

# SAY " GCS" TO LIFE



known as G.G., was dying of breast cancer. During her three years of chemotherapy, the oncology nurses nicknamed her Oprah. Apparently they had a lot in common. They shared similar birth dates, they wore the same style of clothes, they were both from Chicago, and they were both deeply spiritual women.

G.G. moved from Chicago because she had to put distance between herself and a bad marriage. No more negativity. No more shoveling snow. She believed that everything in her life had been because of God's grace.

As a result, G.G. raised her daughter alone, as a single mom. She knew she could have been more, but she chose to invest

everything in her daughter, sending her to private school and making her dreams come true. Her daughter now runs her own business in Atlanta.

G.G. followed Oprah from the start of her career because she knew that Oprah was made of the "right spirit." She told us that she admired Oprah because, "she has the ability to connect with the common man and the President of the United States."

There was no doubt that G.G. was Oprah Winfrey's biggest fan, and as she faced the end-of-life, her last wish was to meet her.

So the Southern California Hospice Foundation set out to make it happen.

We reached out to several people, and within a week we were on the phone

coordinating a plan for G.G. and Oprah to connect through video conferencing.

As the video conference was about to happen, G.G. was very emotional, overwhelmed that her wish was about to come true. Katherine, our Multimedia Coordinator, reassured G.G. that she was beautiful and that she was strong. G.G. responded, "If you only knew what was under this dress," referring to the terrible scars left from her failed surgeries. At that moment, we decided to hold hands and pray together for her peace and comfort.

We logged on and there she was - Oprah Winfrey. Beautiful. Radiant. Glowing. G.G.'s face lit with joy at the sight of her.

G.G. shared her cancer story, explaining

"I have a great blessing that I am able to have a platform that reaches millions, but what I said on that last Oprah show is really true – that each of us, in our own lives, has our own show. So, every time your friends come over, every time you speak to the people who are surrounding you to help you, every time you encounter another human being, you get to be the star of your own show." –Oprah Winfrey



Glennetta listening to Oprah's words of wisdom.

her choice to remain comfortable through hospice, and after they had chatted for a while, G.G. began telling Oprah what an inspiration she was, saying:

"You, my dear, have made such a difference in the world. You've made people so aware of things that we weren't aware of before. You've made people have a conscience. You've made people want to reach out and do for others and not put themselves first all the time. You've done so many wonderful things and you were just that little black girl from Mississippi."

### Oprah replied:

Glennetta, it takes one to know one and whatever it is you feel for me, you already have within yourself. Otherwise, you

couldn't connect - you wouldn't make the connection, so thank you for being the kind of person who can see it and carry that light for yourself and for others. I can see that in you. That's the kind of woman you are.

And the fact that every day, you choose to continue to live, you continue to say to life – yes. Yes. Yes. That's what really matters and I'm inspired by you. I'm inspired by your story; I'm inspired by your will and particularly inspired by the light that you carry that fuels your attitude, the spirit of you.

I have a great blessing that I am able to have a platform that reaches millions, but what I said on that last Oprah show is really true - that each of us, in our own lives, has our own show.

So, every time your friends come over, every time you speak to the people who are surrounding you to help you, every time you encounter another human being, you get to be the star of your own show. And I can tell that you really have a number one rated show."

There was not a dry eye in the room. G.G. and Oprah shared more laughs together, and even agreed to do a book exchange, which they did.

G.G's final wish was granted, and she was deeply grateful for the remainder of her time in this world. We will always remember her inner light and her constant choice to say, "Yes" to life.

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### LEADERSHIP MESSAGE





Dear Friends,

Since 2002, the Southern California Hospice Foundation (SCHF) has provided compassionate aide and support to 29,609 patients throughout Southern California. We pride ourselves on doing the right thing for those we serve and stewarding your donations with a purity of purpose. And in doing so, we have built a legacy in which every single terminally ill child and adult that we touch receives incredible comfort, dignity, and closure.

