



Livonia's Angela Hospice gets \$2.1 million grant

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Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation trustees and grantees. The foundation gave Angela Hospice a \$2.1 million grant.

The Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation announced a \$2.1-million grant to Angela Hospice to develop and implement a new Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Telehospice Program, as part of the Foundation's 2015 Transitional Legacy Grant Program.

Through this donation, Angela Hospice will design a program to deploy telecommunication devices into patients' homes, enabling Angela Hospice nurses to provide immediate face-to-face communication at any time of day or night. Additionally, a Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Telehospice Triage Center will be constructed at Angela Hospice to house staff and equipment.

"We are so grateful to the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation," said Angela Hospice President and CEO Margot Parr. "We know this new program is going to have a

positive impact and enable an even higher level of care for our patients and their families.”

Larger picture

Trustees of The Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation announced this grant as part of over \$17.4-million being donated to 20 organizations throughout southeast Michigan. The announcement was made at an event Nov. 18 with the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan.

“We are proud to announce these grants in collaboration with charitable organizations throughout Southeastern Michigan,” said Mary Wilson, Life Trustee of The Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation and wife of Ralph Wilson. “I know Ralph would be eternally grateful to see his passion for his hometown continue in this way, and it is wonderful to know his legacy will endure through the tireless efforts of so many organizations and people.”

Parr believes the telehospice program will provide a powerful tool to ensure that the needs of patients are addressed in the most caring, timely, effective, and efficient manner possible, allowing for optimal pain and symptom management – a cornerstone of good hospice care. Similarly, this lifeline will benefit caregivers with an increased sense of comfort and reassurance, knowing they have immediate access to the support of their hospice team whenever they need it.

Shaping the future

“This grant will be a significant part of shaping the future of Angela Hospice, enriching the lives of our patients and their families,” Parr said.

The new program will help propel Angela Hospice into the future of the industry.

“Given the hospice philosophy of care, most of us traditionally think of hospice as a low-tech, high touch model of care,” Parr said. “But this technology will give us one more tool to help with training, lessen anxiety for patients and families, and allow for rapid response to distressing symptoms that can arise at end of life.”