



Aurora House Foundation

Aurora House News

Volume 11 Issue 1

Summer 2018

Of Special Note

Since Inception June 21, 2007

- # of Patients and their Families served: 834
- Age Range: 6wks—103
- Avg. Length of Stay: 35 Days
- # of Cities served: 20

Jan 2018—April 2018

- # of Volunteers: 113
- # of Volunteer Groups: 3
- # of Volunteer Hours: 917

Since 2010

- 2,059 students have received training in Palliative Care, Hospice and End of Life Issues at Aurora House

Make Your Donation Count

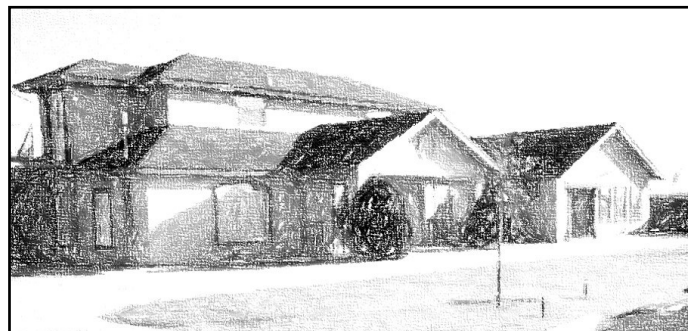
Dream Big

Aurora House is blessed this year by the generosity of an anonymous donor who has offered to match donations made during 2018.

What does that mean for Aurora House?

Individuals who make a personal donation to Aurora House will have their donation matched 100% - Aurora House will benefit twice as much!

If the personal donation is tied to tickets to a special event, the donation will be matched at 50%.



Donations from businesses, clubs or trusts will not be matched *unless* they are tied to a special event and then they will be matched at 50%.

Your donations will be put to good use to maintain our home and help us provide loving care for those in need. Be generous.

Dream Big with us!

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Students - Students - Students!

At Aurora House, we recognize the importance of education. Since 2010 we've opened our doors to over 2,000 high school and college students from across the Valley through our **Aurora House Center for Palliative Care**. The Center's mission is to prepare the current and future workforce with a better understanding of the emotional, social, spiritual and physical needs of patients at the end of care. We, at Aurora House, give many thanks to the students and their instructors, who have helped to make this program successful. This past year:

- Students from South Texas College and Valley Baptist nursing schools came to AH for complete clinical rotations.
- Students from UTRGV's College of Social Work prepared and presented a Memorial Service for patient families to honor their loved ones.
- Texas A&M RN-BSN students completed preceptorships.
- Valley Grande Institute students came for tours as part of their Gerontology course.
- Med High students shadowed our caregivers.
- Many high school and college students came to Aurora House to learn about End of Life Care issues and to complete volunteer hours.

Let's Run!

This year our annual Walk-a-Thon morphed into a **Retro 80's Themed 5K Glow Paint Run!**

Over 300 participants (and those that came just to cheer them on) got in on the fun – whether it was visiting Sponsor booths, taking crazy pictures with the Rubik Cube; posing with ET at the fun photo booth; or dancing the pre-race Zumba. Whether you ran or walked, it was a great family event!

T-shirts and swag bags went to all who entered, and after the 5K we turned on the black lights and participants lit up the park with fancy glow paint. Thank you to all our sponsors who made this such a successful event!

Next year's 5k event is already scheduled: Mark your calendar NOW for Feb. 23, 2019 at the Mayor Pablo Peña Park. We can't wait!

Dream Big!

You raised \$17,906... and with the *amazing* 50% matching donation (see 1st page) our
TOTAL RAISED was \$26.859!

