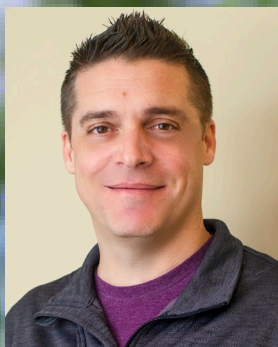


FALL 2022

# MONARCH

*Celebrating*  
THE GOOD SAMARITANS



  
*Angela* Hospice®  
We'll take you under our wing.®

# Celebrating

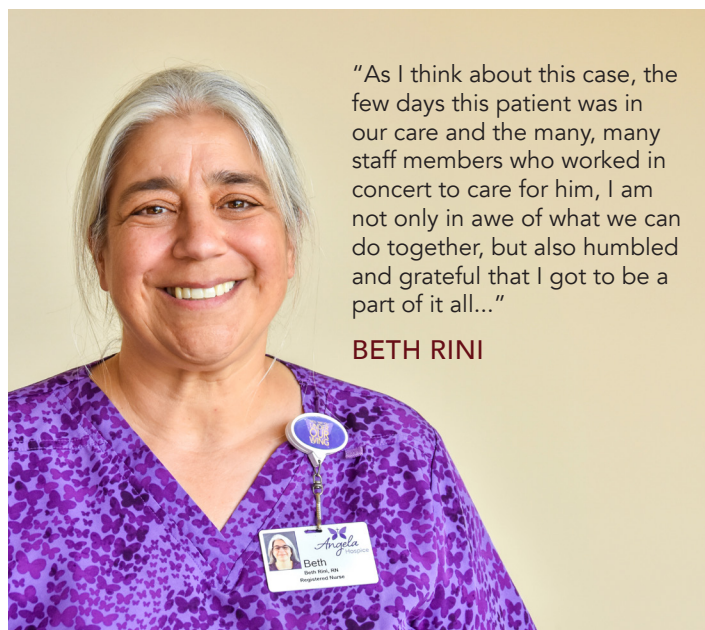
## THE GOOD SAMARITANS

For nurse Beth Rini, helping Roger\* reminded her of why she's dedicated the last five years to working as a hospice nurse.

"It was more than a powerful, emotional experience. It was the perfect example, the epitome, of hospice work; the concrete answer to the question, 'Why do we do this?'" Beth said. "We do hard things – and this was *hard*: physically, mentally, emotionally – because *every single one* of us deserves respect and dignity, and to feel safe and comfortable when confronting our mortality."

Beth met Roger while he was living alone in a dilapidated trailer with broken plumbing. His advanced COPD prevented him from being able to walk more than a few steps and he didn't have a reliable caregiver. Roger wasn't able to take care of his home or himself. He hadn't been able to shower in two years.

"I sat with him while he talked about his life, his work, his family, his last two years basically housebound and alone with his TV," she recalled. "All he really wanted, all he really, truly wanted, was a shower and to



"As I think about this case, the few days this patient was in our care and the many, many staff members who worked in concert to care for him, I am not only in awe of what we can do together, but also humbled and grateful that I got to be a part of it all..."

**BETH RINI**

get his hair washed... It was his one last goal. I promised him that he would get that at the Care Center."

Nurse Eric Simpkins had managed to stabilize Roger's pain and breathing crisis, but he knew he wouldn't be safe in such a weak state left alone. So Beth stayed with Roger for 15 hours while the team made preparations to move Roger to the Angela Hospice Care Center.

Knowing he would soon be leaving his home, Roger told Beth about the tie-dyed shirt he couldn't leave behind. It was hanging above his TV.

"I've had that since 1969," he told Beth.

Beth said she would take the shirt with her and wash it, then bring it to him in the Care Center. "There's no way he's going to lose that shirt on my watch," she said.

That night, as Roger arrived at the Care Center, nurse Linda Godfrey was just finishing up her shift. But when she learned it was Roger's final wish to have a hot shower, she stayed on to help nurse Paula Schrock-Bending bathe Roger.

"That was very rewarding to be able to do that for him," Linda said, recalling how Roger was "so happy" to be cleaned up and enjoy a hamburger for dinner.



"...This is where I always feel the most pride working here. Our team always shines and does what we know to be right. He deserved care and a peaceful death just the same as any other person does."

**ERIC SIMPKINS**



\*Name changed to protect privacy.



