

HEALTH AND WELLNESS COMMITTEE OF THE COA
Meeting Notes
April 7, 2015
7300 Calhoun Place, 6C

In Attendance: Myrna Cooperstein, Sam Korper, Syed Yusuf, Noelle Heyman, Judy Levy, Tammy Duell

Staff: Emily Glazer

Guests: Susan Wilensky, Montgomery Hospice, Allison Sterns and Penny Gladwill, Hospice Caring, Sarah Gotbaum, Beth Shapiro

Topic	Discussion Points	Decisions/follow-up
<i>Welcome</i>	<p>Committee members and guests introduced themselves. Minutes from the March meeting were approved. Meeting agenda reviewed.</p>	
<i>Hospice</i>	<p>Susan Wilensky, Bereavement Counselor with Montgomery Hospice: Montgomery Hospice is a medical hospice open and providing service 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult patients can refer themselves as can their physician or a family member when they have fewer than 6 months of expected life and are no longer seeking aggressive treatment. • Patient goals help determine hospice care. • Patients work with a team of care providers: nurse, social worker, chaplin, medical doctor, medical director and volunteers who make home visits. • Casey House, the associated inpatient facility, has 14 beds and is staffed 24/7. Friends and family can visit at any time. • Post-death support programs include support 	

	<p>groups, workshops, and phone calls to the bereaved at least once every 3 months and home visits as needed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Montgomery Hospice also cares for pediatric patients with between 6-12 months of expected life . • Bereavement programs for families of pediatric patients continue for two years and sometimes longer. • Montgomery Hospice is funded through private insurance, Medicare, Medicaid and philanthropy. <p>Questions and Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Admissions and eligibility requirements and insurance coverage (understanding what Medicare or Medicaid pays) for is challenging. • Hospice pays for aids to provide a few hours of care for patients at home. • Power of Attorney can help with care coordination. • MOLST forms are required to be offered to hospice patients. • Medical Director can and may assume role of the patient’s MD. • Montgomery Hospice works with an ethics committee. <p>Allison Sterns, Executive Director, Hospice Caring Hospice Caring is a non-medical hospice relying on volunteers (8 staff).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 400 volunteers offer 4 hours each week. High retention rate. Focus on the relationship between the volunteers and their patients and families. • Not restricted by Medicare. Funding is almost fully 	
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<p>Summer Study</p>	<p>philanthropic with a large and active donor base.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can serve those pursuing treatment. Err on the side of compassion. • Hospice Caring accepts referrals from anyone, but does not have the capacity to serve those needing chronic care (Alzheimer’s, Parkinsons). • Volunteers attend 3 full days of training, undergo background checks and can provide transportation. • Bereavement Services include adult loss, child loss, suicide, and parent loss. Groups are peer driven with groups supporting those younger than 50, 50-65, and 60+. • 2 trained facilitators for each group. Each group decides its endpoint after 8 weeks of meetings. Facilitators also work with schools to help children who lost a parent, sibling or loved one through the Good Grief Club. • Camp Caring is an overnight camp for children, a “concentrated” Good Grief Club, in operation for 14 years. • Developing a program for teens and young adults. • Coordinate and collaborate with Montgomery Hospice (medical hospice). • Volunteers can provide respite 4hrs/wk. • Multi-lingual • Helping Hands Program for those still seeking active treatment. <p>The Committee identified and discussed various summer study proposals including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long Term Care 	
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