

BYRON LAWS FINDS VOLUNTEERING REWARDING



Byron Laws, Pathways Volunteer

Byron Laws is one of more than 150 volunteers at Pathways. He became interested in opportunities at Pathways after taking classes at the University of Vermont to learn more about being a death doula.

What has been driving his interest in being a volunteer is a focus on how to be helpful to others while putting his interests in end-of-life to use.

Byron also experienced the death of his father at a young age which has instilled in him a greater appreciation for life, knowing we will all pass at some point. "Death is a part of life and creates an appreciation for life," states Byron.

Byron is also a veteran who served in the Air Force from 1989 to 1993. While he freely admits the motivation for joining the military was to have the benefits of the GI Bill and advance his education, his time in the military has been helpful in all aspects of his life.

He is a member of the We Honor Veterans group at Pathways. This is a group of volunteers who have served in the military and provide companionship to fellow veterans as they are receiving hospice care. This may include reading with veterans, watching movies, listening to music and, at times, sitting vigil as someone is passing.

"Being a volunteer, and a part of the veterans group, provides me an opportunity to help as well as making me aware of any blind spots I might have," states Byron.

Byron's work with veterans also includes pinning and recognition ceremonies for veterans – often at the bedside. "Being a part of ceremonies to honor those who have served is a mind-blowing experience."



Click this link to watch a Veteran Recognition Ceremony on our YouTube channel. [Honoring our Heroes: Heartfelt Veteran Recognition Ceremony](#)

"It is a pleasure to be associated with those who have made the military their career," stated Byron. "It is rewarding to be along-side my brothers and sisters in arms at this time and has made me feel a great sense of camaraderie."

Byron's time with Pathways and in hospice care has helped him to share his experiences and help others with the misperceptions about hospice and that it means giving up. This has helped to influence and encourage others to take advantage of the services available to them and their loved ones.

"I have learned to have an openness to an individual's journey and showing up to support them. I make sure to listen first and then, offer any experiences that may help," Byron shared. "It has been a pleasure to be part of the volunteer program."

Pathways is grateful for the help and work that Byron provides to the patients and families we serve. All of our volunteers provide a vital part of the overall care Pathways provides.

For more information about the Volunteer program at Pathways please visit us at www.pathways-care.org/volunteer.





Message from the President:

Throughout the month of November, Pathways will be joining organizations across the nation in hosting community activities recognizing National Care at Home Month.

For half a century, the collective care at home community – including hospice, palliative and home health care – has helped provide interdisciplinary, holistic care to millions of people, allowing them to receive daily pain relief and support and spend their final months wherever they call home surrounded by their loved ones. As our population continues to age, we must ensure our healthcare system is prepared to offer a well-integrated, person-centered continuum of high-quality care where most Americans would most like to receive it – in the comfort of wherever they call home.

Everyone deserves access to high-quality, person-centered care at home that protects their dignity and independence and preserves their quality of life.

National Care at Home Month also recognizes the important work of hospice, palliative and home care professionals who provide immense relief for patients' and their unpaid caregivers who continue their commitment, and compassion while caring for their loved one, often at great personal sacrifice during an already emotionally and financially challenging time.

At Pathways more than 100 nurses, social workers, Chaplains, nurse aides, counselors, therapists, physicians, nurse practitioners and support staff ensure high quality care is provided to everyone who is need of hospice, palliative and grief care services. This team of professionals is supported by the assistance of more than 150 dedicated volunteers.

Our work is made possible with the ongoing support of our community. Thank you.

For more information, or if you have questions about the services Pathways provides, please contact us at www.pathways-care.org or (970) 663-3500.

Pathways Named Best Hospice in Northern Colorado!

We are thrilled to announce that Pathways has been voted Best Hospice in Northern Colorado in this year's Readers' Choice Best of NOCO contest! This award means so much to us, and we are incredibly grateful to all who supported us through their votes and continued encouragement.

Each year, the Readers' Choice Best of NOCO contest celebrates the people, places, and businesses that make our community so special. This annual campaign shines a spotlight on local organizations, building awareness, attracting new faces, and gathering thousands of votes from residents who value exceptional care and service.

At Pathways, we are dedicated to making every moment of life matter. Thank you for your trust and for allowing us to be part of this community—we are honored to serve you.

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Honoring every moment of life with compassion, dignity and expertise.





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Celebrating the Success of A Vintage Affair

Thank you to everyone who joined us for A Vintage Affair and helped make it such a memorable event! With your incredible support, we raised over \$45,000 for our Grief and Loss program, which directly assists individuals and families navigating challenging times.

We extend a heartfelt thank you to our generous event sponsors, whose contributions made the evening unforgettable and impactful! Their support was essential to our success and helped bring our community together in support of a meaningful cause.

If you couldn't attend but would still like to support our mission, there's still time to donate. Please visit <https://pathways-care.org/ava/> to make your contribution and help us continue providing vital resources to those who need them most. Thank you for being a part of our journey!

Colorado Gives Day is Tuesday, December 10

Please include Pathways during your end of year giving during Colorado Gives Day. Support is needed for the Pathways Inpatient Care Center, bereavement care services, charity care provided to those without insurance coverage and other areas.



Imagine the amount of good we can do together.

End-Of Year Giving

- Are you over 70 ½ years of age and receiving Required Minimum Distributions (RMD) from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA)?
- Did you know you can quickly and easily send part or all (up to \$100,000) of your distributing directly to a charity and save on income taxes?

For more information contact Pathways at (970) 663-3500.