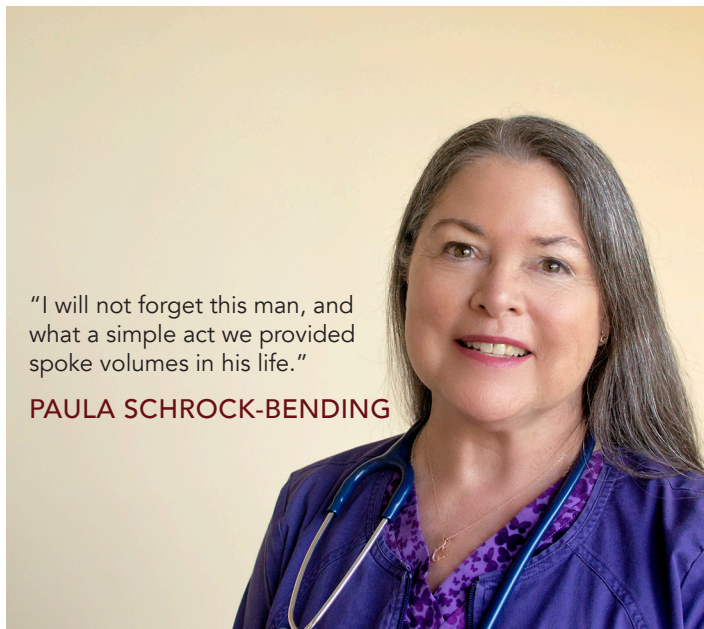
"Everybody needs some dignity."

**LINDA GODFREY**

"If you could see his face, it spoke volumes of thanks and appreciation for the care he had gotten," Paula shared. "We then took him to his room and you would have thought he moved into a mansion."

The next day, Beth brought Roger's shirt to the Care Center. He had been sleeping when she came in, but he opened his eyes and she told him his shirt was back.

"I laid the shirt over him and put his hands on it so he could feel the fabric," Beth said.



"I will not forget this man, and what a simple act we provided spoke volumes in his life."

**PAULA SCHROCK-BENDING**

Roger died later that day at the Care Center, in the peace and comfort of his room that was funded through the kindness of Good Samaritans: those generous donors who support Angela Hospice's Good Samaritan Fund. Your compassion enables what is so important to our community, and to our caring team:

"To be able to give these patients a peaceful death at the end of their lives, and give them some quality and dignity, is really the most rewarding..." Linda said.

# *you* **CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

When you give to support Angela Hospice's Good Samaritan Fund, you are giving a gift that will change someone's life.

Roger's story perfectly demonstrates that transformation. He was transformed physically, as he was washed and refreshed. He saw a world of difference in his surroundings, leaving a neglected home for the warm and caring environment of our Care Center. But what is most important, is that Roger went from being alone and forgotten to receiving loving care that honored his humanity. He was shown respect and dignity, making his final days a time of peace and loving care.

**THIS IS THE TRANSFORMATION YOU  
MAKE POSSIBLE.**

Roger told nurse Beth that in the two years he was homebound, unable to care for himself, he interacted with the world by watching from behind his window. He would talk to his neighbors, taking note of their comings and goings, wishing them well on their travels, saying "Oh, the kids have come home!" He was isolated inside, but he cared about the wellbeing of his neighbors. Whether they knew it or not, they were his community.

We all have the opportunity to care for our neighbors, whether through prayers, well wishes, or by supporting community programs like the charitable work of Angela Hospice.

To make a gift in support of Angela Hospice's Good Samaritan Fund to help someone like Roger, please visit [angelahospice.org/donate](http://angelahospice.org/donate) today.



# CAPTURING A *magical* MOMENT

One of Lori Pimlott-Calvin's last great moments with her mom, Mary, is now captured in a photo on her desk.

In the photo, taken by Lori and shown at right, Mary is in her room in the Angela Hospice Care Center enjoying a visit with Lori's wife, Jill Calvin; their dog, Quinn; and a lot of love.

"Mom had Alzheimer's," Lori said. "She didn't really remember Quinn, she just thought it was somebody bringing in a dog to visit her, and as you can see in the picture, she looks pretty happy about it."

"You could definitely see the sparkle in her eye. Her eyes kind of lit up when Jill walked in with the dog," she continued.

Mary not only loved dogs, but also pens and pins. Over the last 20 years Mary could be found wearing an angel pin every day, and she rotated between about 200 different ones. Her love was so well-known for both that at Mary's memorial they gave each guest a pen engraved with Mary's name on it, and an angel pin.

She was in the Angela Hospice Care Center for about a week before she passed last March.

This wasn't Lori's first experience with Angela Hospice. She knew people who had used Angela Hospice services for a loved one, and given how positive their experience was, it lead her to choose the Angela Hospice Care Center for her mother.

