



Foothills Country  
Hospice Society

FOOTHILLS COUNTRY HOSPICE SOCIETY

# 2017-18 COMMUNITY REPORT

*April 1, 2017 – March 31, 2018*

Between April 1, 2017 and March 31, 2018

# Message from the Executive Director

Happy Anniversary! January 2018 officially marked 10 incredible years since we opened the doors to Canada's first purpose-built, rural hospice home. Because of your extraordinary generosity, we have been able to provide expert, compassionate care to more than 1000 patients and their loved ones.

In addition to our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, we had many reasons to celebrate this past year, including the phenomenal success of our first annual Hike for Hospice – raising close to \$65K. We also had tremendous support from a number of community 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Fundraisers. Our annual fall gala took on a Vegas Nights theme and surpassed our fundraising goal of \$208,000. It was truly an incredible evening of philanthropy and we were overwhelmed by the generous support of those in attendance. Be sure to check our Facebook page for photos.

I would also like to extend a special thank you to Sobeys Okotoks and the Gilbert Family for once again donating all the food for our patients. Words cannot express how truly grateful we are for their continued support over the past nine years.

As we begin to envision what the next 10 years will look like, we're excited to move along a path that supports patient centered care at the forefront of everything we do. Stay tuned for the launch of our new strategic direction in 2019!

On behalf of myself, our Board of Directors, staff and volunteers, thank you so much for supporting our vision and ensuring we have the financial means to continue providing exemplary end-of-life and bereavement care in the Foothills.

In gratitude,

*Dawn Elliott*

## 2017-2018 Board of Directors

**Pamela McLean, Chair**

Principal Owner, Creative Information Solutions Inc.

**David deMedeiros, Vice Chair**

HR Specialist, Enbridge

**Adam Stepa, Treasurer**

Partner, Infinite Chartered Accountants

**David West, Secretary**

Barrister & Solicitor, West-Legal

**David Moss, Past Chair**

Co-Founder, AgriClear Inc.

**Lorinda Brinkhurst, Director (†)**

Advisor, Health Association Nova Scotia's PLAR program

**Bob Buchanan, Director**

Retired Financial Services Industry Executive

**Tiffany Gordon, Director**

Teaching Professional, PGA of Canada

**Linda MacNaughton, Director**

Director of Resources & Community Development, Prostate Cancer Centre

**Linda McNally, Director**

Community Leader Extraordinaire

**Karen Nielsen, Director**

Senior VP and General Manager - Generation, ATCO Group

**Karen Pitze, Director**

Retired Vice President, National Client Group, RBC

Foothills Country Hospice is proudly associated with:



# Our Purpose

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## Mission

Foothills Country Hospice Society (FCHS) offers a serene, country setting where patients and their loved ones receive exemplary end-of-life and bereavement care.

## Vision

FCHS embraces innovation and delivers specialized, holistic, compassionate end of life care in a sustainable and positive environment.

