

Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Awards Community Spirit 9/11 Grant to Old Colony Hospice

Sharita Howe, along with the family and friends of Pauline Gentry formed Team Gentry and walked in her honor at the 11th Stepping Out for Old Colony Hospice Memorial Walk recently. Sharita, an employee of Harvard Pilgrim Health Care, submitted a grant request to the foundation in support of Team Gentry's efforts. Old Colony Hospice is the recipient of \$500.00. The grants are given to organizations in the communities where Harvard Pilgrim Health Care employees live and work.

"We are so appreciative that Sharita took the steps to submit the grant request and that Harvard Pilgrim's Foundation made the award," said Old Colony Hospice President and CEO Catherine M. Congo, MPA/HA. "Hospice and Palliative Care are a cost savings to the overall healthcare system and we need to do more to ensure that funding is provided in this area," said Congo.

The Stepping Out for OCH Memorial Walk is the single largest community outreach fundraiser the 30-year old non-profit organization holds each year. "It is an opportunity for family, neighbors, friends, colleagues and classmates to come together, walk a few miles and share memories while paying tribute to a loved one or friend," said Reverend George H. Welles, Jr. Chairman of the Old Colony Hospice Board of Directors. Each walker raises funds to help the organization provide vital services to patients in our care.

Old Colony Hospice provides palliative care and hospice services to 100 patients each day. We care for patients where they live – at home, in a skilled nursing facility or in a hospital. Old Colony Hospice is known for its high quality care as patients face their final months of life – and many local families can attest to that.

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TEAM GENTRY

Contact Linda Werman <u>lwerman@oldcolonyhospice.com</u> to see how you can help, too!

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