

SPRING 2022

ho'oli'oli

...to make comfortable

- Comfort and dignity for the seriously ill
- Assistance and peace of mind for their families
- Enhanced quality of life when time is limited



HOSPICE MAUI

'Ohana

Caring for Families on Maui • Moloka'i • Lana'i

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The last time many of my family members got together was when one of my sisters was under hospice care, in upstate New York. For three weeks, the family gathered to comfort one another and, yes, to celebrate our last moments with my sister. My mother-in-law was also under hospice care, in southern Florida, and again, our family came together for a couple of weeks at her house. Both experiences truly felt like a gift and a celebration; at the same time, it was a very difficult time for the family. Family members can feel so lost preparing for the death of a loved one.

We were so fortunate to have the assistance of hospice care. Hospice was supportive, patient, and compassionate during this impossible time; it was a huge support system from strangers who truly created a strong structure for us to hold on to, **a true beacon of light through the dark times we were experiencing.**

The staff and volunteers at Hospice Maui are some of the most compassionate, competent, and caring people I have ever met; the Board of Directors members are dedicated and visionary. I am very proud to be part of this outstanding organization. Please join me in supporting and sharing about the work of Hospice Maui.

Helen Nielsen

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Leadership

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Melanie Dwyer
HOSPICE MAUI CEO

On January 4, we received the news of our beloved CEO Greg Lagoy's death. Together as a team, including our staff, volunteers, and board of directors, we honor Greg LaGoy through our continued commitment to provide compassionate and professional hospice care to the Maui community.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone that reached out to us with love and support. Greg's vision was to sustain and build this hospice program with its commitment to maintain a unique set of values and culture and being stewards of a sacred trust. During his 32 years with Hospice Maui he built a team from a few employees to a team of more than 80 staff members. He built an infrastructure for a healthcare organization from scratch to one that is thriving in the current healthcare landscape while maintaining our values and culture.

He started with a handful of patients on Maui to a census in the 90's, now providing hospice services to Maui, Moloka'i, and Lana'i. He built our Hospice Maui Hale to provide a space for our patients and families when care at home is no longer an option. A gift to our community that would not have been possible without Greg's commitment.

Greg had a profound trust in the team at Hospice Maui and our commitment to make the right choice at each moment for our patients and families. He trusted our leadership team and Board of Directors to carry forward our mission. Greg also believed that there is something magical about Hospice Maui. That the work we do is special and sacred and that we will always be supported and receive what we need to serve our community.

In our work with the dying, we know that with all endings there are new beginnings. My hope is that Greg's legacy inspires each and every one of us in our own way to be better leaders, mentors, and friends to each other and the ones who come after us as we carry the mission and vision for Hospice Maui forward. 

**Melanie
Dwyer**
HOSPICE MAUI
CEO



“Just know that the combination of my commitment to this great organization and your dedication to serving this community every day create a protective shield that will assure Hospice Maui’s success well into the future.”

Greg LaGoy, December 2021

Hospice Maui Chief Executive Officer, Dr. R. Gregory LaGoy, died suddenly on January 4, 2022, on Maui. Greg had been the CEO of Hospice Maui for more than 30 years. **He leaves an incredible legacy.** In addition to the conventional business skills required to run a very efficient organization, throughout his own journey he used emotional intelligence and intuition to help guide himself. This also aided in maintaining the highest ideals to which hospice care aspires. As a mentor, he taught others to focus on their own quality of life, so that they could lead and serve without regret. As a leader, he sought every opportunity to help his team reflect on their own mortality, so they could understand and appreciate hospice philosophy. And as a visionary, his unwavering voice helped to create the foundation upon which Hawaii’s non-profit hospice industry is built.



All of us at Hospice Maui miss him dearly.

A hui hou. 



Leaving a
Legacy

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The background of the entire page is a close-up photograph of a dragonfly perched on a thin brown stem. To the right, a vibrant green fern frond is curled into a spiral, showing its intricate texture and fine hairs. The lighting is soft and natural, highlighting the details of the insect and the plant.