PRESENTING Sponsor

RGV ACO Health Providers, LLC

BIB Sponsor

RGV Adult & Internal Medicine Specialists

DIAMOND Sponsors

Justice Raul A Gonzalez Elementary
Knapp Medical Center
Kindred Hospice

GOLD Sponsors

Donna Medical
Doctors Hospital at Renaissance
Hector G. Amaya MD PA

SILVER Sponsors

Extreme Nutrition
Allstate Hospice
A Healing Touch Hospice
Cima Hospice
Hollon Oil
Magic Valley Electric Co-Op
IBC Bank

BRONZE Sponsors

Bee First Hospice
Gracia Hospice
Valley First Hospice
P.A.C.E. Health Care, Inc.
Texas Regional Bank
Rodeo Dental
Pumpd Nutrition
Complete Fitness



Memorials January - April 2018

Memorials

In Memory of

Issac Lee Mites

Michelle L. Kindermann
John & Cathy Barry
The Illinois Prairie Chapter of
the American Needlepoint
Guild, Inc. (ANG) c/o Carolyn
Hughes
Richard & Joan
Sathoff
Peoria Area Stitch-
ers' Guild c/o Cindy
Powell
Susan R. Sarver
Helen L. Miles
Nancy Sue Moody
Terry & Cindy Pow-
ell

In Memory of

Francis Richter

Mary Ann Richter
Kerkvliet

In Memory of

Barbara Baumhofer

John Baumhofer

In Memory of

Douglas Brundige

Ms. Mary Ann Brundige

In Memory of

Nancy Rosier

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Birtles

In Memory of

Jane McDowell

Sondra & Jim Plowman

In Memory of

Ester Irene Hirsch

Sondra & Jim Plowman

In Memory of

Dr. Ashley McAllen

Melissa K. Beckwith

In Memory of

Ervin Gaye

Melissa K. Beckwith

In Memory of

John Allen Ward

Melissa K. Beckwith

In Memory of

Rolando Martinez

Maria M. Martinez

In Memory of

Linda Todd

Enrique & Leticia
Garza

In Memory of

Shirley Capps

Peggy Flynn

In Memory of

Armandina Ledesma

Julio Cesar Ledesma

In Memory of

Tom Maurer

Nancy C. La Duke

In Memory of

Bill Quellhorst

Mr. & Mrs. Alfred F. Dirks

In Memory of

Arthur Udall Strickland, Sr.

Mr. & Mrs. Alfred F. Dirks

In Memory of

Chad Sadaj

Ms. Joann Streiff

In Memory of

Mary (Meyers) Tompkins

Alfredo & Velma Dirks
Nancy C. La Duke

In Memory of

Victoria Silva

Yolanda Caldwell

In Memory of

Hilda Garcia Margarita

Franco Gwendolyn Susce

Jacqueline Susce
Sandra L. Mask

In Memory of

Judith German

Lyle B. German

In Memory of

Ivan Weaver

Benton & Melissa Beckwith

In Memory of

Charles Chenault

Benton & Melissa Beckwith

In Memory of

Randy Petch

Benton & Melissa Beckwith

In Memory of

Joaquin Ellis

Benton & Melissa Beckwith

In Memory of

Lynda Todd

Benton & Melissa Beckwith



Honorariums, Donations January - April 2018

Honorariums

In Honor of
Carolyn Bauer
Carolyn Bauer & Family

In Honor of
Edelmiro Uresti
Criselda & Jorge Uresti

In Honor of
Teran
Melissa Milton

In Honor of
Marlynda
Trucia Howard

In Honor of
Robert Scott
Donald & Fay Ernst
Robert & Esther
Scott

In Honor of
Victoria Silvia
Yolanda Caldwell

In Honor of
Gwendolyn Susce
Jacqueline Susce

In Honor of
Olga Kochert
Marianne & Oscar Madrigal
Elmer Kochert

Donations

ADL Services, Incorporated
Alan & Linda Snyders
Andy & Pam Scott
Anthony Ryan Vaughan
Beverly M Madden
Catholic Daughters of the Ameri-
cas Court Divine Mercy # 2420
Country Sunshine RV Park
Country Sunshine RV Parks c/o
Lorine Ryks
Dr. Rafael Rodriguez
Dr. Ricardo Abreu

Donations (cont.)