In 2015, we assisted patients during their darkest hour, giving them a reason to smile again. To those who were struggling financially, food was given and overdue bills were paid. Homeless patients were clothed and provided with shelter. Veterans were honored and given a final salute. Families were reunited to say their goodbyes. Children and adults alike were granted their last wish.

Beyond that, education about hospice was provided at both the national and local levels through meetings with congress, PSA announcements and numerous speaking engagements.

And as we continue to grow, we recognized the need to support patients outside of Southern California. As a result, we launched the Hospice Foundation of Arizona, which is modeled after SCHF, but designed to serve terminally ill patients residing in the great state of Arizona.

Through a network of hospice foundations across the country, our vision is to become a powerful resource to the medical community who are caring for those at the end-of-life, where all money raised in a particular geographical location will be restricted to that area. This will allow us to have a much broader impact on those facing a terminal illness. It is quite an exciting time!

Please know that you are the heartbeat of hospice. None of our work would be possible without you.

We thank you for your love, and for your kindness. We thank you for your generosity. For your gift of time, and your gift of resources. For your commitment to grow this organization and your commitment to help the many patients and families we serve.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, we thank you for all that you have done to support hospice. May God bless you during 2016!

Warmest Regards,

Michael A. Uranga Board President Michelle Wulfestieg
Executive Director





### **PATIENTS & FAMILIES**

- 263 patients and their families had their final wish granted or were assisted with basic needs such as food, payment of bills, or transportation.
- Hosted an interactive grief workshop called "Hope
  through the Holidays" where participants had the
  opportunity to talk about what you can expect and create a plan
  that can make the holidays a little more comfortable.
- Launched the \*\*Ne \*\*Honor\* Vets\*\* program, which is a project created by the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization in collaboration with the Department of Veterans Affairs, designed to meet the specific challenges Veterans may face at the end-of-life.



### **BETTY**

As a talented and accomplished artist, Betty had a great love for nature and was most happy when she was sketching. She lived in a board & care and was only able to enjoy this pastime on her patio. After SCHF discovered her desire to visit the Los Angeles Arboretum Botanical Gardens, we sent Betty and her daughter to the grounds for a day of drawing and relaxation. Betty was immersed in her craft, and the beauty around her became the beauty within her.



### PATIENT HIGHLIGHTS



### **JAYLA**

Sweet Jayla was a seven-year-old terminally ill child diagnosed with an extremely rare form of cancer. SCHF learned of her love for the Disney classic "Cinderella" and we soon set to work. Jayla and her friends were whisked away in a limo to a private movie screening of the newly released "Cinderella" film, then escorted to a lavish tea party where Cinderella herself was waiting to greet them. The highlight of the day was when Cinderella surprised Princess Jayla with a ride around the block in her very own enchanted horse and carriage, creating a perfect ending to such a magical day.

### **BABY BELLA**

Baby Bella was born with a rare syndrome that affected her brain and heart. After exhausting all treatment options, her family made the decision to choose quality of life over quantity of life. They chose hospice. SCHF stepped in and arranged for a final family portrait, memorializing the family's fifth child. We regularly provide meaningful family portraits as a keepsake for family members to cherish for years to come.



### **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

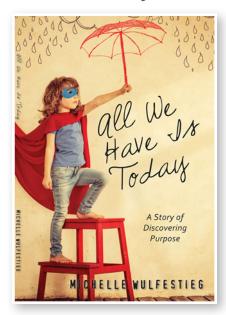
- *Provided 3,256* patients and their families, as well as the community, with literature about end-of-life, including "Final Journey" and "Caring for Your loved one."
- 22 speaking engagements were held at hospitals, senior centers, service clubs, universities and colleges throughout Southern California to educate the community about hospice care.
- 128 PSA announcements about hospice aired during National Hospice Month in November. Sixty-four PSA announcements aired on KNX1070 AM with a net reach of 771,400 people and 64 PSA announcements aired on KRTH101 FM with a net reach of 1,766,300 people.



