

Sponsorships Available! Contact Mari, 956- 973-9690

Come out and join us for the 80's Retro Glow Run Vol. 6 offering 5K Run/Walk, virtual run options, and a 1 mile Fun Run. Dress up in your 80's best, take advantage of some great photo opportunities, enjoy all the great music, and most importantly have a great run!

*Please note that Due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) some events may be rescheduled or cancelled.

Find Great Gifts on Amazon this Holiday Season and support Aurora House Foundation



Choose Aurora House Foundation as your charity of choice on Amazon Smile and a percentage of your qualified purchase is donated to Aurora House.

OUR MISSION

At Aurora House our mission is to provide compassionate care for persons in the last chapter of life, in a home-like setting, so they can approach a peaceful death with comfort and dignity.