## Values



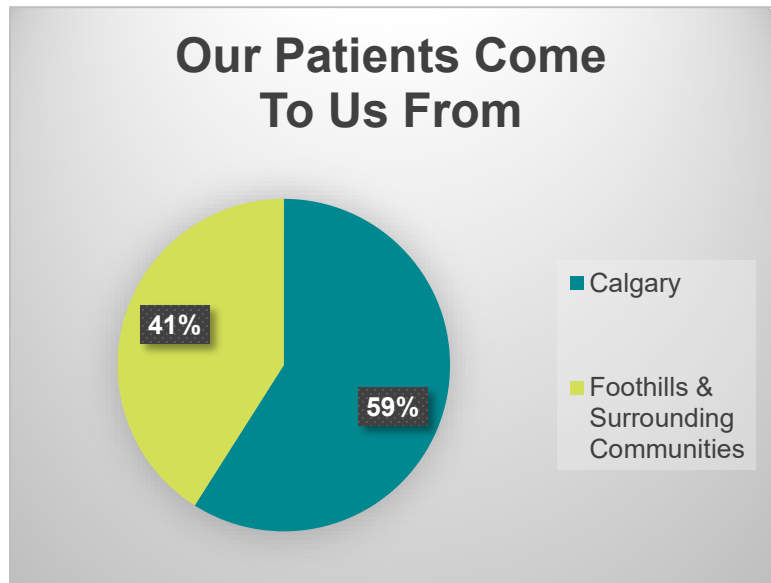
# Comforts of Home

Located in a serene, country setting, the Foothills Country Hospice is an eight-bed, rural hospice home designed to care for terminally-ill patients and their loved ones. The focus on all aspect of our care is on quality of life. Attention is paid to physical needs, expert pain and symptom management and emotional and spiritual well-being as patients prepare for the completion of their life's journey.

Since opening our doors in January 2008, the Foothills Country Hospice has cared for more than 1000 patients and their loved ones.

*“The most amazing experience I have ever experienced in this final stage of life. Our mum was a patient and the care, compassion and love was exemplary. The dignity they give to their patients and thought to every detail is very visible and does not go unnoticed. They are living Angels 100%. Thank You Foothills Country Hospice ♡”*

- Foothills Country Hospice patient family member



92

Patients were provided around the clock end-of-life care at Foothills Country Hospice



31

Days was the average length of stay at our rural hospice home

**did you know?** \$0

There is **NO COST** to our patients for their stay or meals while they are with us.

# Caring for Loved Ones

The Foothills Country Hospice is a place of refuge where all of us – staff, volunteers, Board of Directors and supporters – work to create an atmosphere of care and dignity for those we serve who are near the end of their physical lives, including bereavement support for loved ones.



**102**

Loved ones participated in our monthly Journeying through Grief support group

## Journeying through Grief

Our monthly, drop-in group is for loved ones of patients who have passed at our Hospice. It is a gentle place for non-judgmental peer supports and connecting with others on similar journeys.

## Compassionate Conversations

Specially trained Hospice volunteers will call bereaved families once a month (for up to one year) to offer a compassionate ear. If issues arise that are more in-depth, volunteers can engage social work or spiritual care supports.



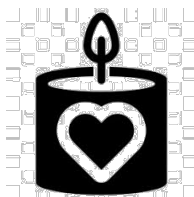
**76**

Loved ones participated in our Compassionate Conversations Program



**378**

Phone calls were made by Hospice volunteers to Compassionate Conversations participants.



**50**

Loved ones gathered together for our twice yearly In Memoriam Tea

## In Memoriam Service & Tea

Families are invited for this time of reflection and remembrance, in both Spring and Fall, to honour those who have passed at our Hospice.

“Although we were only at the hospice for a short while, we quickly fell into the family setting. The care was fantastic, communication smooth, understanding and empathetic. All the caregivers felt like friends. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.” — Journeying through Grief participant

# Volunteers Are at the of What We Do

## Volunteers are an integral part of the Foothills Country Hospice's multi-disciplinary team.

They are a group of multi-talented, compassionate and caring people - their commitment unwavering. Many have been with us since the Hospice first opened its doors in 2008 and share in our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary milestone. Our volunteers help us by:

- Providing patient and family care and comfort
- Assisting with fundraising efforts and involvement on special event committees: Art with Heart, Hike for Hospice and Vegas Nights Gala
- Taking on administration and reception roles
- Working alongside kitchen staff to prepare meals and treats for patients and families
- Helping to maintain our facilities and gardens
- Serving on our Board of Directors and committees



**127**

Volunteers donated their time & talents to the Foothills Country Hospice



**10,572**

Hours of Service



**210**

Hours of specialized palliative care and bereavement training

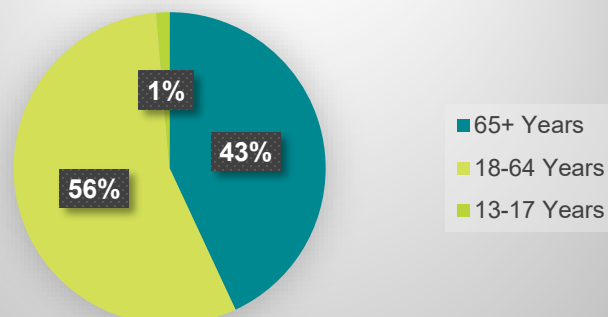
**My entire family can't say enough regarding the compassionate care shown my wife. The VOLUNTEERS and staff are amazing people. My wife was so appreciative of the care provided. God bless you all.**