### **GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT**

- Launched the Hospice Foundation of Arizona,
   an affiliate of the Southern California Hospice Foundation,
   designed to meet the needs of terminally ill patients and their
   families living in that geographical area.
- Hosted our 8th Annual Charity Golf Tournament, our 7th Annual Car Show, our 6th Annual Wine Tasting and our 4th Annual Cut-A-Thon in Southern California.
- Our Executive Director became an AWArd-winning

We Have Is Today," claiming three gold medal book awards in the categories of Best Inspirational and Best Biography/Memoir, bringing national attention to the importance of hospice care through her life story.







### ANNUAL FUNDRAISERS



### 8TH ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT -LIFE. LINKS. LOVE.

Our 8th Annual Golf Tournament, held at the renowned Pelican Hill Golf Club in Newport Coast, was another huge success! Golfers enjoyed breathtaking views on the South Course, sponsored beverage carts, goodie bags, and liquor holes. After a day on the links, guests loved the hosted happy hour in the Pacific Ballroom, followed by a delicious plated dinner, and a thrilling live and silent auction. Always the highlight of the evening, a touching video about a patient. This time, it was little Jayla and how we made her Cinderella wish come true!

Save the Date for our 9th Annual Golf Tournament on Wednesday, May 11th, 2016



### 7TH ANNUAL PHIL BRAYBROOKS MEMORIAL CAR SHOW

Guests gathered for music, food, games, raffle prizes and a legendary car show in memory of Phil Braybrooks at the J&M Speed Center in Riverside. Nearly 500 classic car enthusiasts rallied and revved their engines in memory of classic car icon while hundreds of beautiful and unique cars were showcased symbolizing Mr. Braybrooks' legacy. Phil was a hospice patient who passed away in 2008, and to date, the annual Phil Braybrooks Memorial Car Show has raised nearly \$54,000 for those we serve. We are beyond grateful for the incredible support of the Bravbrooks family!

Save the Date for our 8th Annual Phil Braybrooks Memorial Car Show on Sunday, May 22nd, 2016



## **6TH ANNUAL LA WINE SOIREE**

The 6th annual Wine Soiree was a splashing success! Festivities took place in Los Angeles on the rooftop of the LA Athletic Club overlooking stunning views of the downtown skyline. Guests enjoyed a silent auction and an exciting Start Your Own Wine Cellar raffle where the lucky winner took home 100 bottles of exceptional wine. Congratulations to Dan & Laurie Kelly! Thank you to our extraordinary co-chair of the event, Julie Dell'Aquila, our volunteers, our dedicated sponsors, and our guests who made this a truly unforgettable evenina!

Save the Date for our 7th Annual LA Wine Soiree on Saturday, October 8th, 2016



### 4TH ANNUAL CUT-A-THON

The talented beauty experts of the Bella Dia Salon & Day Spa in Buena Park welcomed the community to a relaxing and rejuvenating spa day! Clients and the public were invited to receive a haircut, waxing or chair massage where 100% of the proceeds benefited terminally ill children and adults. We are so thankful for Buena Park City Councilwoman and owner of Bella Dia Salon & Day Spa, Virginia Vaughn, and her staff for opening their doors to benefit SCHE!

### 2015 HEART OF HOSPICE GIVING SOCIETY

### **CHAMPIONS: \$25,000 +**

**Companion Home Health & Hospice** 

### BENEFACTORS: \$10,000-\$24,999

**Anonymous** 

**GSC, Certified Public Accountants** 

**J&M Speed Center** 

**Marjorie Mosher Schmidt Foundation** 

### PATRONS: \$5,000 - \$9,999

**Anonymous** 

CareRx, LLC

**Disney VoluntEARS Community Fund** 

**Hoag Memorial Hospital** 

**NORDSTROM** 

**Orange County Community Foundation** 

**Pacific Haven Subacute & Healthcare** 

Center

**Pharmaceutical Care Integration** 

**SMS Fabrications** 

**Spectrum Risk Management** 

The Stowell Family

**Ultimate HME** 

United Agencies, Inc.