Greg LaGoy Memorial Fund

To honor the life and legacy of
Dr. Gregory LaGoy, Hospice Maui
has established the
Greg LaGoy Memorial Fund.

Gifts to the Greg LaGoy Memorial Fund support Hospice Maui's expansions of services to the islands of Moloka'i and Lana'i. It was Greg's long held vision to provide hospice services to all of Maui County which he initiated in 1994 on Moloka'i and 2005 on Lana'i. Beginning on February 1, 2022 these two programs transitioned from Navian Hawaii back to Hospice Maui, realizing Greg's dream. Immediate needs for the expansion are setting up offices on the islands. Funds will be also used to serve Maui County patients and families in need and without other means to cover the costs.



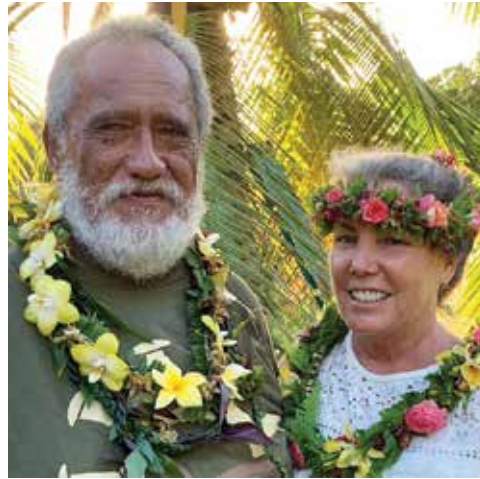
“Greg’s unwavering
voice helped to
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industry is built.”

Legacy Hospices

If you have questions or would like to learn more about the Greg LaGoy Memorial Fund,
please call Astrid Grupenhoff at 808-244-5555.

Hospice Maui Hale was truly a blessing for our family,

it allowed my husband Robert to live his last days with grace and dignity surrounded by those who loved and cared for him.



Robert was a humble Hawaiian man who was full of aloha. Born and raised in Hana he enjoyed his peaceful life there with his family and friends. He was a fisherman who shared his fresh catch, his home and his knowledge not only with the younger generations of Hana but with visiting canoe clubs, sports teams, school groups, sailing crews and many more.

During the year before his passing Robert had lived through months and months of doctors visits, scans, labs and tests. Then in late May he was diagnosed with cancer. It was devastating news but there was hope. Robert was ready for whatever it

took and the journey continued. We would drive for hours in and out of Hana and flew from Hana to Kahului to Honolulu and then back again, over and over again.

Robert and I are raising two grandsons, it was always hard to leave them when we had to travel for Robert's many appointments. We missed the last days of one school year and then the first days of the next. Thankfully we had family and friends who were always there willing to help with the boys, but it was never easy being away from them. It was also tough when Robert would end up in a hospital that wouldn't allow any visitors because of Covid-19.

After several emergencies and ambulance calls Robert thought it would be best to transfer his chemotherapy from Honolulu to Maui. So we scheduled a visit to a well recommended oncologist here on Maui. Although we made it to the appointment the chemotherapy was taking a toll on Robert and we had to call an ambulance before the doctor had a

chance to see him. The doctor had me stay and fill out paper work so he could help Robert. He sat with me and explained Robert's condition and told me that he thought Robert should go into hospice. I had heard of hospice but didn't really know what it was or how it would help us.

Robert did get out of the hospital after that and spent several more days at home before another emergency and trip back to the hospital. Those days gave us time to talk and ask questions about Hospice Maui. Robert's main concern was that we could be together and that he could see our boys.

Just knowing that was possible helped him make his decision. Robert went directly from the hospital to Hospice Maui Hale. I packed up the boys and our things at home and drove in from Hana anxious and apprehensive not knowing what to expect.

