



April, 2024

[www.LifeCareVolunteers.org](http://www.LifeCareVolunteers.org)

We ♥ our volunteers

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION MONTH

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## April, 2024

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### A QUICK REMINDER TO START....

We're accepting applications for our children's summer grief camp. **Camp Voyager** is an opportunity for young people who have experienced the death of someone special. We will play, laugh, create, make friends, and take time to remember the people we know who have died. There is no cost to attend. If you know of a potential attendee, please let us know or have them visit our website at <https://lifecare.org/grief-groups-workshops/>

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# Volunteer Announcements

## 1. Welcome aboard Robbie Fore!

The Volunteer Department is over-the-top excited to welcome and introduce you to our newest team member, Robbie Fore. Robbie will be covering both community outreach and volunteer management responsibilities for Columbus, Bladen, and Robeson counties.



Robbie comes to us with a background in both teaching and in ministry, as well as family experience (her mother is a hospice nurse). She is looking forward to tapping into those skills and experiences as she seeks to enhance our overall footprint on the western side of our service area, as well as augmenting our commitment to growing an impactful volunteer workforce.

We encourage all volunteers to look for opportunities to meet Robbie or reach out to her on your own. Her contact information is...

**Robbie Fore**  
**Volunteer & Community Engagement Coordinator**  
**910.604.1052**  
[Robbie.Fore@LifeCare.org](mailto:Robbie.Fore@LifeCare.org)

## 2. National Volunteer Week/Month celebrations!



We invite all volunteers to join us at an in-person volunteer recognition meeting this month as we celebrate you, our volunteers, and all the tremendous contributions you make to our patients/families, our staff, and our communities. We hope many of you are able to carve out some time and join us in honoring National Volunteer Week and Month!

The following is a list of this month's meetings. If you can't make the one in your individual area, please feel free to attend any convenient event...

### Brunswick

Monday, April 8, at 10am  
Brunswick Care Center

### Horry

Wednesday, April 17, at 12:30pm  
Conway office

### Columbus/Bladen/Robeson

Thursday, April 11, at 10am  
Whiteville Care Center

### New Hanover

Thursday, April 18, at 10am  
Wilmington home office

### Pender

Monday, April 15, at 10am  
Hampstead office

### Onslow

Monday, April 22, at 10am  
Jacksonville office

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### 3. Engagement survey

As part of the revitalization of our volunteer department, we'd like to hear from you as to how we're doing. So, we've created a short volunteer engagement survey to serve as a tool for you to express your level of satisfaction, but also any ideas you have for improvement. You may use the QR here to access the survey, which should only take 10 minutes or so to complete.



The survey does have some open-text questions, so it might be easier to complete on a computer, using the following web address:

<https://forms.office.com/r/pcnMvdRkrT>. Thanks in advance for your input and commitment to our department and agency!

### 4. Meeting scheduled - Wilmington Care Center front desk



If you happen to be a volunteer at the front desk at the Hospice Care Center in Wilmington, we would like to invite you to a special meeting on **Thursday, May 2, at 1:30pm**, in the front conference room at HCC. We will be addressing some recent scheduling challenges as well as some new ways for you to document your time. We hope you are able to join us...please contact Jenny Todd with any questions.

**DON'T FORGET TO USE THE LINK AT THE END OF THE NEWSLETTER  
TO LET US KNOW WHEN YOU READ IT.**

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## Volunteer Recruitment

If you know of any friends, family, neighbors, church groups, or personal/professional networks that might be interested in volunteer opportunities, please have them contact us at [Volunteer.Department@LifeCare.org](mailto:Volunteer.Department@LifeCare.org) or have them complete an application on our website by sharing the QR code.



## Volunteer Needs

### **Front Desk Greeter**

SECU Hospice House of Brunswick - Bolivia

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0844ABAE29A5F49-47017430-bccfront#/>

Dr. Robert M. Fales Hospice Pavilion - Wilmington

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0844ABAE29A5F49-47018430-hccfront#/>

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Angel House - Whiteville

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0844ABAE29A5F49-45523170-wccfront>

## **Pet & Music Therapy**

Dr. Robert M. Fales Hospice Pavilion - Wilmington

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0844ABAE29A5F49-45519913-hccpet>

## **Admission Packets Assistance**

LCFL Corporate Office, 1414 Physicians Drive, Wilmington

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0844ABAE29A5F49-corporate1>

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# Volunteer Monthly Education

