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HomeReach Provides End-Of-Life Dignity and Care

The word "hospice" comes from "hospitality," where weary travelers stop, have a rest and obtain care. Hospice care is part of OhioHealth's HomeReach Services Division, which focuses on providing OhioHealth services in the home, according to this week's speaker **Jim Newbrough**, the new president of this division.



job.

Mike O'Sullivan introduced Newbrough, who was the Chief Operating Officer of Dublin Methodist Hospital before accepting his new

Newbrough explained that HomeReach's services include not only traditional medical-related services but also hospice. The goal

is to return patients to their highest level of independence. Telemonitoring is used to remotely monitor patient vital statistics so caregivers can intervene before a patient has to go to the emergency room.

Hospice is one of the major focuses of HomeReach, which is focused on end-of-life honor and dignity.

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Notes & Announcements



Ann Croskey (above) announced that she will soon start sending invitations for the Apr. 14 fundraiser.

Jim Hamilton announced that he had photos from the Christmas party for pick up at the registration table.

The deadline for Northwest Women of the Year nominations is at the end of this week.

The Social Committee will meet at Park Creek Kitchen from 5-7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 2.

Brad Britton (right) announced that **Charles Gehring** of Lifecare Alliance will speak at our next Rotary Roundtable on Feb. 7 starting at 10:30 a.m. This is a good opportunity for a makeup.





HomeReach (continued)

The first hospice started in the 1960s in London and then was piloted in the United States in 1963. Dr. Elisabeth Kubler-Ross wrote, "On Death and Dying," in 1969 describing the five stages of death and dying. This book began more focus on a humane approach to death where people can be at home and not in an institution. In 1982, a Medicare hospice benefit was created and this field expanded rapidly.

The Riverside hospice program began in 1986, with the goal of building the inpatient facility that later became the Kobacker House. The Kobackers provided a lead gift in a \$2.4 million fundraising campaign to build a Tudor home that accommodated 9 hospice patients with family rooms and patient rooms, providing a home-like environment.

As growth continued, OhioHealth performed a

feasibility study a few years ago, determining that it needed to expand the hospice to accommodate 24 patient beds. The existing Kobacker House did not have enough land to accommodate this expansion. Some wooded land behind the McConnell Center was identified as a possible site for the new facility. Before making any changes, however, OhioHealth consulted with the Kobacker family, who were very supportive of this and were again involved in making a lead gift to a new capital campaign.

The feasibility study showed that the new facility would cost an estimated \$14 million. From prior donations, OhioHealth had \$6 million on hand, leaving a deficit of \$8 million. The development board members pledged \$1.5 million of the funds. Most of the remainder came

from a \$6 million bequest from Vera Randall, who died at 99 years old. She was a retired English teacher at Upper Arlington High School.

The new Kobacker House opened last summer in a very tranquil and scenic setting. The rooms are larger now with a great deal of natural lighting and patios. There is a chapel, family rooms, spa, meeting room, and break rooms. The average stay at the Kobacker House is 20-30 days.

However, OhioHealth HomeReach cares for 300 patients a day, only 24 of which are at the Kobacker House. The rest are at their own homes or in extended-care facilities. The variety of services offered by HomeReach allows these patients to have end-of-life honor and dignity regardless of where their care is provided.

The Meeting

President Brian Hall opened the meeting.

Tom Stewart welcomed our guests and introduced visiting Rotarians, **Paul**

Shepherd, Senior Active, and **Tom Rico**, Dublin-Worthington.

Michael O'Sullivan introduced his three guests

from OhioHealth, **Charlotte Gallagher Alred**, **Lindy Ackerman**, and **Ann Bryson**.

Greeters

February 7
Doug Burton and Bill Greenlee

February 14
Brad Dehays and Tom Donovan

February 21
Ted Stutz and Kevin McGovern

Registration Desk

February 7
Don Gepfert and Jim Winfree

February 14
John Hansel and Brandon Smith

February 21
J.D. Dickerson and Dave Dewey

Calendar

February 7
TBD. Host: Debbie Johnson

February 14
Steve Groves: Airport Golf Course. Host: Ned Clark

February 21
TBD. Host: Molly Fontana