Message from the President:

Dear Readers,

I am so pleased to announce that the newly constructed, stand-alone Pathways Inpatient Care Center (PICC) is open and is now serving those in need of acute hospice care services.

We broke ground on the Inpatient Care Center in June of 2021 and now, after approximately fifteen months of construction, we can provide high quality, compassionate hospice care in a homelike setting to patients needing hospital-level treatment.

The PICC is the space that we envisioned when we set out to build a state-of-the-art facility for all of northern Colorado, complete with natural light, stone facades, lush landscaping, and work by local artists that reflect the beauty of the communities we serve.

Each of the twelve rooms at the PICC are large enough to accommodate groups of visitors and two guests overnight. This includes two negative pressure rooms to safely care for those with highly infectious illnesses including COVID-19. For more information about the new Pathways Inpatient Care Center and to view images and video with more information, please visit [www.pathways-care.org/inpatient-care-center/](http://www.pathways-care.org/inpatient-care-center/)

The addition of the PICC completes the Pathways campus on Carpenter Road, adding to our comprehensive continuum of care including community-based hospice, palliative and grief and loss care and services.

With the PICC now open and caring for patients, the capital campaign to completely fund the project continues and your help is needed now more than ever. If you would like to learn more about the campaign for the PICC and how you can help, please visit [www.pathways-care.org/capital-campaign/](http://www.pathways-care.org/capital-campaign/)

Thank you for your ongoing support and always reach out to Pathways if we can be of help and provide assistance and information. We can be reached at (970) 663-3500 or [www.pathways-care.org](http://www.pathways-care.org).

Nate Lamkin, Pathways President

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Our Senior Leadership Team

Nate Lamkin, MSW, LCSW  
President

Dr. Mike Towbin, MD  
Medical Director Executive

Angie Sickmon, RN  
Director of Clinical Services

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Pathways Inpatient Care Center Celebrates Grand Opening with Ribbon Cutting and Open House

The Pathways Hospice Inpatient Care Center (PICC) celebrated its grand opening with a ribbon cutting ceremony on Thursday, July 23 and a public open house on July 25.

The ribbon cutting ceremony included donors, elected officials and staff of Pathways speaking about the impact the new facility will have on the community, and the open house welcomed more than 250 community members into the building for a tour before any patients were admitted.

The 15,000-square-foot facility opened with twelve beds, though it has the capacity to expand to eighteen when needed. The population of those 65 and older in Larimer County alone is expected to grow by 140% within the next 20 years. The PICC is the only stand-alone, inpatient hospice facility in northern Colorado and will serve not only local residents but will welcome patients from the State’s eastern plains, Wyoming, Nebraska, and Kansas.

Each of the twelve rooms is large enough to accommodate groups of visitors and allows up to two guests to stay overnight and use a communal kitchen. The facility is a replacement for the previous six-bed hospice center at McKee Medical Center, which had limited space with one out of every four days totally full in 2020.

The PICC was constructed on the east end of the Pathways campus along Carpenter Road between Fort Collins and Loveland. The new facility is built in a semi-circle facing north to simulate the circle of life. Included in the building, to care for patients and families, is a large, communal kitchen for families to prepare and eat meals together, gardens and walkways to blend the indoor and outdoor spaces, skylights and ample windows, a non-denominational chapel and other areas for quiet reflection – including an outdoor, walking Labyrinth and two rooms especially equipped with negative pressure ventilation allowing for safe care of patients with COVID-19 and other infectious respiratory diseases.

Karen Dawson, Chair of the Board of Directors for Pathways, thanked everyone that came out to celebrate the opening of the facility, saying that this is among her list of career accomplishments that make her the proudest.

“I cannot tell you how many years have gone into the discussion, the hopes and the dreams for this to become a reality,” she said. “This wonderful facility is an important addition to the continuum of care for the residents of Larimer and Weld counties.”

In addition to celebrating the opening of the new PICC, the organization unveiled the “Harmony of Hearts” sculpture created by Loveland-based sculptor Shari Vines specifically for the hospice facility.

Vines said that her piece, built out of 375 pounds of bronze on top of a 4-ton sandstone boulder, was meant to turn the 2D Pathways logo into 3D.

“My biggest hope, deep in my heart, was the piece would truly honor the profound work that is done in this organization,” she said. “I wanted this 4-ton rock and 6-foot sculpture to, somehow, be an emotional anchor for the patients (and) the family and friends that come here.”