LORI (RIGHT)  
WALKED IN HONOR  
OF HER MOTHER  
AT THE WALK OF  
REMEMBRANCE  
ALONG WITH HER  
SISTER JANEEN  
SERGISON (LEFT)  
AND JILL.



MARY WITH HER DAUGHTER-IN-LAW, JILL;  
AND DOG, QUINN, A THREE-LEGGED HAVANESE.

"We knew whatever it took to get her in there was what we were going to do, because we loved it," she said.

Mary was grateful to know her mother was being looked after by a caring team, in a beautiful facility that made her mother's comfort and well-being a top priority.

"Everybody was so fabulous... and just so nice," Lori said.

Mary especially raved about the food. That was rather high praise for the cuisine at Angela Hospice given how much Mary loved to eat out.

"We kind of told her that she was in a fancy hotel because she kept making comments about how good the food was," Lori said. "And I told her, 'Mom, only the best hotel for you.'"

Made possible through the generosity of Angela Hospice donors, the Care Center provides patients with expert care around the clock, in a peaceful, home-like environment. Patients have all their medical needs met, while receiving emotional and spiritual support.



TO HELP MORE FAMILIES RECEIVE ANGELA HOSPICE'S COMPASSIONATE CARE,  
MAKE A DONATION TODAY AT [ANGELAHOSPICE.ORG/DONATE](https://angelahospice.org/donate)

DONOR SPOTLIGHT:  
RYAN PHIMISTER



RYAN AND HIS DAD, THOMAS.

## *a beautiful addition...*

Angela Hospice was there for Thomas Phimister, providing compassion, comfort, and medical expertise as he spent his final days in the Angela Hospice Care Center. So when Thomas's son, Ryan, was offered the chance to do something to help Angela Hospice, he was eager to give back.

Ryan had learned that Angela Hospice needed bricks to regrade the area around the Holy Family statue outside the Care Center. So he went to his boss at Fendt Builder's Supply, owner Alan Fendt, and asked if he would donate the brick needed for the project. Alan had zero hesitation.

He's a big believer in giving back..." Ryan said. "He's pretty good about doing donations and things like that, just for the purpose of being thankful for what he has."

Ryan is thankful too, for the kindness and attention his father received at the Care Center.

"It was absolutely outstanding," he said. "You guys were really, really good. And, as the experience went, it went as well as it could. So we thank you for that. That was pretty awesome."

Ryan and his family often visited Thomas during his time in the Care Center, and were familiar with the picturesque grounds. Now thanks to Ryan and Alan's generosity, the Holy Family shrine will continue to be a special feature on the grounds, welcoming families for decades to come.

# CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Part of Angela Hospice's community outreach includes promoting health literacy around end-of-life care options and concerns.

"We know that the more awareness and education people have about opportunities available to them when facing a healthcare decision, the better equipped they will be to make the best care choices for themselves or a loved one," said Lisa Norton, Angela Hospice Communications and Development Manager. "When our community is empowered to advocate for their health needs, they'll be able to experience better outcomes, and that is so important at such a critical time."

In addition to speaking at health events aimed at promoting awareness to individuals and families, Angela Hospice provides educational programming for local healthcare partners. Our Speakers Bureau is available to speak to local groups and organizations as well. In addition, Angela Answers was launched in May, highlighting valuable topics presented by the experts on Angela Hospice's team.

### UPCOMING ANGELA ANSWERS VIRTUAL PRESENTATIONS INCLUDE:

#### Care for the Caregivers

November 15, 1 p.m.

#### Music Matters: The Importance of Music Therapy

December 21, 1 p.m.

To register for these events, to request a Speakers Bureau engagement, or for other educational resources, visit [AskForAngela.com](http://AskForAngela.com).



DIANE SMITH, ANGELA HOSPICE DIRECTOR OF MINISTRY ENGAGEMENT (MIDDLE), SPEAKING AT HEALTH IS WEALTH DETROIT



# GRAPPLING WITH *grief*



Grief is hard. There is no timetable, no roadmap, no easy way around it. It's something we all have to go through. But that doesn't mean we have to face it alone or without compassionate support.

The Angela team created *Good Grief* in 2020 as a guidebook and journal to help the Felician Sisters who were grieving many losses within their community. Now through the support of the St. Francis Fund, our team has adapted the book to support grieving people throughout the community.

"Many people begin their grief journey after the loss of a loved one by walking alone through shadows. *Good Grief* was designed to shine a light on grief, loss, and mourning while highlighting the factors that influence a person's grief journey," reflected Debbie Vallandingham, Director of Social Work and Grief Care Services.