The first thing that struck me when we got to the Hale was the sense of place. Where I was standing, this was sacred, I looked out over Maui and Haleakala and I felt peace. When I got to Robert he was resting in a nice cool room and had already gotten a lei from a caring staff



member. As the days went by and word got out that Robert was at the Hale a steady stream of family and friends were welcomed there. Robert got to see the boys every day and had a chance to visit and spend precious moments with everyone who stopped by. Hospice Maui Hale gave us a place to just be together and be there for Robert. We watched the sun and full moon rises and held each other up witnessing the last days of a life so well lived. Robert's room and lanai were filled with love, laughter and tears, sweet Hawaiian music, fragrant and beautiful flowers, lei and lots and lots of goodies, a little bit of Hana at the Hale.

We were visited daily by staff who offered their help and answered our questions. The doctor visited every morning, he listened to our concerns and gave us advice. One of the most helpful things was a little blue book that was given to us, *Gone from My Sight: The Dying Experience* by Barbara Karnes. It was a comfort to our family and help in explaining this experience to all of us.

Robert was cared for by the most loving and friendly nurses. I will never forget the way Robert felt after his baths when the nurses would pour water over his back. That simple act meant so much to him. The nurses would bring him ice chips, extra blankets and pillows and always made sure he was comfortable. They worked hard to place IV's and moved his port to make everything as pain free as possible. Robert was cared for and comfortable and this allowed me to just be there with him. For that I am most thankful.

Robert's last days were as rich and full as his life had been for that we are grateful to the peaceful shelter of Hospice Maui Hale and its wonderful doctor, nurses and staff who embraced us with a warmth and reverence that honored the passing of this wonderful man who we all love so much.

Mahalo nunui Me Kealoha
Pumehana

'Ohana Malaiakini



To learn more about our volunteer program or to apply for our Volunteer Training, please visit

**HospiceMaui.org/
volunteer**

or contact
our Volunteer
Coordinator

Sara at 808-244-5555

Our Services

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Compassionate Hospice Care

We believe that at the end of our lives we are entitled to care that helps to relieve pain and other symptoms.

We each deserve to be cared for by those who understand the emotional and spiritual needs of the dying. We deserve the opportunity to express our hopes and fears, and to be heard, honored, and supported; and we are each entitled to live our last months and weeks in the setting of our choice, treated according to our beliefs and values.

Hospice Maui Hale

Many families have the need for 24-hour care near the end of life of a loved one. Our five-bedroom hale provides a homelike residence that offers a beautiful balance between privacy and community living, when spending their last days at home is not an option.

Bereavement Support

Hospice Maui offers free bereavement support to family members for at least a year after their loved one dies on our service. Those support services include periodic phone calls, personal letters, specialized newsletters, and group events. In addition, we provide to the general public weekly grief support groups facilitated by licensed professional counselors.

Special grief workshops, community education and services, an annual Holiday Open House, and an annual Memorial Day Service are also offered.



Caring for Maui County

The first week of February was the mark of a memorable milestone for Hospice Maui. We now provide hospice services to the communities of Maui, Moloka'i and Lana'i. It was Greg LaGoy's vision to expand our compassionate and professional services to all of Maui County and we made that a reality.

We welcomed longtime Moloka'i team members Barbara Helm, Bereavement Coordinator, Patty McCartney, Social Work Assistant, and Maile Silva, Hospice Aide to our 'Ohana. Currently, we serve patients on Moloka'i and Lana'i as we grow our teams, build relationships with our community partners, and learn how we can best support the Moloka'i and Lana'i communities. The nonprofit's new Molokai office is located at the Molokai Community Health Center Complex in Kaunakakai and our Lanai office is located at Lanai Kina'ole in Lanai City. In addition to hospice care, we also offer bereavement services to all Maui County residents.

“Helping facilitate an expansion of our services to Moloka'i and Lana'i and now providing hospice services to all of Maui County has been rewarding on so many levels. With the ever-changing landscape in healthcare, I consider myself blessed to be part of an organization that has such a solid foundation of providing unwavering heartfelt, compassionate, high-quality patient care that is trusted by our community.”