**- Foothills Country Hospice patient family member**

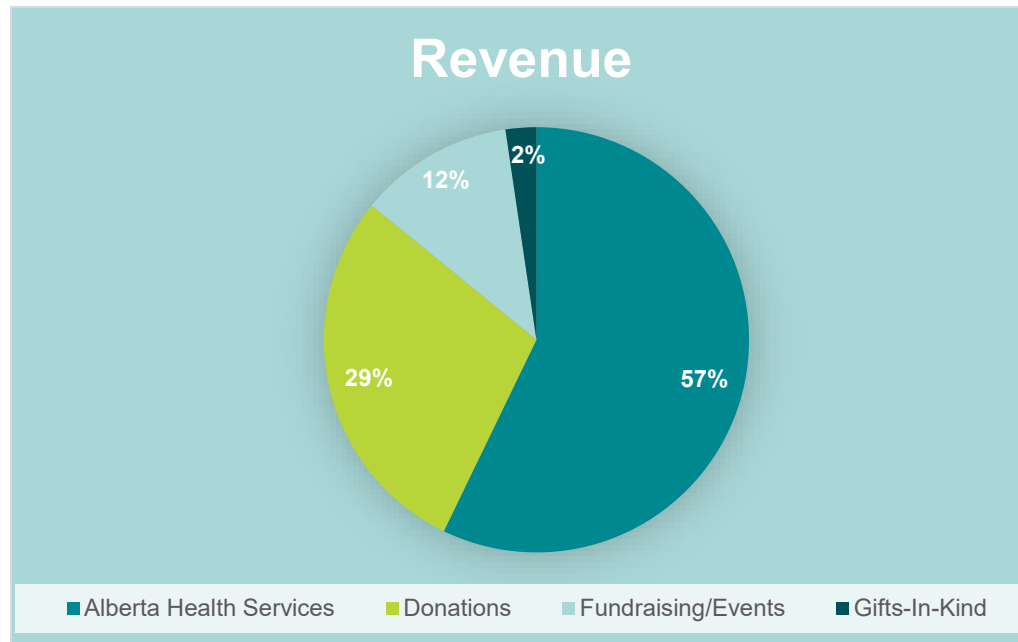
*"Simple hugs of appreciation from a family member. The touching moments when there are no words, just tears and appreciation. The families calling us angels. A patient saying "I love you" to me. The personal stories that are shared in confidence, that lighten a patient's heart when they need to let it go."*

