



Member Newsletter

Issue 4 - 2024-2025



JUNE 2025

Board of Directors 2024-2025

Executive Committee

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Kathy Beer
VP Education Programs
Dr. Ken Smith
VP Membership
LouAnn Noll
VP Marketing
Stacey Darr
Secretary
Kresta Wright
Treasurer
Heather Miller
Members at Large
Shary Smith
Trinka McGehee

Board of Directors

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Lynne Breuer
Nancy Davies
Cynthia Duvall
Betty Ferrell
Liz Jauer
Patti King
Trisha Lodde
Ellen Pfeiffer
Sandy Ryan
Becky Walker
Haley Wall

Terri Gutierrez
Executive Director/Editor



Kathy Beer

From the President's Desk



I'd like to thank all our Friends of Hospice Board members, Members, supporters, underwriters and all the folks who helped us with our fundraising. All of you made a positive difference in the end of life experience our recipients received from the funds we raised. You worked hard, and the over \$175,000 in funds we raised are proof of that. This next year will provide us some challenges as we try to exceed our 2024-2025 goals for fundraising events, new members and member retention, new exhibitors and underwriters and support for our new and existing Board members. Please remember that as we overcome any challenges that come our way, they will make us a stronger organization. We will need support from everyone, so please consider joining a committee or holding an office and please continue to financially support Friends of Hospice. Thanks to everyone for the honor of serving as President. I hope 2025-2026 will be the best year yet!!

Respectfully,
Kathy Beer
Board President 2023-2025

Please follow us on Facebook and send us some
Summer pictures to post!

Friends of Hospice San Antonio, Inc., P.O. Box 40487, San Antonio, TX 78229
Phone: 210.785.5850 - Terri Gutierrez - 210.785.5852
Website: www.friendsofhospicesa.org

The mission of Friends of Hospice San Antonio, Inc. is to increase community awareness and understanding of hospice and to raise funds in support of patients and their families in end-of-life care.

2024-2025 Executive Director's Report



This year, I am happy to report that we were able to exceed our giving to CHRISTUS VNA Hospice to \$175,000. This is thanks to all of our Members, supporters and foundations that are so generous with us and committed to helping uninsured hospice patients in our community. We added a new event, **Bunco Night at Chicken N**

Pickle which was a big success (thank you to Stacey Darr) and SPEC's chose us as their Charity of the Month in May, which raised \$12,483! Bunco Night will be on September 17th this year, so please put it on your calendar and join us.

Operationally, we went digital by buying three IPAD's and switching our credit card payments at our events to SQUARE. You just tap your credit card for payment and you receive a receipt by email or text, so easy and also cuts down on our credit card fees so more of our donations can go to patients. One of our new Members, **Audrey Rogers**, volunteered all year to do our graphics for our events and invitations. She did a great job and we appreciate her and **all of our Members that volunteer** their time to support our cause!

This next year might be especially challenging, due to Federal budget cuts for non-profits. Luckily, we do not depend on Federal money, but many Foundations and donors will be inundated with additional requests to make up for lost funding by other worthy non-profits. We hope that you will consider continuing to support our Mission, while many other worthy causes might also need your support.

After many years of volunteering and staging events, many of our long-time Board Members are retiring from the Board this year. We can't thank them enough for all that they have done for our organization. Personally, they have been invaluable to me as I took over the leadership and had to learn the ropes of how Friends of Hospice works. I want to thank them for their tireless support and putting up with teaching me everything about this wonderful organization. Our Board next year will be smaller but mighty, and we are so grateful to have four new Board Members: **Aggie Manwell-Jackson, Wanda Edlund, Traudi Eizenberger and Beverly Tuomala** who start on July 1st. Welcome to you all, and welcome to our **new President, Dr. Robin Dillard**. We can't wait to work with you and see what new ideas you bring to our Mission. We hope you all have a great summer and don't forget to renew your Membership!

Take care, Terri Gutierrez

New Executive Committee 2025-2026

President
Dr. Robin Dillard

President-Elect
Ellen Pfeiffer

Vice President
Education Programs
Dr. Ken Smith

Second Vice President
Membership
Beverly Tuomala

Secretary
Trisha Lodde

Treasurer
Nancy Davies

Members at Large
Shary Smith
Lynne Breuer



Special Gifts as of June 13, 2025**MAJOR DONORS (\$500 +)**

CHRISTUS Health Foundation
Marian Pipes Brown Charitable Fund
Mary West and Richard Traylor
Mark Wright
SPEC's
Stephen Lancaster
Valero Energy Foundation

CONTRIBUTORS

Anonymous
Elizabeth and William Chiego
Mr. and Mrs. Luis Espinoza
Progressive Insurance Foundation
Terri and Juan Gutierrez
Judith Morton

IN MEMORY OF

Todd Colburn
 Stephen Lancaster

IN HONOR OF

Jan Janboe Russell
 David and Emily Peeples

**MEMORIAL DAY HONORS****IN MEMORY OF**

Ron Calgaard
 Genie Calgaard

Donald R. Comuzzi
Raymond A. Updike, M.D.
 Johanna Comuzzi

Brig. General Carey Deckard
 June Deckard

Peter C. Hains IV
George A Gates, M.D.
 Charlotte Hains

William McCrae
 Helen McCrae

Tom McNish
 Yona McNish

Roy Butler
Ray Butler
Ava Noll
Lloyd Whitworth
 LouAnn and Wayne Noll

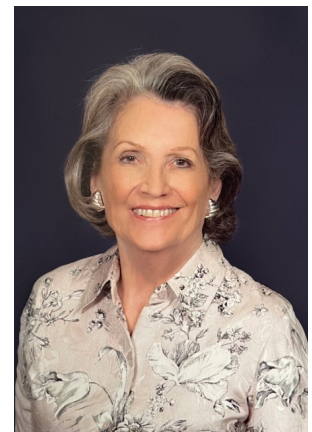
Scott West Abbey
Major Leonard C. Traylor
 Mary West and Richard Traylor

IN HONOR OF

Linda Jacobs
Ruth Willoughby
 Mary West and Richard Traylor

Memorial Day General Donations

Anonymous
Judith Morton
Camilla Parker
Mark Wright

REMEMBERING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Judith Cavender



Dr. George Gates



New Board Members: Aggie Manwell-Jackson and Wanda Edlund enjoying the Annual meeting.



Celebrating our accomplishments for the year at the Annual Meeting and saying goodbye to retiring Board Member, Trinkia McGehee and retiring President, Kathy Beer (pictured).



Chair Dr. Ken Smith and Dr. Robin Dillard in the background with Board Members Cynthia Duvall and Patti King at the Spring Lecture.



New Member, Joy Heller and new Board Member, Beverly Tuomala at the Annual Meeting at LaFonda.



Dr. Robin Dillard, Terri Gutierrez and Haley Wall with the managers from SPEC's. We were so grateful to accept their generous donation in May as Charity of the Month!



Saying goodbye to Betty Ferrell, who has moved to Dallas to be close to family. Our Board (pictured) is so grateful for all she has done to support hospice patients and our organization.