Llano Grande Lake Park Church
c/o Kay
Love of Christ Lutheran Church
Magda E. Escandon
Mid Valley Senior Softball c/o
Darryl W. Mackenzie
Ms. Elizabeth C. Eckles
Ms. Patricia A. Long
Network For Good (Facebook
Donors)
New Life Baptist Church/
Weslaco
Paradise South Church & RV Park
Paradise South Church
c/o Dixi South
Rachel Cuellar
Ranchero Village c/o Patti
Grebina
Renee A. Zachman
Rio Valley Estate Worship
Robert & Esther Scott
Ronald Motsay
Sandi Nortin
School of Vocational
Nursing
Siesta Village Worship
Hour
South Texas Electric Coop-
erative, INC
Southern Comfort Park
Southern Comfort Park (Sandi &
David Norlin)
SPEC'S Family Partners, LTD
Texas Oncology Foundation Inc.
Traits End RV Resort-Church
United Hospice Care Services,
LLC
UTRGV (Students) Aurora
House Memorial Service
Valley Baptist Medical Center
W. C. Ross
Weslaco Elks Lodge 2057
Weslaco Lions Club

Dream Big in 2018

Thank you, *each* donation is
so appreciated!

And remember, individuals
who make a personal
donation to Aurora House through
Memorials, Honorariums and Donations
will have those amounts matched 100%
by our generous anonymous donor.
Aurora House benefits twice as much.

First Baptist Church The Gladen
Class
First Christian Church (Disciples of
Christ)
First United Methodist Church/
Weslaco
Harbor Hospice Foundation, Inc
Jacqueline Rose Galloway
Kathryn L. Ratliff
Lambda Iota of ESA
Life Giving Outreach Ministries, Inc
DBA Crossroads Community
Church
Literary Review Club (Deborah
Zurlo, Treasurer)
Llano Grande Lake Park Church
Llano Grande Lake Park Church
(Jim Rudd)

In-Kind Donations January - April 2018

In-Kind Donations

Weslaco Lions Club
 Llano Grande RV Park
 Southern Comfort RV Resort
 Elizabeth Valdez
 Juanita Cantu (Weslaco Area Schools)
 Quiet Village # 2 (Janet Carrols)
 Robert Klase
 Lutheran Church
 Pharmerica
 Eleanor Scheider
 Kevan Soderdebrg
 Larry Blegen
 Rancho Village Canada Day
 BSA Troop 100 St. Pius X
 Trails End Club (Peggy Hulteen)
 Linda Ortega
 Mrs. Ortega
 Lupe Ortega
 Jennifer Troupe
 Robert Garza
 First Baptist Church of La Feria
 RGV Partnership
 Los Ebanos Study Club
 Southern Comfort RV Park and Marble
 Clinic
 Jennifer Rektorik
 Patrick Gonzalez
 Gragg Hart

Trails End RV Park (Ms. Rita and Mr. Dan)
 Dr. Amaya
 Southern Comfort (Carol Hicks)
 Southern Comfort (Sandy & David)
 Trails Ends RV Park (Rita & Dan)
 St. Pius X Church (Laura Gracia)
 Rich Rodriguez
 Leslie Maya (Social Worker)
 Patricia Klase
 Elsa Study Club
 Visalam Subram
 Rotary Club (Haydon Ellis)
 Vangie Garza
 Trails Ends RV Park (Terry and Judy)
 Nancy Pierce
 Paula Cano
 Mary Lou Cavazos
 Greg Scott
 Elmer Kochert
 Daughter of Maria Palacios
 Helen Miles
 St. Pius X Catholic Church
 Grace Episcopal Church
 Clemencia Cardoza
 Mid Valley Senior Softball
 Trails End RV Park
 Donna Lions Club
 Maribel Esqueda
 Rita Strickland
 Alma Garza

