



Barb Hendrickson shows nurses Erica Miloser and Sylvia Bettner her team fundraising page for Angela Hospice in the Art Van Charity Challenge.

## Angela Hospice competes in Art Van Charity Challenge

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The 2015 Art Van Charity Challenge officially began May 18, and if Livonia residents scroll through the list of participants they will notice a familiar name: Angela Hospice.

The Livonia-based nonprofit is one of 124 charities competing in the challenge this year and is the only organization based out of Livonia. Since being founded in 1985, Angela Hospice has been fortunate to have constant support from the Livonia community and is hoping to receive continued support as it tries to raise the most funds during the five-week competition.

The online fundraising challenge sponsored by Art Van Furniture has been helping nonprofits that focus on supporting children, health and human services for the past six years. At the end of the challenge, June 22, the top 10 charities will receive bonus grants from Art Van, ranging from \$7,500 to \$75,000. There will also be weekly bonus challenges to compete in each week.

“We’re grateful to be a part of the Art Van Charity Challenge, not only to raise funds so that Angela Hospice can continue to provide its exceptional level of care, but also to

advance the discussion of critical issues that people encounter at the end of their lives,” said Barb Hendrickson, Angela Hospice Board of Directors Chair and a top fundraiser for the challenge. “Hospice is so misunderstood. People perceive that it’s about dying, but it’s really about proactively choosing to live on your own terms — as comfortably as possible — surrounded by the ones you love. Not a bad way to live every day.”

Angela Hospice serves 1,800 patients a year through home care and its inpatient Care Center. Located on Newburgh Road, the Care Center houses 32 patients total, including Doris LaFave, a Farmington Hills resident.

LaFave has been in Angela Hospice’s Care Center since February, after spending two years at another facility. When hospice was first suggested LaFave said she was hesitant, but now she’s glad she came.

“It was a very good move,” LaFave said. “A lot better than I expected.”

Patients like Doris receive pain and symptom management, as well as emotional and spiritual support, from an interdisciplinary team of professionals. LaFave said that before coming to Angela Hospice she was in a lot of pain.

“Now everything seems to be calmed down,” she said. “The nurses are great.”

Donations from the challenge will go directly to fund the services provided at Angela Hospice, including grief support programs that are supported entirely through donations, and are available free-of-charge to anyone in the community.

Individuals who would like to support Angela Hospice in the Art Van Charity Challenge can visit [crowdrise.com/ahhc-artvan2015](http://crowdrise.com/ahhc-artvan2015) to donate. (Donations must be made through this page in order to count toward the challenge.)

For questions about the challenge, contact Angela Hospice’s coordinators for this project: Dana Casadei at 734-953-6053 or [Dcasadei@angelahospice.us](mailto:Dcasadei@angelahospice.us) or Lisa Norton at 734-953-6008 or [Lnorton@angelahospice.us](mailto:Lnorton@angelahospice.us).