The PICC is being funded with an $8 million capital campaign and is built on land that was purchased in 2005. Pathways has raised $3.1 million so far, and the rest was financed to get the facility built sooner; fundraising continues toward the $8 million goal.
Capital Campaign Update

Due to the ongoing generosity of our community the capital campaign to provide inpatient hospice care for northern Colorado at the Pathways Inpatient Care Center has raised more than $3.1 million toward our goal of $8 million for construction and furnishings.

The generosity of the community in completing the Inpatient Care Center will ensure that Pathways will continue to provide the highest quality of care for our patients in the last phases of life and their families who are with them through their final journey.

We invite you to join us and be a part of our success by making a generous gift to the Inpatient Care Center. By doing so you will help those who will come to Pathways in the future, and honor those who have come before us. Your support is needed now more than ever.

- Gifts can be made in the form of two-to-three-year pledges with payments made monthly, quarterly, semiannually, annually, or on a schedule built to suit your circumstances.
- Gifts can also be made through cash, check, credit card, securities or real estate.
- Bequests and estate gifts are also welcome. Please let us know how we can assist you.

Gifts can be made at http://weblink.donorperfect.com/CapitalCampaign2020 or by contacting Pathways at (970) 663-3500.

We invite you to schedule a virtual or in-person meeting to find out more about Pathways and the Inpatient Care Center.

Please contact: Nate Lamkin, President: 970-292-1078 or Nate.Lamkin@pathways-care.org.

Thank you for your ongoing support

Colorado Gives Day is Tuesday, December 6

Mark your calendars. Colorado Gives Day, December 6, will be here soon. Colorado Gives Day has grown to be Colorado’s largest 24-hour giving event, raising more than $362 million for Colorado non-profits since it began in 2010. Each December, Coloradans come together with the common goal to strengthen the community by helping to power nonprofits.

Please include Pathways during your end of year giving during Colorado Gives Day and help us receive a larger share of the $1,000,000 incentive fund. Support is needed for the Pathways Inpatient Care Center, bereavement care services, charity care provided to those without insurance coverage and other areas.

Key Dates to remember:
- Nov. 1: Early Giving begins
- Dec. 6: Colorado Gives Day

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.
20th Annual A Vintage Affair Raises More than $60,000 for the Pathways Inpatient Care Center

The 20th annual A Vintage Affair (AVA), presented by Wilbur’s Total Beverage, was a tremendous success.

Over 200 people attended A Vintage Affair, raising more than $60,000 for the new Pathways Inpatient Care Center.

We want to thank everyone who was able to be a part of this year’s event.

Revenue from AVA will go towards the $8 million capital campaign for the Pathways Inpatient Care Center. This new, recently opened, 12-bed, stand-alone, hospice inpatient care center will provide critical, hospital-level care in a homelike setting. For more information about the Pathways Inpatient Care Center, please visit www.pathways-care.org/inpatient-care-center.org

Were you not able to make it to this year’s event? Please look for information coming in the future about A Vintage Affair in 2023 and we hope you will join us.

Have You Ever Thought of Being a Volunteer?

Have you ever thought of being a volunteer? Pathways has several ways that you could volunteer and help.

Recently, Pat Baldridge, a volunteer with Pathways shared some of her experiences and how her time has been fulfilling in being with patients and families.

Pat has been asked to help with a variety of volunteer opportunities including companionship for patients which sometimes includes reading, watching TV or providing respite time for family members.

“One lady I visited with was living on the island of Oahu when Pearl Harbor was struck!”, shared Pat. “She lived very close to it and heard the explosions, saw the smoke. She recalls hearing on the radio that this was “The Real McCoy”. She and her young sister didn’t know what that phrase meant, never having heard it before. But then her brother came home and reported what had happened. She said “it was then that we learned what ‘The Real McCoy’ meant”. It gave me chills”.

Many may think that being a volunteer can be sad and depressing however, Pat has found it uplifting. Her motivation comes from an earlier time of reading to seniors as a volunteer at the library and wanting to bring that to others.

“While it can be challenging, there is always support available from Pathways”, stated Pat. “I set my own pace and the scheduling is flexible – it is not always what I have expected, which is what makes it enjoyable”.

If you are interested in becoming a Volunteer for Pathways please contact Deb Hayman at deb.hayman@pathways-care.org or (970) 663-3500.
Heather Storteboom Provides the Gift of Beauty to Those at End-of-Life

Even though she has a background in Soil and Crop Sciences as a one-time Affiliate Faculty member at Colorado State University, Heather Storteboom will share with you that she started out with very little gardening experience.