Siesta Village
 First Baptist Church
 Elisa Cisneros
 Rancho Village
 Melanie Jackson
 Velma Granados
 Eliza Cisneros
 Knights of Columbus
 United Health
 Country Sunshine RV Park
 Sandi Norlin
 Ruth Wuelner
 Yolanda Caldwell
 Mayor Rick Morales
 Joyce Rich
 June Ramirez (The Antique Emporium)
 Kathleen Ratliff
 Miracle Medical
 Americo De La Paz
 Tisha Bauer
 Living Word Church
 Jose Rios
 Beverly Buechele
 Magic Valley Electric Coop
 A. N. Tony Rico Elementary Students
 Maria V. Zepeda
 Bonnie
 Rios Family

From a Grateful Family

The House of Miracles (paraphrased)

Our dad was diagnosed with severe brain trauma when he fell off his bicycle and hit his head. After multiple painful and unsuccessful procedures he decided to stop all treatments. A good friend suggested we check out Aurora House because their son had a good experience there 9 years ago.

We believe, as a result of several miracles which happened at Aurora House, our family was blessed with at least three more months with Dad. With their wonderful care he became stronger and was even able to celebrate his 90th birthday surrounded by many friends at AH.

All my life I have desired a close emotional relationship with my father. We were able to focus more on living each day to the fullest and treasuring our time together. I challenge everyone to invest your time, prayers, or money at Aurora House. I believe you will, in some way, receive more than you give.



Thank you from the entire Scott family.



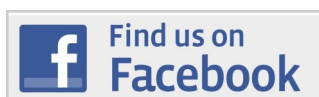
Footnote from Judy:

Throughout Mr. Scott's stay at Aurora House, we witnessed significant healing... physically, spiritually and emotionally. The family grew closer, and the patient's wife grew stronger as well. The family was joyful that they were able to make the trip back to Iowa, however Mr. Scott succumbed 2 weeks later. The Scott family credits Aurora House with giving them the gift of additional time with their dad/husband. We, at Aurora House, credit the entire Scott family with sharing with us the gifts of hope and love.

AURORA HOUSE FOUNDATION

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P.O. Box 976
Weslaco, TX 78599

(956) 973-9690
(956) 973-9705 fax
Email: AuroraHouseFoundation@yahoo.com



www.AuroraHouse.org

Aurora House recognizes dying as part of the normal process of living and focuses on respect and compassion in preparation for death. Its mission is to provide care for persons in the last phase of incurable disease, so they can approach death with dignity, comfort and peace.

Aurora House Foundation 2018 Board of Directors

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Caregivers: Becky Contreras, Jessica Coy, Alma Garza, Lorina Molina, Mary Ramos
Supervisor/House and Grounds.....Nelly (Noelia) Cantu
NewsletterLynn Carter

News and Notes

A Note from the Executive Director

Allow me to introduce myself – I am Judy Pariser, the new Executive Director of Aurora House Foundation.

I came to the Valley one year ago from Las Vegas. Originally from Ohio, my year in the Valley has shown me that home truly is where the heart is, and my heart is right here, in the Valley!



After a 20+ year career in marketing and sales management, I went back to school to become a registered nurse, focusing on End of Life. I was a Hospice Nurse Case Manager for 6 years and was hired as Director of Education (DOE) for Aurora House last May

As DOE, I've had the good fortune to impact patients and their families and ensure that the next generations of medical and medically affiliated professionals develop end of life competence as they experience hospice and palliative care first-hand. Our goal is to provide students with an opportunity to practice new skills with compassion for those approaching the end of life, and take these skills with them as they pursue their new careers.

As I transition into the position of Executive Director, I am excited to help Aurora House grow and develop new programs which will impact both our department of education and our caregiving house. I look forward to ensuring that Aurora House stands on a strong foundation, so that we continue to be of service to those in need, and remain a beacon of support in this wonderful community.

Aurora House could not exist without the amazing support we receive from our supporters and volunteers. We are truly blessed to benefit from the love and generosity of our community, giving us the opportunity to uphold our mission - to provide compassionate end of life care.

Judy

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Celebration of Thanks Holiday Event.....Nov. 15, 2018
5K 80's Retro Glow Run...Pablo Pena Park, Feb. 23, 2019
Administrative Professionals Luncheon.....Apr. 24, 2019