*CULTURAL COMPETENCIES*

## [Spiritual Care Key to Addressing Disparities Among Underserved Black Communities](#)

Spirituality plays a key role in end-of-life decisions among African Americans, making hospice chaplains (and volunteers) a significant part of reaching these populations, according to Saul Ebema, president of Illinois-based Hospice Chaplaincy. “Faith is very important to African Americans,” Ebema told Hospice News. “Their spirituality encompasses their everyday life. It requires worship and devotion, and a sense of retribution that everything good you get from faith and everything bad is a punishment. What I’ve noticed is that the strong faith in this community can almost view hospice as a conflict. Choosing hospice can be like giving up on your faith. So, many in this community refuse hospice because of that.”

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## Understanding the spiritual barriers to address

Recent research has unveiled racial and ethnic differences in hospice utilization among Medicaid-only and dual-eligible decedents. A study recently published in the JAMA Network examined Hispanic and non-Hispanic Black individuals in both Medicaid-only and dual-eligible populations. Black populations had the lowest likelihood of receiving hospice services compared to white decedents, the study found.

Having a historical context of understanding around the faith-based barriers among African American populations is a significant part of improving utilization, according to Wayman Scott, associate director of diversity, equity, inclusion and community relations at Maryland-based Gilchrist.

“It’s having the context of faith and the idea of spiritual suffering connected to these patients,” Scott told Hospice News. “The place of worship has been a space where Black people can come and feel safe. It’s looking at it from a faith-based lens and how these health care services can help guide the dying process, not hasten it. Organizations and places of worship can almost serve as gatekeepers helping to provide access and awareness in hospice. If a hospice provider does not have that cultural sensitivity and ability to connect on that spiritual level, then how can they respond to these community’s needs?”

A [nationwide survey](#) from Pew Research Center in 2020 of more than 8,600 African Americans found that nearly three-quarters identify their belief system as some type of Christian faith, while 3% identify as non-Christians. The majority (66%) of these individuals attended places of worship with predominantly Black congregations, the study found.

Chaplains (and volunteers) are a large part of building and growing relationships within African American faith communities and communicating the interdisciplinary services that can help support their end-of-life trajectories, according to Scott. “When connecting with patients, it’s important to respond in kind with their faith and ‘get spiritual’ with them.

They may have strong emotions, and it’s important to be able to grieve, mourn and experience that anticipatory grief in the context of faith. Because spirituality is so strong in the Black community, it’s important to build trust and form relationships in faith groups

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in terms of bridging the gap.”

By Holly Vossel

March 11, 2024

Hospicenews.com

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## **Volunteer Spotlights**

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Thanks to the volunteers who came out and helped us launch our new website, [LifeCareVolunteers.org](http://LifeCareVolunteers.org), last month and to all those that submitted name ideas for our new mascot. We are happy to introduce you to Link V. Leap, an important member of our team (congrats to Jackie Meisel, NHC volunteer for submitting the winning entry!) Be sure to come meet Link at this month's support meetings if you have not yet had the opportunity and privilege!



Did you know that LCFL often admits more than 275 hospice patients every week? And every one of those patients and families receives a packet of information, resources, and comfort items! Thanks to the committed volunteers at the home office, including the recent "trainees," who make the magic of assembly happen every Tuesday! Interested volunteers may use the sign up links above.



This spring has been a busy time with health fairs, festivals, and other community events. Thanks to all our volunteers who have served as outreach representatives, sharing critical information to potential patients/families, donors, and volunteers.

Pictured: Onslow County volunteer, Barbara Springer, works a LCFL table at a community event in Surf City.

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## Volunteer Documentation

**As a reminder, please turn in your hours within 48 hours of your volunteer activity (including phone call contacts)....AND don't forget, you can submit hours on the new website,**



LifeCareVolunteers.org. It is a one-stop shop for everything LCFL volunteering!

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## Volunteer Calendar

Check out the calendar below for April support meetings (in-person), community and educational events, staff office hours, and new volunteer orientations.

