

# Sharing in the Mission

Summer 2021

See Story on Page 3

**Connection: Change a life,  
lift the community**



# Presidents' Letter

Dear Tidewell friends,

Remember when we were kids and everything good and exciting in our lives happened in summer? The lazy days of lying on the veranda wicker sofa are far away memories of summers past. This summer, the joy for those who are COVID vaccinated, to travel to connect with family and friends after more than a year apart, seems even better than the joy of summers past!

Our colleagues at the Tidewell Foundation are delighted to safely connect with volunteers, community leaders and donors in person now! There is so much exciting news to share as during the months of COVID, we were busy working on many terrific initiatives to benefit patients, families and our communities.

There are many ways that companies, family foundations and individuals can get involved as sponsors and supporters to expand the wonderful mission of the Tidewell Foundation, in perpetual support of Tidewell Hospice.

We have highlighted a few of our recent accomplishments in a side listing with the hopes that these inspire you to connect, get involved and learn about the many ways your gifts can truly make a difference in our community – with lasting impact.

We hope summer brings you excitement, fun and safe reconnection with family and friends both far and near.

Let us know when we can come for a visit and update you!

Yours in the mission,



Debbie Mason, CFRE  
President, Tidewell Foundation  
EVP, Tidewell Hospice



Jonathan D. Fleece  
President and CEO  
Tidewell Hospice

## Recent accomplishments of Tidewell Hospice and the Tidewell Foundation:

- Tidewell Hospice is one of only 30 hospices in the nation selected to partner with the American Heart Association and the National Hospice Partnership for Innovation to participate in a pilot of an advanced Cardiac Care patient program. The new program serves chronic and end stage cardiac patients providing home monitoring and care.

- The Tidewell Foundation announced a grant of \$1.1 million in donor support for Tidewell's first Family Grief Center. Opening in August in Ellenton, the center will provide a place for a holistic approach to mind, body and spirit for adult and children's grief from loss of a loved one. The Center is a prototype of several more to come in our region, through donor support.

- Tidewell Foundation, through a lead grant by the Charles and Margery Barancik Foundation, and supporting grant by the Community Foundation of Sarasota County, is launching the Tidewell Blue Butterfly program in Newtown Sarasota. Housed in the partner and site host - Bethlehem Bible Church - this program brings free grief support to children and families in the Newtown Sarasota area.

- Through grants from the Tidewell Foundation, Tidewell Hospice recently hired its third music therapist, providing much needed connection and support to patients and families.

- Tidewell partnered with the NAACP, Unidos Now and many local churches in Sarasota and Bradenton to provide COVID-19 vaccination clinics serving Latinx and African American community members.

- Treasures Sarasota, the second resale shop supporting the Tidewell Foundation, opens in the Palmer Crossing Plaza on Clark Road at Honore in mid-September. Volunteers are needed. For more information go to [tidewellfoundation.org](http://tidewellfoundation.org)

- And, of course, our big news that Stratum Health (the not-for-profit parent company of Tidewell Hospice and the Tidewell Foundation) completed its merger with Empath Health, a not-for-profit hospice system based in Pinellas County. The new not-for-profit merged parent company takes the Empath Health name.

# Tidewell Foundation Wishes Fund Provides a Trip to the Beach



When Donna Workman's health and mental ability declined, her husband Hershel wanted to share with her one of her favorite things to do, go to the beach, just one more time.

When Hershel Workman moved to Port Charlotte from Indiana in April, he vowed to take Donna, his wife of 30 years, to the beach. Donna, a retired office manager and the mother of three adult children, has dementia and is a Tidewell Hospice patient. Though

Donna isn't communicating much these days, Hershel said the beach is her happy place.

When Tidewell social worker Rachael Edwards heard about Hershel's promise, she reached out to the Tidewell Foundation, which sustains and grows Tidewell services and programs through philanthropic support. Hershel was happy to see Donna smile as they helped her put her feet in the ocean, just one more time.

The Tidewell Foundation Wishes Fund provided medical transportation from the Workmans' home to Englewood Beach and back.

Donna and Hershel got to spend one last beach day together.