**- Foothills Country Hospice volunteer**

## Volunteer Age Range



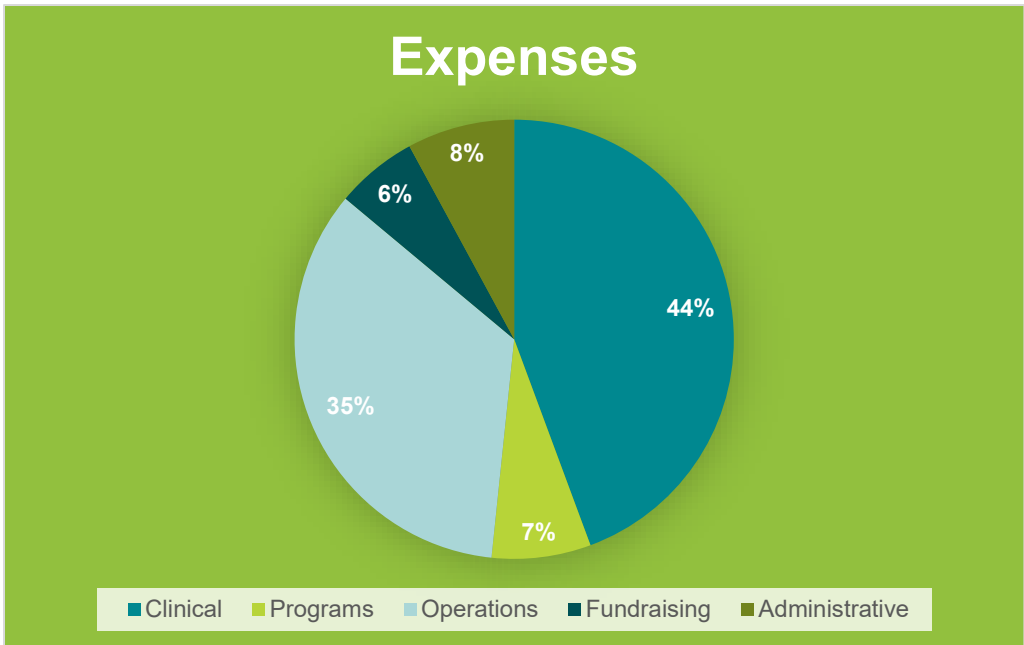
# Where Does Your Money Go?



**It costs  
\$1,035  
per  
patient  
per day**

**... which is equivalent to just over \$3M annually.**

**AHS  
contributes  
57% and we  
are  
challenged  
with  
fundraising  
the  
remaining  
\$1.3M  
shortfall**



# The Hospice Difference

*“Unlike the sobering atmosphere of a hospital, the Foothills Country Hospice emanates sweet solitude and soulful comfort, welcoming terminally ill patients and their families into the warm embrace of hospice care. **It is a merciful stopover on the homestretch of life.**”* – Pat Fream, Journalist - Routes Magazine



According to a 2009 study, **only 16% to 30% of Canadians** who die currently have access to or receive hospice palliative and end-of-life care services -- and even fewer receive grief and bereavement services [ an integral part of the high-quality, end-of-life care we provide at the Foothills Country Hospice]. These statistics are even more alarming in rural locations.

- Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association

Would you like to ensure terminally patients (and their loved ones) receive the end-of-life care they wish for? **HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP:**

## Financial Donation

Your donation will help fund our palliative programs and support services for patients and their families – where attention is paid to physical needs, expert pain and symptom management, and emotional and spiritual support as our patients prepare for the final phase of their life's journey.

## Wish List

There are a few special items that we would love to have to better assist with providing expert palliative care and support to loved ones. If you wish to donate funds towards a specific item, visit our Wish List online at [countryhospice.org/wish-list](http://countryhospice.org/wish-list)

## Third Party Events

From ball tournaments to art shows, BBQs to fashion shows, our friends and neighbours have found creative ways to support end-of-life care in the Foothills. To learn more about organizing a Third-Party Fundraising Event, visit our website at [countryhospice.org/third-party](http://countryhospice.org/third-party)

All of us here at the Foothills Country Hospice truly appreciate your support. We believe in providing the utmost care and compassion for those we serve. Together, we are **making a difference for hospice palliative care** in the Foothills.



# Celebrating our Supporters

We wish to express our heartfelt **THANKS** to the following people and organizations who have made gifts to our hospice this fiscal year (April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018). We are most grateful to all our donors and community partners who share in our vision to provide compassionate end-of-life and bereavement care in the Foothills.

## Third Party Events

The following list of events represents individuals, families, companies and community organizations who support our programs and services by independently organizing an event and donating the proceeds of their fundraising.

Big Rock Singers Spring Performance  
Brushed with Flair Art with Heart  
Chinook Honey Company Christmas at the Hive  
Darcy the Hawker Jello Sales  
COBS Bread, Centennial Village BBQ  
Calgary Senior Oilmen's Putting Contest  
Ginger Laurier Fashion Show  
Okotoks Bone & Biscuit Doggy Pageant  
The Order of St. Lazarus Raffle

## Annual Donors

This list recognizes the generosity of individuals, foundations, corporations and community groups who have made a contribution of \$500 or more, including gifts-in-kind.