Our team will be sharing the *Good Grief* program at ten nursing homes and care facilities starting this fall.

"*Good Grief* can be especially helpful in nursing facilities, to understand not only the loss of a loved one, but the decline and ultimate loss of memories and abilities, whether through illness, dementia, or Alzheimer's," Debbie continued.

"The facilities are excited... they're all in," said Jennifer Kirkland, Director of Business Development. "They realize their residents, families, and staff could all benefit."

*Good Grief* is also available for the public to download for free. Simply visit our website at [angelahospice.org/goodgrief](https://angelahospice.org/goodgrief) or call our Grief Care team at 734.464.7810 to request a copy.

## HOLIDAY GRIEF WORKSHOPS

Register for free at [angelahospice.org/workshop](https://angelahospice.org/workshop)

### Getting Through the Holidays: Virtual Workshop for Adults

Wednesday, November 9, 2022 – 2 P.M. & 6 P.M.

This workshop will provide practical suggestions and insights on how to get through the holidays while grieving the death of a loved one.

### Children's Holiday Workshop (Ages 5-16)

Sunday, December 4, 2022 – 1 P.M. - 3 P.M.

Children will make a holiday wreath in memory of their loved ones during this workshop, which will also include music therapy in a fun, upbeat, interactive format.



## GRIEF IS MORE THAN AN EMOTION.

In fact, grief may contain any number of emotions, from sadness to anger, listlessness to fear. But grief also impacts us physically and cognitively.

You may experience physical symptoms like insomnia, loss of appetite, upset stomach, shortness of breath, or palpitations, just to name a few.

The way grief impacts our brains can make us feel forgetful and disconnected. You might find that your thoughts keep coming back to your loved one.

Your grief may affect the way you act, how you behave socially and even spiritually. While it is difficult to face these changes and to navigate your grief after you've lost someone special, remember that these feelings are normal. Even if you feel like you're going crazy, remember these feelings will become less intense.

**For more tips on coping with grief, visit [angelahospice.org/goodgrief](https://angelahospice.org/goodgrief) to download *Good Grief: A Guidebook for Spirituality, Health & Connections in the Midst of Loss*.**



# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

**“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”**

~ Margaret Mead

Over the past year, your faithful support has changed the lives of so many people in our community who were struggling with illness and loss.

Your caring concern for the welfare of others is what makes our charitable vision a reality. It is through your generosity that we are able to provide transformative care to our treasured patients and their loving families.

As we look back in this annual report, we reflect on the changes we’ve weathered as an organization, and look with anticipation toward the future and the ways we hope to expand our caring expertise to serve even more people in southeast Michigan.

With the retirement of our chief clinical officer in July, we promoted Jamie LaLonde to the role of Executive Director, and we are grateful for the way her passion for this work has already inspired our team.

From expanding our Palliative Care program, to increasing options for telehospice use, we are committed as an organization to continued innovation to achieve the best care for our community.

Thank you for joining us in this important mission. We are so very grateful for your support, and for all we will achieve in the coming year together.



MARTI COPLAI  
PRESIDENT & CEO



DR. DEBORAH DUNN  
BOARD CHAIR

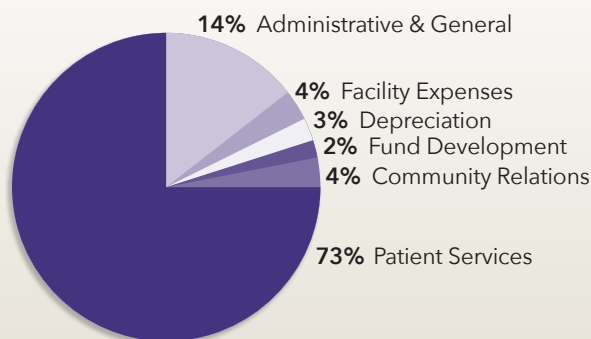
**TOTAL INDIVIDUALS IN HOSPICE CARE.....1,768**  
**HOME HOSPICE CARE\*.....1,564**  
**ANGELA HOSPICE CARE CENTER\*.....647**  
**MY NEST IS BEST PEDIATRICS.....33**

\*Patients who transferred between programs were counted in the totals for both programs.

