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## **Hospice of Michigan Hosts Volunteer Orientation**

*Informational meeting for community members, no experience required*

**TRAVERSE CITY, Mich., (Mar. 24, 2017)** – [Hospice of Michigan](http://www.hospiceofmichigan.org) is looking for compassionate members of the community to volunteer their time in helping to comfort others. A training session to highlight this rewarding work is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Monday, April 10, 2017 at 10850 E. Traverse Hwy. in Traverse City.

The training session will focus on patient care, including important information about the nonprofit hospice agency, providing companionships to patients and the benefits that active volunteers may experience. Patient care involving pet therapy, pet visits and veteran focused opportunities will also be highlighted.

The session, headed by Hospice of Michigan's Volunteer Program Manager Kathy Lietaert, will prepare participants to provide patients with attention and interaction designed to enhance the end of life experience, as well as offer a much needed respite to daily caregivers.

"No matter your area of expertise, as a volunteer for Hospice of Michigan your efforts to help those who are experiencing a difficult time will be appreciated by patients and always remember by their loved ones," Lietaert said. "The ability to expand our services to northern Michigan provides a valuable learning opportunity for volunteers looking to contribute their time to a rewarding experience for all parties involved."

Hospice of Michigan's volunteer program shapes each contributor's experience to accommodate their availability and preferences. The training session offers the opportunity to build relationships, develop new skills, and ultimately make a difference in the community.

Volunteer training is open to the public. Call Kathy Lietaert at 231.779.5409 to register for the class. To submit an online application prior to the session, please visit [www.hom.org/volunteer-application/](http://www.hom.org/volunteer-application/). Paper applications will also be available the day of the session.

For more information about Hospice of Michigan, visit [www.hom.org](http://www.hom.org)

### **About Hospice of Michigan**

A nationally recognized leader in end-of-life care, Hospice of Michigan is the original – and largest – hospice in the state. The nonprofit cares for nearly 1,800 patients each day, raising more than \$5 million each year to cover the cost of care for the uninsured and underinsured. HOM offers a broad range of services to enhance the quality of life at the end of life, including community-based palliative care and pediatric care programs. HOM provides grief support and counseling, caregiver education and support, and education programs for physicians and health care professionals through its research, training and education arm, the Hospice of Michigan Institute. In January 2016, HOM joined forces with Arbor Hospice and Palliative Care, strengthening the mission of nonprofit hospice in Michigan to ensure patients and their caregivers receive the highest quality of care. For more information, call 888.247.5701 or visit [www.hom.org](http://www.hom.org).

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