## Undisclosed Donations

Ken Warnick

## \$500,000+

Alberta Health Services

## \$100,000 – \$249,999

Kathryne Lynne Harwood (†)

## \$50,000 - \$99,999

David & Leslie Bissett Fund at The Calgary Foundation

## \$10,000 - \$49,999

Bar None Ranches Memorial  
Burnswest Corporation  
Norm Castiglione  
Susan Endersby  
FCSS, Town of Okotoks  
John Guthrie  
Ingrid Lippert  
Michael Lippert  
Eugene Nagai  
Okotoks Ford Lincoln  
Bev Palko  
Royal Canadian Legion #291  
Sobeys Okotoks

## \$5,000 - \$9,999

Altrek Industries Ltd.  
Associated Canadian Travelers - Calgary Club  
Big Rock Singers  
Hope Bishop  
Leslie E. Bissett  
Century 21 Foothills Real Estate  
Chinook Honey Company  
Cottonwood Golf & Country Club  
DIRTT Environmental Solutions Ltd  
Jane Elizabeth Sampson (†)  
Paul & Linda Frederick  
Bob & Bev Friesen  
David Gilbert  
Glenbow Ranching 2004 Ltd.  
George Huff  
Jetstream Capital Corporation  
Cindy K. Kruschel  
Fred P. Mannix  
Tom & Elaine Mansfield  
McFarlane Agencies (1967) Ltd.  
Doug & Winny McPhail  
MD of Foothills No. 31  
Midwest Sports Ltd.  
My Family Dental  
Okotoks Ford (Wood Automotive Group)  
Rob Owens  
The Calgary Foundation  
Wallace C. Wiebe

## \$500-\$4,999

Roger Adams  
Agrium Inc.  
Alberta Interlake Games  
Larry Andrews  
Annapolis Capital Limited  
Anonymous  
Ardiel Agencies  
ATCO EPIC  
David & Jody Ball  
Bar None Ranches Memorial  
John & Louise Barlow  
Base Contractors Inc.  
Milt Baxter  
Berrien Associates Ltd.  
Leo A. Bertoia  
Cathy Binstead  
Lydia Brecht  
Lenore Breslawski  
Robin Burwash  
Calgary Communities Against Sexual Abuse  
Calgary Flames  
McIndoe Family Foundation at The Calgary Foundation  
Calgary Polo Club  
Canada Diagnostics Centres  
Canadian Pacific  
Carnmoney Golf Club  
Dale Case  
Cliff Castiglione  
Rick & Aubrey Castiglione  
Century 21 Foothills Real Estate  
George Chapman  
Clay Chattaway  
Judy Chermos  
Sabrina Cherrington  
Christine's No Frills #3944  
Diane Clarke  
Convergent Technologies Ltd.  
Doug Cook Sr.  
Cleve Cooper  
Fran Coulter  
Country Lane Quilters Guild  
Laurie & Ian Currie  
Eleanor Curzon  
Brian Davis

Between April 1, 2017 and March 31, 2018

**\$500-\$4,999 (cont'd)**

Paul Deadman  
Carol Diakow  
Erwin Dickau  
Mark & Bette Jo Dickie  
Laurel Doetzel  
Jillian Dowding  
Dr. John Lacey  
Drake Landing Dental  
Bob Dubask  
Al & Chantal Eadie  
Ecole Okotoks Junior High School  
Dawn Elliott  
FCSS, Town of Black Diamond  
FCSS, Town of High River  
FCSS, Town of Turner Valley  
Fern Leaf Rebekah Lodge No. 36  
Rick Filipski  
Shirley Fitz-Patreck  
Sandy L. Fokkens  
Fraser Family Foundation  
Doug Fraser  
Charlotte Fredericks  
F.R. Friesen  
George & Margaret Garbutt  
Jeff Germaniuk  
David Gilbert (600)  
Don & Rae Gilbert  
Sharon A. Colins  
Good Time Party Rentals  
Doreen & Derrill Goulet  
Larry Gray  
Marilyn S. Gray  
Great West Life  
Gerald Green  
Alfred Habermeyer  
Curtis Halarewich  
Martin Harder  
Gord Hardy  
Hayes Safety Training Inc.  
Heritage Pointe Golf Club  
Alfred Heschl  
High River Prolife  
Kelly Hodgins  
Sidney Hughes  
Infinite Chartered Accountants  
Investors Group Financial Services Inc.  
Barbara & Bob Jack  
Harold & Mary Jeffers  
Harry & Anne Jonker  
K.C. Landscaping & Maintenance

