

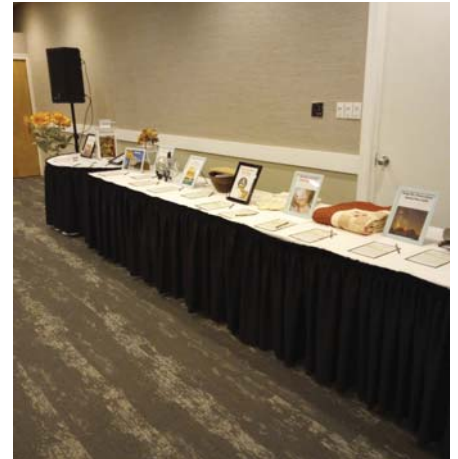


YARMOUTH COUNTY HOSPICE SOCIETY

2023 ANNUAL
REPORT

2023 FUNDRAISER

The Society held a successful fundraiser at the Rodd Grand Hotel on September 23, 2023. The event, hosted by Portia Clark, featured a three-course meal, silent and live auctions, 50/50 draw, and entertainment by the Cape Breton comedy sketch team of Bette MacDonald and Maynard Morrison. The event was a sell-out and raised \$46,500 for the Society. Thank you to all who organized and supported the event.



SUPPORT PROVIDED

4N Small Donations Have a Huge Impact

The easing of visitation restriction at the hospital resulted in more family members visiting patients at end-of-life at one time, causing temporary seating shortages within the specific hospice rooms. To accommodate the families, 6 folding chairs were purchased by the Society. The chairs are placed in storage when not needed. In addition, other small items purchased for 4N include a microwave, a shaver, and a landline phone for use by patients and families. The items, though minor, have been well appreciated by family members.



**Microwave on top of
fridge in family room**

SUPPORT PROVIDED CONTD...



Cuddle bed in expansion mode



Embroidered Pouches

4N - Cuddle Beds

Our 2022 Report indicated that two cuddle beds had been approved for funding and were under procurement by NS Health. The beds were received by 4N in July 2023. A press release was prepared and the cuddle beds were temporarily placed on display in the Hospital cafeteria. An article was prepared and published by Saltwire in September 2023. One bed was funded by the Yarmouth Hospital Foundation (Foundation) by a grant from the Healthcare Enhancement Endowment Fund. The second bed was funded by the Foundation by the re-allocation of funds that the Society had with the Foundation for end-of-life staff and volunteer Education Training. The Society is now using its' own funds for Education Training.

4N - Specialized Wheelchairs

The provision of additional cuddle beds on 4N has been placed on hold until a new Palliative Care doctor is on staff. Discussions between the Hospice Society and 4N personnel, however, have indicated that specialized wheelchairs would be of tremendous benefit to patients of 4N and their families. The wheelchairs would provide mobility within the hospital, and some patients have expressed last wishes to go outside (when weather permits). The Society, in November, approved the funding of two specialized Broda wheelchairs, at a cost of approximately \$4,800 each. NS Health initiated the procurement process and delivery is expected in winter/spring of 2024.

4N - VON Support

The Society purchased of twenty (20) CADD pain pump pouches, and a mattress for a clinic stretcher, for the Tri-county VON. The CADD pain pump pouches enable clients to be mobile and carry their pump wherever they go. The pouches were embroidered by VON personnel to indicate that they were donated by the Society. The stretcher is used in the Yarmouth Office by patients who need to rest while attending a clinic.

OVERALL DONATIONS FROM SOCIETY

Overall donations, in 2023, from the Society to 4N and the VON for hospice care total approximately \$47,800, including \$7,800 in direct donations and \$40,000 funded through the Yarmouth Hospital Foundation.

FUNDS RECEIVED BY THE SOCIETY



Grants

The Society received \$8,570 in grants in 2023. The Municipality of the District of Argyle donated \$5,000, the Municipality of the District of Yarmouth donated \$2,000, and the Town of Yarmouth donated \$1,570.

Donations

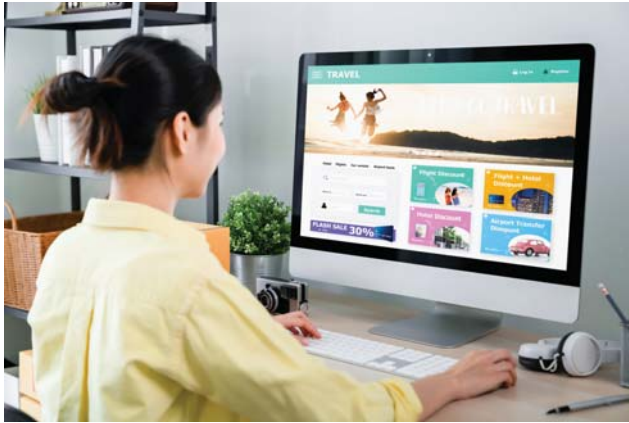
The Society received \$18,100 in donations, including \$12,600 from "100 guys who share".

EDUCATION SUPPORT

The Society maintained its' commitment to support end-of-life staff education that is not funded by the employer. Three NS Health members and one community volunteer received funding support to attend a NSHPCA conference "The Many Faces of Loss and Trauma" held in Antigonish in May 2023. Funding provided totaled \$1,800.



SOCIETY AWARENESS



The Society increased the use of its' website and Facebook page in an effort to provide more information to our supporters. Displays were held at the Yarmouth Mall in February 2023, and at the 55+ Wellness Day, hosted by the Yarmouth County Senior Safety Program, at the NSCC Burridge gym in May 2023.

4N DEMOGRAPHICS

Data received from NS Health indicates that, between January 2022 and September 2023, 123 patients who occupied the palliative care beds in 4N passed away while in hospital. Of the 123, 72 (58%) were from Yarmouth County, 29 (24%) were from Digby County, 18 (15%) were from Shelburne County, and 4 (3%) were from outside the tri-counties. It is noted, however, that the numbers may include patients who were not “palliative”, and it does not include people who were palliative and were discharged home.

SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

Society membership has increased from 21 at the end of 2022 to 46 at the end of 2023! Supporters now total 148. Our current bylaws limit Society membership to residents of Yarmouth County (Municipality of the District of Argyle, Municipality of the District of Yarmouth, Town of Yarmouth). In view that the hospice beds are located in the Yarmouth Regional Hospital, with approximately 97% of the end-of-life patients from the tri-county region, the Board is updating the bylaws to allow unrestricted Society membership, but restricting the Board membership to residents of the tri-counties. A corresponding name change is also under consideration.



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The Society is a Registered Charity in Canada.
Business Number 82787 0742 RR0001.