

Spring 2021

# Hand in Hand

THE 1979 CIRCLE • YOUR GIFTS AT WORK



## Hope for the future



For over a year, we have been facing the challenges and stresses that arrived with the coronavirus pandemic. We have leaned heavily on our supporters and you have answered the call, with gifts of PPE and food for those in need, with financial support, and with

words of encouragement. You have been there for us during an extraordinarily difficult time. Thank you.

Now, as we look forward to the next phase of recovery, I am feeling hopeful about what is next. I know that we are coming out of this crisis stronger

than ever and ready to face anything. Thanks to your partnership, I know we will always be able to serve our community with compassion, courage, and grace.

You are truly and sincerely our partners in this work. Together, we will make sure everyone who needs care receives it, and we will never turn anyone away due to financial reasons. **Thank you for your investment and your support. You make it all possible.**



1979 Circle

Sincerely,

*Billy*

William M. Dunlap, M.D.

Co-founder

1979 Circle Charter Member

*The view above is from the Reid S. Towler Campus of Transitions LifeCare.*

## 2020: A YEAR OF RISING UP AND RALLYING TOGETHER

While last year proved to be a challenging and stressful year for all of us, Transitions LifeCare continued to provide our programs and services to everyone in need throughout our local communities. We served 9,500 families, which included 3,712 patients in hospice care, 5,000 patients in palliative care, and 720 patients in our home health program. We served 90 children through Transitions Kids and

celebrated the 5-year anniversary of this special service. Our GriefCare team provided a variety of virtual support groups for both children and adults.

Through your special support, we surpassed our Annual Campaign goal, raising nearly \$1.8 million, including \$630,000 from members of the 1979 Circle. Total philanthropic support surpassed \$2.9 million. We all were humbled by this extraordinary level of

financial support and thank you for helping us to reach our patients through telehealth visits, and providing our staff the flexibility for telework, which continues today.

“We are thankful for this abundance of support as we prepare for a post-COVID recovery. We remain strong leaders in our market and are well positioned to succeed in 2021,” says John Thoma, CEO.

## INTRODUCING JAMAL JONES

Transitions LifeCare is honored to welcome Jamal Jones to the Board of Trustees for Hospice of Wake County Foundation. As Chief Operating and Strategy Officer for Advance Community Health Center (ACH), Jamal helps lead a multi-specialty practice providing high-quality comprehensive preventive and primary health services to underserved communities. ACH is part of a nationwide network of community health centers offering primary care for all ages, behavioral health, dental, nutrition, and pharmacy services in multiple locations throughout Wake and Franklin counties.

Jamal is a native of Kingston, Jamaica. He completed his undergraduate work at Davidson College and his graduate work at UNC-Chapel Hill with a Master of Business Administration (MBA) and a Master of Healthcare Administration (MHA).



Jamal Jones



*Why we give*

## THE GRATITUDE MAKES IT ALL WORTHWHILE

Enjoying the Oktoberfest fundraiser was, at one time, my only connection to Hospice of Wake County and what hospice meant. Years later I joined volunteers from my law firm at several fundraising events where I got to know the folks at Transitions LifeCare and they got to know me. One thing led to another, as they say, and I now serve on the Board of Trustees for the Hospice of Wake County Foundation and on the Philanthropy Committee.

My law firm is literally around the corner from the Transitions LifeCare campus, so several of us have periodically volunteered to provide and serve lunch at the Hospice Home on the Trinity Road campus. I am struck by how grateful and appreciative everyone is of this small gesture. And the more involved I get, the more impressed I am. In fact, my wife Caroline says that my talking it up so much is what inspired her to also become a volunteer.

Stationed at the front desk of the Hospice Home, signing visitors in and out, Caroline is always amazed by how many people stop to thank her. That's one reason she enjoys being there — it's a wonderful feeling when everyone is so grateful.

Not long ago, Caroline met an elderly gentleman whose wife had just been admitted. He'd been taking care of her at home for quite



*Caroline and Marshall Wall*

some time and hadn't really had anyone to talk to. He stayed and stayed in the lobby to chat with Caroline and was just so grateful for the opportunity to do so.

### The gratitude is highly gratifying

The sincere gratitude Caroline and I have each experienced from both patients and families is both rewarding and humbling. It's one of the reasons we so profoundly believe in the mission of Transitions LifeCare.

But this mission — providing access to hospice care to everyone, regardless of their ability to pay — comes at a cost. You are keenly aware of that, but you may not know that we're now approaching it differently.

Without a doubt, the key to the future of Transitions LifeCare is an endowment. It ensures your gift to Transitions will last forever, making a difference in people's lives not

just this year or next year, but decades from now.

### The time is right

Now is the right time to focus our efforts on increasing our endowment fund, ensuring its growth keeps pace with the agency's long-term vision. Key elements of that effort are to broaden our base of support, engaging additional families to contribute to the endowment; to geographically extend our fundraising efforts beyond Raleigh; and to seek opportunities to connect with the growing number of people who understand what hospice is, but who may not be completely aware of our mission and the full scope of what the agency offers.

### The 1979 Circle is at the heart of it all

Caroline and I are members of the 1979 Circle because we sincerely believe that hospice care should be available to everyone who needs it. As a volunteer, Caroline has seen firsthand the impact we have on families. In my work for Transitions LifeCare, I get to see how your gifts expand our endowment and make plans to ensure we are able to fulfill our mission in the years to come.

It is so gratifying to see people so grateful for what Transitions has done for them. And we are deeply grateful for your generous gift.

*“Your financial support of our endowment ensures your gift to Transitions LifeCare will last forever, making a difference in people's lives not just this year or next year, but decades from now.”* – MARSHALL WALL, BOARD OF TRUSTEES,

HOSPICE OF WAKE COUNTY FOUNDATION

Transitions<sup>®</sup> LifeCare

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