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Cyndi, Cyndi

I wanted to send an update on the successes of the Supportive Care Program and how we are utilizing the gifts we have received from Miracles from Maggie:

Bereavement:

We will hold our first Sibling Bereavement Camp on August 18- 20, 2017 at Camp Kon-O-Kwee Spencer located in Zelienople, PA. We currently have 47 children and nine peer counselors registered. The age range is 7 years to 19 years of age. This camp will be interdisciplinary in nature, with art therapists, music therapists and child life staff attending. Hopefully, this will allow the bereaved siblings an opportunity to see staff that they worked with during their time visiting in the hospital.

We are sponsoring a Day at the Pittsburgh Zoo. The Zoo has donated 60 tickets and we are sponsoring a pavilion for the day. We have 16 families scheduled to attend.

We are sponsoring a Pirates Camp. The Pirates organization has donated the seating and food at a reduced rate. We have tickets for 50 parents and 75 kids.

We continue to offer a minimum of 13 months of follow-up support to bereaved parents.

Legacy items are an important part of the bereavement program. We are sponsoring molded handprints, ink for handprints and now "Family Trees" painted on a canvas. Paint Monkey sketched 150 trees and we have held three nights for staff to come and paint the trees. This activity provides staff support time and further produces nice gifts for our families.

Parent to Parent – We have three :) bereaved parents who are willing to talk to parents, and even patients, who are home on hospice and are interested in talking to parents who have traveled this journey.

It is also important to us that we recognize how siblings grieve, so we have added to our four bereavement carts: *The Invisible String* – hardback book. And, handcrafted felt hearts for each sibling and the patient.

Supportive Care added a camera for end-of-life photography. It has been used for children of all ages to capture life events - birth photos, graduation ceremonies, etc.

We continue to offer the monthly Bereaved Parent Support Group and have been recognized at *Walk for Children's*. At *Walk*, there is a butterfly release and a tent to include our information, with a place for families to come and take pause (the Foundation funds the butterflies).

Over the last three years we have added sibling activities to our memorial services, which includes but is not limited to: flower pots to decorate, an ornament to hold memories, a canvas bag (Warhol) with small activities, and a large canvas tree (painted by the art therapists) for children and families to create and paste a leaf on in memory of their loved one.

Staffing:

The Supportive Care Program is now fully staffed. Scott Maurer, MD, serves as the Medical Director and has 0.7 FTE dedicated to the program. Amanda Brown, MD, will start as a full-time physician starting in September. Alicia Kolling and Alyssa Baker are full-time physician assistants. Lori Malazich serves as the bereavement coordinator and is a licensed clinical social worker (LCSW). Riley Herrmann is the sibling bereavement coordinator and Carol May is the manager of the program.

Funeral Costs:

We continue to offer \$500.00 to each family that indicates the need for financial assistance with funeral costs. We provided funeral assistance to six families between September 2016 to present.

Telemedicine:

We are offering iPads to families who are home on hospice. This allows the Supportive Care staff to see and talk with patients and families to better manage pain and symptoms and address emotional needs. We have used the iPads with eight families.

Perinatal:

We continue to meet with parents who are expecting a baby with a life-limiting anomaly to assist with developing a birth plan that includes end-of-life planning. Our program will be augmented in July when a newly-hired neonatologist starts who is interested in building the overall program offered to families with a fetal anomaly. In turn, this will increase the referrals to the Supportive Care Program.

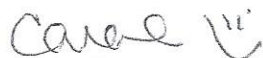
Massage Therapy:

The Supportive Care Program received a generous gift of \$50K from the medical staff at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC. With this gift, we are hoping to hire a massage therapist on a casual basis to provide therapy to staff. We recognize how hard the staff work at Children's and we want to provide them with a mechanism for support.

In 2016, there were 162 deaths between the children who die at the hospital or at home on hospice. The Supportive Care Program provided care to 55% of those children and families. The referrals to the Supportive Care Program grow each year and we are able to touch more lives and ensure they have good quality of care.

We have been blessed to receive financial and emotional support from Miracles from Maggie. It is a privilege for us to share Maggie's spirit with other children and families. I cannot thank you enough for your ongoing support.

Fondly,



Carol