Olive Kelm  
Knights of Columbus Council 7092  
Orest & Megan Knowalchuk  
Ray & Joyce Kooistra  
Ladies Auxiliary Fraternal Order of Eagles  
Stephen Laycraft  
Eloise Lazic  
Paul & Beth Lievaart  
Brent Lock  
Norma Lock  
Mary & Dr. Brian Loe  
Lyle Reeves Funerals Inc.  
Cathy Lyness  
Janine Maffett  
Brad & Tracey Maguire  
Elaine & Tom Mansfield  
Janet N. McDonald  
Prue McDonald  
Jason McFarlane  
Margaret McGill  
Margaret McKelvey  
David McLellan  
Linda McNally  
Gary & Peggy McNeil  
Lori Melnyk  
Elizabeth Mercier  
Mokala Cosmetics  
Mokala Medical  
Loyde Morasch  
Edwin Moss  
Muth & Company LLP  
Natural High Fitness & Athletics  
Jean Nelson  
NGX  
Nurse Next Door  
OCL Group  
Okotoks Collector Car Auction  
Okotoks Eyecare  
Okotoks Recreation Centre  
Okotoks Rotary Club  
Okotoks Urgent Care Physicians Group  
Pace Setter Travel & Tours (1995) Inc.  
Paige Shaw Catalyst LLP  
Mitesh Patel  
Paypal Charitable Giving Fund  
PBS Financial Systems Inc.  
Matt Perkin  
Nancy Peterson  
Terry Pollard  
Anne Powell  
Anne & Robert Powell  
William & Judith Powell  
Colin Pratt  
Ian Pratt  
Priddis Green Golf & Country Club

Quantum Hauling Ltd.  
Quigley Electric Ltd.  
Doug & Susan Ramsay  
Sarah Ramsay  
RBC Royal Bank Calgary Corridor  
Red Seal Catering  
Dale Redlich  
Trevor & Jodie Reidlinger  
Frances Reiss  
Stan Richmond  
Rivers Edge Golf Club  
Dan Robbins  
Manpreet Rosode  
Saguaro Resources Ltd.  
Ron & Rose Sandul  
Sandul's Pharmacy  
Donna Savartka  
Ron & Marilyn Shannon  
Lynne Sharp  
Shea Nerland LLP  
Colin & Michele Sheedy  
John Sim  
Harrpreet Singh  
Howard Smith  
Paul Smith  
Snodgrass Funeral Home (High River)  
Southern Alberta Law Offices  
Margaret Southern  
Spot On Kitchen & Bar  
Spruce Meadows Ltd.  
St. Aidans Church  
St. Peters Anglican Church  
Stampede Road Race Society  
William & Maxine Stevenson  
Mira Swiecicki  
Samuel Switzer  
Taenly Office Services Ltd.  
Telus Community Connections  
The Millarville Horticultural Club  
Chris Thomas  
David D. Thompson  
United Way of Calgary and Area  
Robin & Lisa Vicars  
Village Lane Dental Centre  
Volker Stevin Contracting  
Julie Walker  
Ken & Jane Warnick  
Shannon Warren  
Angie Wedderburn  
Bonnie Wiebe  
Gary Wiebe  
Willow Park Golf & Country Club  
Wolverine Group Inc.  
Fred Woodlock  
Patricia B. Woods  
WWC-Okotoks Ford Lincoln  
Ali Zaheer

## Contact Us

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**Find us on**