Michael & Delsie Uranga Sr.

### **ADVOCATES: \$1,000-\$4,999**

ADS Printing and Promotional Products

**Anonymous** 

**Bob Barich** 

**Bella Dia Salon** 

**Burke Company** 

Century 21

**Cliff & Kathy Collins** 

**COMS Interactive** 

Jim Denver

**Diagnostic Consulting Network** 

Matt & Michelle Didier

**Drink Deeply** 

First Choice Medical Supply

GlassHouse Balloon Co., Inc.

Sean Havner

Interface rehab, inc

IOTEC

JWPNOTW, LLC

Dan & Laurie Kelly

Korman Healthcare

Pearl & Lazarian

**Richard & Delsie Lombardi** 

Lvnch Ambulance

Marine Air, Inc.

McKesson Medical-Surgical

**Medline Foundation** 

Mesa Verde Convalescent

**Luz Nuno** 

O'Connor Mortuary

Post Acute Care, LLC

**Prudential Fixed Income** 

Julian Ramos

**Rose Hills Memorial Park & Mortuary** 

**Rotary Club of Thousand Oaks** 

Nicholas & Karen Roxborough

**Anthony & Irene Salas** 

San Antonio Winery

**Secord Family Trust** 

**Scott & Sandy Sligar** 

**Southwest Airlines** 

The Ryan Law Group

**Chris Vallandigham** 

**Deborah Veady** 

**Erlend Weydahl** 

**Steven & Michelle Wulfestieg** 

### **SCHF 2015 INTERNS**

John Shepherd - Mater Dei High School

Nicole Aguinaldo - California State University, Fullerton

Concepcion Rodriguez - California State University, Fullerton (Post Graduate)

### GOLF TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Uranga Senior

Michael Uranga

Mark Uranga

**Chris Vallandigham** 

Shaun Moss

**Debbie Plesich** 

**Judy King Cole** 

**Barbara Stone** 

**Christopher Vallandigham** 

**Jerry Poston** 

**Molly Robison** 

Lauren Uranga

Michelle Wulfestieg

### LA WINE SOIRÉE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Melissa Balderrama

Michele Butler

**Dana Carr** 

**Marie Christy** 

**Jose Luis Escobar-Chavez** 

**Jacqueline Gaytan** 

Sarah Hubbard

**Barbara Lewman** 

**Ann Macasieb** 

Linda Rheinschild

**Molly Robison** 

Jennifer Tremble

Lauren Uranga

Julie Dell'Aquila (Co-Chair)

Michelle Wulfestieg (Co-Chair)

### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

### PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUES

Special Events Net:	\$119,421	71%
Cash Contributions:	\$20,099	12%
Grants & Other Income:	\$29,245	17%
Total Income:	<i>\$168,765</i>	100%

### **EXPENSES**



Patient Assistance	\$49,427	38%
Community Outreach	\$56,235	43%
Operations	\$15,090	11%
Fundraising	\$10,808	8%
Total Expenses:	\$131,560	100%

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

### ASSETS

Investments	\$272,498.73	39%
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$401,720.15	57%
Other Assets:	\$29,264.69	4%
Total Assets	\$703,483.57	100%



### TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Retained Earnings	\$666,278.52	95%
Net Income	\$37,205.05	5%
Total Assets	\$703,483.57	100%

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **FUNDRAISERS**

### **9th Annual Golf Tournament**

May 11, 2016

Enjoy a day on the links at Pelican Hill Resort in Newport Coast followed by a gala at the resort.

### 8th Annual Phil Braybrooks Memorial Car Show

May 22, 2016

Nearly 500 hot rods gather at the J&M Speed Center in Riverside to celebrate the life and legend of Phil Braybrooks.

### 7th Annual LA Wine Soirée

October 8, 2016

Appreciate breathtaking views of the LA skyline from the rooftop of the LA Athletic Club while sipping delicious wines and eating delectable foods.