Melanie Dwyer, CEO

Thank you, dear Hospice Maui community for the wonderful and generous support we have received through financial contributions, in-kind gifts, and the many prayers for our patients, families and our staff.

Mahalo for making a difference!
You are part of the compassionate care we offer to our Maui community.



Astrid Grupenhoff
ADVANCEMENT DIRECTOR

“Giving to our wish list has a direct and immediate impact on our mission. I am so grateful for the gifts helping us to provide better assistance for our patients and their families!”

Our wish list

Here is a partial selection of our program support and items that we would love to have, but don't have the financial means to purchase.

Patient and Family Support

- A gift toward Hospice Maui Kokua Fund for families needing extra caregiving service or Hale room and board costs for patients without the ability to pay
- \$40,000 for new patient beds for our Hospice Maui Hale
- \$500 toward the Funeral Support Fund of \$7,500 for assistance with cremation expenses
- \$5,000 Gold card Mokulele flights providing RN services to both Lana'i and Moloka'i as well as continuing education for current team members on both islands

Campus Improvements

- \$30,000 for converting existing storage space into a meeting room
- A gift towards \$12,000 for landscaping and irrigation surrounding the Hospice Maui Hale

Please take a look at HospiceMaui.org for the complete list and see if there is something you would like to contribute to or participate in. If you would like more information about any of the items, please contact the office at 808-244-5555.

All donations are fully tax deductible.

Hospice Maui Memorial Day

On Memorial Day, Hospice Maui staff will come together to take the time to remember the people we served and the lives we touched. We invite you to watch our Memorial Day video with us.

Monday, May 30, 2022

9:00 am

on [HospiceMaui.org](https://www.hospicemaui.org)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Susan Pirsch

spirsch@hospicemaui.org

or 808-244-5555.



Living with Grief Trauma & Loss



CE Program

Hospice Foundation of America Educational Program 2022

Living with Grief: Trauma & Loss

This Living with Grief® program focuses on the specific issues raised when losses are sudden and traumatic, shattering the bereaved individual's assumptions that the world is safe, benevolent, or predictable.

August 5, 2022

Noon - 2 pm via Zoom

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Susan Pirsch

spirsch@hospicemaui.org

or 808-244-5555.

The Hospice Maui Outreach Team continues to educate and generate awareness in our community about our program, services, and our care.

Being Mortal Screening and Discussion

View the film and be part of a national conversation taking place in our community that asks: "Have you and your family had these important conversations and planned ahead?"

October 14, 2022

10:30 am to noon

The Gift of Five Wishes Starting the Conversation about Advance Care Planning and End of Life Care

This is a comprehensive program that helps guide you, your loved ones, your trusted advisors, and your healthcare team through conversations before a health crisis.

November 18, 2022

10:30 am to noon

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Tanya Barbero

tbarbero@hospicemaui.org

or 808-244-5555.

PLEASE GO TO
[HospiceMaui.org](https://www.hospicemaui.org)
for more information
and a convenient way
to help support us

EMAIL US AT
agrupenhoff@hospicemaui.org
if you wish to be
contacted by email only



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WE HONOR VETERANS



Maui United Way

OUR MISSION

Founded 40 years ago
on Maui, we are stewards of
a sacred trust:

To provide the highest level of
professional, ethical,
culturally appropriate, and
deeply compassionate care
to our diverse community.

Legacy Hospices

You can trust in Hawaii's first locally run,
non-profit hospices.

Over the years we have demonstrated exceptional
care for patients, and a deep understanding of our
diverse communities:

- Navian Hawaii
- Hospice Maui
- Hawai'i Care Choices
- Hospice of Kona
- Kauai Hospice
- North Hawaii Hospice
- St. Francis Hospice

808-244-5555
HospiceMaui.org