The Tidewell Foundation Wishes Fund, which is completely funded by donations, is one important way the Foundation supports Tidewell's patients, and their loved ones make the most of their time together. If you would like to contribute and help us support moments like these, please visit the Tidewell Foundation website at [tidewellfoundation.org](http://tidewellfoundation.org) or call 941-552-7546.

## Tidewell is looking for volunteers to help serve our patients, families, and community.

Whether it's running errands, reading a story, providing respite, or visiting with a therapy animal, volunteers are deeply involved in the team approach that is Tidewell's community of caring. No task is too small or without impact. Volunteers bring joy, support, levity, and companionship to those facing life limiting illnesses. Our volunteers also provide a sense of connection for the patients and families with the community which can sometimes feel lost when focused inwards and dealing with illness. In return, volunteers know that they have enhanced the life experience of others and strengthened the fabric of their communities. All volunteers receive thorough

training before beginning their work. We look forward to exploring how your talents can enrich the lives of our patients and families.

**Looking to volunteer another way?** Tidewell Treasures is looking for volunteers who love retail or just want to give back by helping sort donations or in our thrift store! Also needed are volunteers at information booths, special events and informational venues to help our community know all there is to offer those in need. Tidewell Foundation will open a second Tidewell Treasures resale store in Sarasota mid-September, so volunteers are needed there and in our Venice store, too.

**Please contact Sue Forbes at 941-441-2061 or [sforbes@tidewell.org](mailto:sforbes@tidewell.org) for more information.**

# Bank of America Supports Tidewell's Workforce Development



**Tidewell Foundation received a grant from Bank of America for home health aide career development expected to launch in September of 2021.**

The \$100,000 grant from Bank of America supports Tidewell Hospice's Home Health Aide career development program.

"This partnership is essential as we work to brighten the lives of the patients, families, and residents of communities served by Tidewell Hospice and address the critical workforce shortages of our not-for-profit hospice and home health organizations supported by the Tidewell Foundation," said Debbie Mason, president of Tidewell Foundation.

The grant supports Tidewell Foundation's mission of fostering economic mobility by creating and implementing a training program that will provide a solid career path for underemployed and unemployed individuals. The upward mobility in such a high growth industry will allow participants to easily advance their careers, while bringing home a livable income. Tidewell Hospice provides paid training and a career ladder supporting participants in moving from home health aide, to CNA, LPN, RN and more.

Tidewell foundation

**BANK OF AMERICA** 

Recently, Bank of America announced its newly expanded \$1.25 billion, five-year commitment to help advance racial equality and economic opportunity globally. The bank's support of Tidewell Hospice's Home Health Aide career development program is a direct result of this national commitment, which focuses on direct action in communities of color where systemic, long-term gaps have existed.

"For years, Bank of America has worked with nonprofit partners like the Tidewell Foundation to help drive economic growth and opportunity for Sarasota-Manatee residents," said Mike McCoy, President, Bank of America Sarasota-Manatee. "With the pandemic disproportionately impacting people of color, our support of the Tidewell Hospice's Home Health Aide career development program aims to bring meaningful jobs training and resources to historically underserved students."

Bank of America has provided \$210,000 in funding to four Sarasota-Manatee organizations, including the Tidewell Foundation, to help advance racial equity and economic opportunity in the region this quarter. As part of the bank's broader efforts to support economic mobility, it has granted a total of \$410,000 to 19 local nonprofits this year.



**Pictured is Jennifer Espinosa, RN, a Tidewell Hospice nurse. Jennifer started as a home health aide with Tidewell's sister company, Approved Home Health, before becoming a CNA at Tidewell Hospice.**



# Tidewell Foundation Celebration of Life



L to R – Lendy Chapman, MS, CCLS & Isabel MacGloan, MA, LCPC, Jonathan Fleece Tidewell President and CEO and Ken Kinzie, VP Grief Services