### **GRIEF WORKSHOPS**

### **Healing Relationships after Death**

March 3, 2016

Location: Companion Hospice 4199 Flat Rock Drive, Suite 200

Riverside, CA 92505

Having unresolved issues with a person who has passed away can make grief more complicated. Pains from past disagreements or generally troubled relationships can feel like they'll never be resolved. The truth is, our relationships continue even after a person has died. This means we still have opportunities to heal those relationships. During this interactive workshop, we explore the possibilities of healing relationships after the death of someone important to you.

### **Grieving a Parent**

June 2, 2016

Location: Companion Hospice 2041 W. Orangewood Avenue

Orange, CA 92868

Whether you saw your parent regularly or rarely, the loss of a parent can be unexpectedly painful. After all, it's the "natural order" of life that an adult would experience the death of their parents. The idea that it's the natural order of life hides the reality of the grief, confusion and challenges that follow. Join us for an interactive workshop that explores the realities of grieving a parent. We'll discuss the challenges, as well as find ways to honor your grief and heal your pain.

### **Grief through Creative Expression**

September 8, 2016

Location: Companion Hospice 8130 Florence Avenue, Suite 200

Downey, CA 90240

Does it seem like words just aren't enough to express the grief that you feel? Or, maybe the words are hard to find? If you've lost someone important in your life and you're curious about different ways to work through your grief, then this workshop is for you. You'll be introduced to a variety of ways, beyond talking, that can support you in processing and honoring your grief. During the workshop you'll have time to create a small memorial shelf to honor your grief and the person that has died.

### **Hope for the Holidays**

November 10, 2016

Location: Companion Hospice 2041 W. Orangewood Avenue

Orange, CA 92868

The death of someone close to you can shatter your world. Join us for an interactive workshop that can help you begin to put the pieces back together. In this supportive environment, we'll talk about what you can expect to experience as you and those around you grieve; we'll anticipate changes that may lie ahead; and, most importantly, you'll have an opportunity to create a plan that can make the holidays a little more comfortable.

### **GET INVOLVED**

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Volunteer with hospice by providing a patient with emotional support or companionship.
- Give a gift in memory of a loved one or honor someone special by remembering them on an important day - birthday, anniversary, graduation, wedding, or other significant holiday.
- Have your company support the mission of SCHF by establishing a matching gift program, hosting a special fundraising event, or providing in-kind services or products.
- Join our Legacy Society by remembering the Southern California Hospice Foundation in your estate planning. Please consider discussing this option with your attorney or estate planner or contact us for more information.

However you decide to help, we appreciate your contribution. On behalf of the many patients and families we serve, we thank you. Please know that we would love to meet you or say thank you over the phone, so please feel free to contact us at any time.

### SCHF VOLUNTEER OFFICERS

### Michael Uranga

Post Acute Continuum, Inc., President

### **Chris Vallandigham**

SCHF Board Secretary/Treasurer; Companion Management Group, COO

#### Jim Denver

First Republic Bank, Managing Director

### **Matt Didier**

Cushman & Wakefield of California, Senior Director

#### Alfonso Galvez

Risk Manager, United Agencies, Inc.

#### **Shaun Moss**

Companion Hospice, SVP Program Development

### Sandy Sligar

SMS Fabrications, Inc., Vi<mark>ce-Preside</mark>nt of Administration

### SCHF VOLUNTEER STAFF

Michelle Wulfestieg, Executive Director

Lauren Uranga, Special Events Coordinator

Judy King-Cole, General Fund Coordinator

\*Our staff act as volunteers through the generous underwriting of an anonymous donor and Companion Management Group. Their kindness allows us to keep operating expenses low, so that your donations can directly impact the patients we serve.



### **Southern California Hospice Foundation**

3200 Park Center Dr., Ste. 1250 Costa Mesa, CA 92626 T: 877-661-0087 • F: 714-557-4439 www.socalhospicefoundation.org



### **Hospice Foundation of Arizona**

1930 S. Alma School Rd., Ste. D105 Mesa, AZ 85210

T: 877-661-0087 • F: 714-557-4439



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