

## **MOSPICE VOLUNTEERING IS A WORK OF HEART**



"No one is more cherished in this world than someone who lightens the burden of another."\* There are no truer words than these to describe a Hospice Volunteer. Volunteers have been the cornerstone of Newmarket's Doane House Hospice since 1989, assisting this fully-accredited community hospice with its mission to enhance the quality of life of area residents who are affected by, or caring for an individual with, a life-threatening illness. Doane House Hospice also offers grief and bereavement programs for children and adults. Volunteers are the 'workforce' of this vibrant hospice, taking on a variety of nonmedical roles, supporting our clients and families, directly or indirectly, as meets their talents, interests and availabilities.



For Trudy Schneider, being a Doane House Hospice Volunteer has been a rewarding and enriching experience for 23 years. "It has been a "life-changing privilege," she says. "I've met so many wonderful people. It's been an honour to hear their stories, learn about their

accomplishments and be a witness to their resilience." From her perspective, the hospice has "bloomed" since its inception with additional programs for clients, and professional training programs for its Volunteers. Not only has she seen the benefits hospice care brings to clients and family, she's found it's brought

purpose, meaning and personal growth in her own life too." Trudy believes, "I became the person I am now because of my volunteering." Each volunteer and their story is unique and special. Trudy is one of over 600 individuals volunteering across all 5 York Region hospices, providing essential support to our communities.

Doane House Hospice has long-recognized the benefits of community-based hospice services and its philosophy of care for the whole family. Now, in partnership with the new 10-bed residential hospice the continuum of hospice care in York Region will be further enhanced. Volunteers with Doane House Hospice and the Margaret Bahen Hospice for York Region will have additional opportunities to further the positive difference they make as part of an integrated team offering a seamless continuum of palliative and bereavement care support.

Recognizing that VOLUNTEERS ARE KEY to the daily operations of the varied hospice programs and services, we are currently recruiting 150+ new volunteers.

For more information about how YOU can make a difference as a hospice volunteer, please visit www.doanehospice.org or www.myhospice.ca. Or, meet one of our Volunteers at the Newmarket Main St. Farmers' Market (August and September.)

Together, we can make a difference and lighten the burden of others.

Joseph Addison 1672-1719