## Tidewell holds free celebration of life ceremonies.

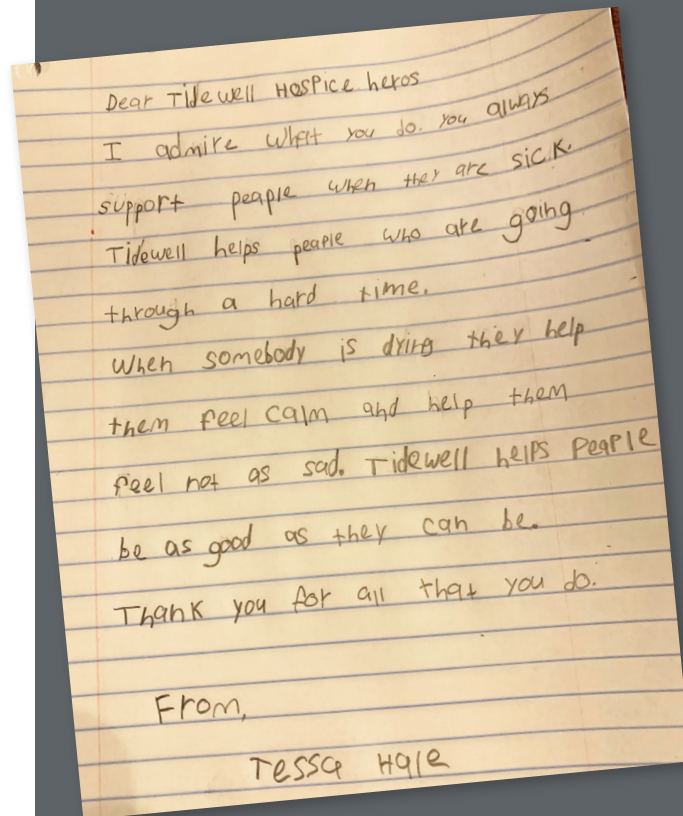
As the community's free grief services provider, the colleagues of Tidewell are keenly aware of how many people are struggling with grief that has not been processed during the last year of COVID-19 restrictions. Families have missed out on funerals, celebrations of life, weddings, and experienced such loss.

Knowing how many people in our community have not had the opportunity to publicly gather and process their grief, Tidewell Hospice and the Tidewell Foundation hosted free community celebration of life ceremonies. The events provided a brief ceremony and an opportunity to gather to honor the loss of a loved one, friend, caregiver, coworker or even the loss of a beloved pet or change in life status. The ceremonies began with music played as guests arrived, followed by the program. Guests had the name of a loved one read aloud.

Community celebration of life events were held Sarasota and Charlotte counties. The Bradenton celebration of life ceremony was cancelled due to inclement weather. Thanks to our partners: the Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe, State College of Florida Quartet, and the Punta Gorda Symphony for the wonderful music.

# Thank you...

When Kimberly Hale's 8-year-old daughter Tessa, was given a class assignment to write about someone in the community she feels is a hero, she wrote this:



*"I felt so proud when my daughter said that she felt that Tidewell Hospice was a hero in the community. To most it may not as obvious of a choice as police officers and firefighters and i was very touched that in some way she thought that her mom was out there making a difference in the lives of others. It was also very sweet to see our mission through the eyes of an 8-year-old." – Kimberly Hale*



Pictured left: Kimberly Hale is a social worker for the Tidewell Hospice Ellenton home-team clinic and her daughter, Tessa, a third grader.

# Tidewell Family Grief Center Ellenton



The Tidewell Family Grief Center in Ellenton is a first-of-its-kind facility in our region that will provide holistic grief support for individuals, families and the community.

The Tidewell Foundation is currently seeking additional donor support to complete the Center's outdoor interactive activity area. This multi-purpose green space will include a labyrinth, basketball court, butterfly gardens and other features that will create experiences essential to the healing of mind, body and spirit for children and adults after losing a loved one.

Tidewell Family Grief Center clients will have access to opportunities to meet their own grief needs, whether through one-on-one sessions, groups, art therapy, meditation, or alternative therapies. It will also create space for a new expansion of Tidewell's Blue Butterfly program, the region's only evidence-based grief program for children ages 5-18 and families who have experienced the loss of a parent, sibling or another significant person in their lives. Tidewell Hospice plans to open the Tidewell Family Grief Center's doors to the community in August 2021 with the start of the 2021-2022 school year.

The Ellenton location will serve as a pilot for future Tidewell Family Grief Centers across the region, and the Tidewell Foundation welcomes donations to help make them a reality.