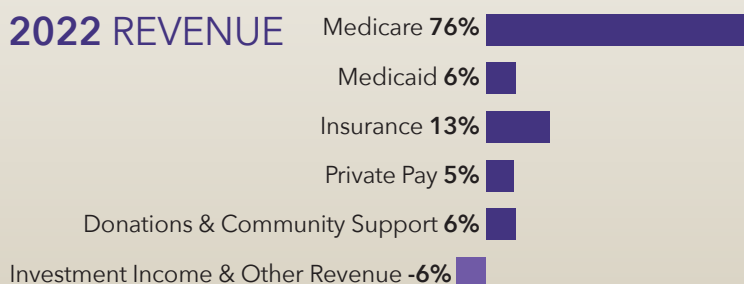
**TOTAL DAYS OF CARE 2022.....100,597**

**VETERANS SERVED 324**  
**ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS 128**  
**TOTAL MILES DRIVEN BY VOLUNTEERS 12,434**  
**AVA TELEHOSPICE USERS 500**  
**EDUCATION HOURS PROVIDED TO STUDENTS 2,041**  
**GOOD SAMARITAN CARE PROVIDED \$63,617**  
**ONE-ON-ONE GRIEF SUPPORT SESSIONS 2,263**  
**GRIEF CARE SERVICES PROVIDED \$324,156**

## 2022 EXPENSES



## 2022 REVENUE



# A CENTURY WELL LIVED

Saying Benjamin Kovacinski has seen a lot throughout his life would be a vast understatement – especially considering he's 105-years-old.

Ben grew up on a farm in Pennsylvania. He was sent there to live with his grandmother after contracting the Spanish flu as a child. They didn't think he would make it, but he thrived growing up around cows, horses, and a dog, Nero, that became his best friend.

"I loved it," he said.

It was there in Pennsylvania, in a one-room schoolhouse, that Ben learned to speak English from a teacher he still remembers fondly, even after all this time. But his first language, Polish, would come in handy during WWII when he served as a Merchant Marine, a group of civilians who delivered supplies and armed forces personnel by ship as part of the U.S. Navy. It was during his time with the Navy that he met his wife, Eugenia. An American citizen, she was fleeing Poland via Finland when Ben was sent to bring Americans back to the states.

Ben's eyes sparkle when he speaks about his wife, who he was married to for about 50 years. "Not long enough," Ben said, calling her a "lovable" woman.

Perhaps that's why his advice to others, built upon a century and more of life experience, is this: "Just try to be happy. And the ones that you love, love them. Try to love as many people as you can."

Today, Ben experiences love as an Angela Hospice patient. He receives care at home, where he lives with

his son Bo, daughter-in-law Debbie, and their dog, Ellie, who loves Ben.

"She knows if he calls me at night or during the day that he needs something, she'll start barking," Bo said.

Bo and Debbie also know if they call Angela Hospice someone will answer them quickly, which has been a big help, especially when either of them may be unsure about something. It's reassuring to know they have a calming and informative person on the other

line via phone or video chat, to help them care for Ben.

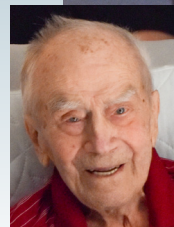
For Ben, getting to see and use all this new technology – like video chat – developed over the last century has been wonderful. He's even become a fan of Facebook, and enjoys video chatting with his grandchildren.

While Ben is receiving help today from his family and Angela Hospice, he's also been a big help to the people in his life through his work as a Merchant Marine, and career as a stationary engineer – a career he spent decades in.

"You feel good about it, that you can help somebody," Ben said.



THEN: BEN IN HIS U.S. NAVY  
LIEUTENANT UNIFORM



NOW: BEN AT 105 YRS. OLD

YOU CAN HELP PEOPLE LIKE BEN WHEN YOU GIVE A GIFT TO SUPPORT THE CARING PROGRAMS  
OF ANGELA HOSPICE. MAKE A GIFT ONLINE TODAY AT [ANGELAHOSPICE.ORG/DONATE](https://angelahospice.org/donate)

## ANGELA EXECUTIVE TEAM

Marti Coplai, President & CEO  
Dr. James Boal, Chief Medical Officer  
Mark Hibbard, CFO  
Jamie LaLonde, Executive Director  
Rev. Diane Smith, Dir. Ministry Engagement

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## Honor Your Angels This Holiday Season

The Tree of Life will light up the grounds of the Angela Hospice Care Center from Nov. 19 through Jan. 2, with a landscape of festive trees. You are invited to participate in this annual tradition by making a donation toward Angela Hospice's compassionate and caring programs as you remember the special people in your life.

We encourage you to visit the Tree of Life display to personally hang angel ornaments in memory or in honor of those you love. If you're unable to visit in person, you can complete our form online at [angelahospice.org/events/treeoflife](https://angelahospice.org/events/treeoflife) or call 734.464.7810 to have an angel made for your loved one.

We hope the Tree of Life provides a chance for you to reflect, remember, and affirm the precious memories you've shared with those you love.

