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WEB NEWS

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Old Colony Hospice Celebrates the Contributions of Volunteers

April is National Volunteer Month and Old Colony Hospice is honoring its hospice volunteers who daily bring hope, dignity, service and compassion to those facing a life-limiting illness. Old Colony Hospice has more than 80 dedicated volunteers who provide over 4000 hours of service per year to help us care for patients and families in 43 southeastern Massachusetts communities. Many hospice volunteers choose to give their time helping others because of their own experiences with the compassionate care hospice provided to their friends or family members.

Some of our volunteers work with patients and families while others help out in the office. We also offer several specialized programs based on the talents of some of our volunteers. We offer Reiki, Music Therapy, Pet Therapy and Bereavement volunteers. OCH's Volunteers for Veterans Program received national recognition when one of our Veteran volunteers, John Camara, received the *Volunteers are the Foundation of Hospice Award* in 2008 from the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization in Dallas, TX.

A few of our active volunteers from the Brockton area include: Corrine DeVasto, Ana Gonzalez, Liz Good, Barbara Hartwell, Beverly LeBlanc, Eileen McIntyre, Lisa Scanlan, Debbie Svirtunas, Lillian Rodrigue, Lisa O'Donnell and Ruth O'Brien-Denly. These dedicated volunteers are integral members of our interdisciplinary team of professionals who provide care at the end of life.

Cathy Congo, President and CEO, states "The greatest gift we can give to another human being is our time, and these generous and caring people give of themselves to those who are in crisis and in need. We are so very fortunate to have such a wonderful and growing force of volunteers who are committed to giving back to their communities in such profoundly kind and compassionate ways."

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Old Colony Hospice is a CHAP accredited, non-profit hospice caring for 100 patients each day in 43 communities in Plymouth, Bristol & Norfolk Counties since 1979.