Tidewell Hospice's grief services help people through some of their darkest days as they seek to find light and healing. 100 percent donor supported through contributions to the Tidewell Foundation, these services are offered for free to members of our community.

Support the Tidewell Family Grief Center program today. If you have questions about the Tidewell Family Grief Center in Ellenton, please contact Debbie Mason at (941) 412-7958 or [dmason@tidewellfoundation.org](mailto:dmason@tidewellfoundation.org). For more information on the support that will be available at the Center and volunteer opportunities within its programs and serve, please visit [tidewellfoundation.org/giving-opportunities/tidewell-family-grief-center-in-ellenton/](https://tidewellfoundation.org/giving-opportunities/tidewell-family-grief-center-in-ellenton/)



The Tidewell Foundation is tremendously grateful to all donors supporting the Tidewell Family Grief Center Ellenton. Pictured here are lead donors Walt and Renee Eppard. A big thank you for their generous contribution from the Eppard Family Foundation that helped launch this project.

# Save the date for these upcoming events!

## Tidewell Family Grief Center Ellenton – Sept. 24, 2021 10:00am

Join us for an open house and tour the new Tidewell Family Grief Center in Ellenton. A first of its kind facility in our region seeking to provide grief support for individuals, families and the community.

## Tidewell Treasures Tidewell Treasures Sarasota- Opening September 2021

Tidewell Treasures will be opening a second non-profit thrift store in Sarasota this September. Watch for upcoming news on the grand opening coming soon!



## Tidewell Trot- Oct. 21, 2021 6:00pm

Get ready to run, walk or trot during the Tidewell Foundation's fun 5K run and 1 mile run/walk at Nathan Benderson Park beginning at 6:00pm. Don't forget to sign up or be a sponsor for this worthwhile event!

## Giving Tuesday- Nov. 30, 2021

This Giving Tuesday the Tidewell Foundation has so much planned! There are only 24 hours to be a part of this regional fundraiser. Consider giving and have your donation matched up to 100%.

## Signature Luncheon - Feb. 4, 2022

Save the Date for our annual fundraising event held at the Ritz Carlton in Sarasota. Mark your calendar now for the luncheon of the year! Tickets will be available soon and sponsorships are available now!

\* For information on how to sponsor any of our upcoming events, please reach Rebecca Cross at [rcross@tidewellfoundation.org](mailto:rcross@tidewellfoundation.org) or call (941) 615-8633.



Thank you in advance to Alltrust Insurance for sponsoring the Tidewell Trot 2021!

## Vaccinate now!

U.S. COVID-19 Cases and Deaths at New Lows, But Vaccination Rate Slows

At this time last year, public health officials were perplexed by the fact that despite having only 4 percent of the world's population, the U.S. was experiencing 20 percent of COVID-19 cases and deaths. Now, as cases fall in the U.S., the pandemic has intensified in other countries, with more virus deaths reported in 2021 so far than during all of 2020.

Credit: Becker's Hospital Review

*"Everyone has a role to play in ending this pandemic. Getting vaccinated is the single most important thing you can do now to help save lives, get things back to normal, and end this crisis. 96% of practicing physicians have been vaccinated, and I strongly urge everyone who hasn't yet received the vaccine to go out and get it. It's free, it's very safe, and it works".*

– Neville Sarkari MD, MBA, FACP  
– Tidewell Chief Medical Officer



# Sharing in the Mission

## Walk with us...

Tidewell's Remembrance Walkways and naming opportunities are dedicated to the celebration and memories of loved ones, family and friends-honoring those have touched our lives in a special way and left behind cherished memories.



Remembrance Walkways and other naming opportunities are available at each hospice house and The Tidewell Family Grief Centers. By making a gift to the Tidewell Foundation through a brick purchase, you provide an enduring tribute for your loved one

to those visiting hospice house residents, staff, and volunteers. Engraved brick options include a 4x8 size, as well as a 12x12 size that can accommodate a longer inscription. Your brick will be located in a peaceful place for rest, a calming retreat with surrounding gardens. For those who would like a place to visit and remember the life of their loved one, this is a heartwarming option, all while honoring the life of your friend or family who received Tidewell services.

For other named items, such as gardens, benches or planted trees, please contact the Tidewell Foundation at **941-552-7519** for pricing and information.