Which is why it may seem odd that Heather has started her own non-profit organization, Secret Garden, to provide locally grown flower bouquets to patients and families at Pathways amongst others.

About 9 years ago, Heather and her husband purchased a home with beautifully developed perennial flower gardens. In fact, they purchased the home primarily for the gardens.

“It all started in the garden,” explains Heather. “That love for gardening has now turned into a passion for growing and designing with flowers and sharing that beauty with others. My hope is that the beauty and therapeutic benefits of the garden can reach many people regardless of their circumstances.”

At the time they purchased the house with gardens, Heather and her husband were both grieving. Her husband had lost a young friend to cancer and the family experienced a miscarriage.

However, when spring returned this brought a big change in their lives. With the rebirth of the gardens in the spring, Heather felt hope returning. She started learning everything about gardening. “The garden taught me to become a gardener,” stated Heather.

As her interest grew, Heather took courses about flower farming, networked with other flower farmers and took an interest in floral design which led to ideas of starting her own floral business.

As with many ideas and plans all of us had at the beginning of 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic put much on hold for Heather and her family. In addition, the pandemic brought loneliness.

To break the loneliness for herself, her family and others she began taking flowers to a senior living facility in her neighborhood. Sharing this experience with her children – Heather strives to teach them that sharing their gifts and passions in service to others can bring great joy.

As the pandemic lessened, Heather felt motivated to grow more flowers and to reach more people. Still, sharing flowers with the whole community was a big task, so she focused on working with elderly and those who are grieving. It was a friend who recommended she reach out to Pathways. Through personal experiences, Heather felt connected with the idea of hospice care and grief counseling; supporting Pathways seemed like a natural fit.

Heather grows flowers at both her home garden and in her church community garden. As her contributions to Pathways grew, she has expanded her network for donations of flowers from local farmers and gardeners. Volunteers joined her in the community garden on Monday evenings throughout the summer to make bouquets together.

As needs arose, members from her church stepped in: one built repurposed work benches to use for assembling bouquets, another tilled up another area of the garden so she could grow more flowers, others joined to setup/tear down or stayed to make bouquets. Other volunteers connected to Secret Garden via Pathways, social media, or as friends and family of repeat volunteers.

All of this has led to Secret Garden providing 30 to 60 bouquets per week to Pathways along with additional bouquets to senior living communities.

“Whether it’s the hands that grow, arrange, gift, or receive, I hope all the participants in the process get a taste of the beauty, peace, and life found in the garden,” added Heather.

To learn more Secret Garden and Heather’s efforts to bring joy to the people she touches with her flowers, please visit her website and follow her on social media.

secretgardencolorado@gmail.com
https://www.secretgardencolorado.com
https://www.instagram.com/secretgardencolorado/
https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100082193770593
https://www.linkedin.com/in/heather-storteboom-bb4bb2b9
Winter Events

**Dia de los Muertos Art Therapy Workshop**

**Thursday, October 27, 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.**

This holiday is dedicated to honoring the lives of those that have passed on. Pathways is offering an art-based workshop for individuals and families of all ages to experience this tradition. This workshop will include opportunities to create a variety of memorial items and decorative ofrendas (offerings) just in time for the holiday.

Information on the history and traditions of Dia de los Muertos will be offered. Attendees are encouraged to bring a photograph.

Cost: $15 per individual and $45 for families (3 or more)
Children 3 and under are free
Bilingual facilitator available in Spanish
**Registration is required by October 24th.**

**Grief and the Holidays**

**November 8, 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

We will share ideas to navigate the holidays and explore ways to cope through this sometimes difficult time of year. Registration is required online.

**Wreath Making**

**December 3, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

Adults and families are invited to join us in making a memorial wreath. Registration is required online.

Please check our events calendar at [https://pathways-care.org/upcoming-events](https://pathways-care.org/upcoming-events) to see all events and our support group line-up. You can also contact us at 970-663-3500 or by email at bereavement@pathwayscare.org

Our Mission

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

Our Vision

Pathways is committed to be the region’s preferred provider of hospice services through excellent patient care in all settings and comprehensive grief support. We educate about end-of-life care, partner with caregivers, remain good financial stewards, grow to meet our community’s needs, and strive to be an employer of choice.

Our Values

We honor life through compassion, respect, integrity, excellence and stewardship.

Contact Us

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The oldest and largest community-based nonprofit hospice provider in northern Colorado, a 501(c)3 Organization (84-0782874)

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