[www.lifecarevolunteers.org](http://www.lifecarevolunteers.org) **April 2024**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 PENDER Office: Marfi Deeter WHITEVILLE Office: Jenny Todd, Laura Long	2	3 WHITEVILLE Office: Marfi Deeter	4 WILMINGTON Office: Jenny Todd	5 BRUNSWICK Office: Jenny Todd, Laura Long, Marfi Deeter	6
8 BRUNSWICK In Person Volunteer Monthly Meeting: 10:00 AM BRUNSWICK Orientation: 1:00 PM	9	10 WHITEVILLE Office: Marfi Deeter	11 BLADEN/COLUMBUS/ROBESON In Person Volunteer Monthly Meeting: 10:00 AM COLUMBUS Orientation: 1:00 PM	12	13 NEW HANOVER CONTINUUM TILE CEREMONY 10:00 AM
15 PENDER In Person Volunteer Monthly Meeting: 10:00 AM PENDER Orientation: 1:00 PM	16	17 HORRY In Person Volunteer Monthly Meeting: 12:30 PM	18 NEW HANOVER In Person Volunteer Monthly Meeting: 10:00 AM NEW HANOVER Orientation: 1:00 PM	19	20
22 ONSLow In Person Volunteer Monthly Meeting: 10:00 AM ONSLow Orientation: 1:00 PM	23	24	25 PENDER Office: Marfi Deeter	26  BLOOMFEST ARTS COUNCIL BUILDING IN WHITEVILLE 12:00 – 2:00 PM	27 BRUNSWICK IMPRESSIONS TILE CEREMONY 10:00 AM
29 PENDER Office: Marfi Deeter	30				

### VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION IN PERSON MEETINGS

Our April Volunteer Monthly Meetings will celebrate YOU, our generous volunteers, IN PERSON with food, fun and fellowship.

Please join us on one of the dates listed above. If you are unable to attend at your main county of service, you are welcome to join us at any of the other locations!

### OFFICE & CARE CENTER HOURS

Scheduled for the date and location as listed. Subject to change.

### ORIENTATION

Orientation scheduled for new volunteers at listed location. NOTE: RSVP is required as dates/times are subject to change.

### CONTACTS

**Marfi Deeter (910) 902-9908**  
Home Office: Wilmington  
**Laura Long (910) 620-5062**  
Home Office: Brunswick  
**Jenny Todd (910) 632-3491**  
Home Office: Brunswick

## Other Events



In addition to the items listed above, please check out the following agency and community events.

## TRIBUTE CEREMONIES

Loved ones and friends are invited to join us at a Celebration of Life tribute ceremony. At these bi-annual events, LCFL recognizes and remembers patients, supporters, and loved ones receiving special dedications. In our beautiful facilities and gardens, each name helps create patterns, put together to create meaningful designs that live on beyond us. To sign up to volunteer, use the links below (The Brunswick ceremony, on April 27, is already full).

Saturday, April 13

Continuum Ceremony

Wilmington Garden

10:00-11:00a.m.

[https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A08](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0844ABAE29A5F49-48354867-newhanover)

[44ABAE29A5F49-48354867-newhanover](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0844ABAE29A5F49-48354867-newhanover)

Saturday, May 18

Bountiful Life Ceremony

Whiteville Care Center

10:00-11:00am

[https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A08](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0844ABAE29A5F49-48356177-whiteville)

[44ABAE29A5F49-48356177-whiteville](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0844ABAE29A5F49-48356177-whiteville)

## VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT LUNCHEON



The Volunteer Department is excited about a new event we're planning. On Friday, April 26, from 12:00-2:00pm, we will be hosting **Bloomfest 2024**...a community luncheon to recruit volunteers in Columbus, Bladen, and Robeson counties. The event will be at the Arts Council building in Whiteville and will feature a cool "floral" presentation. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased online or at the Whiteville Care

Center. Please share with anyone you know that might be interested in volunteering with LCFL!

## HONOR FLIGHT



LCFL is a proud sponsor of the Honor Flight of the Cape Fear Area. This year's flight is scheduled for Saturday, April 20. The community is invited out to ILM airport that evening, at approximately 9:00pm, to welcome the Veterans home. For more info, visit

<https://www.honorflightcfa.org/> and plan to join us if you can.

## WORK ON WILMINGTON

LCFL is participating in the Leadership Wilmington community project, Work on Wilmington, from 8 AM – 12 PM on Saturday, April 20. Work on Wilmington is considered New Hanover County's largest single day of volunteer service with over 30 projects going around throughout town.



LCFL will be renovating the Children's Playground area at the Wilmington Care Center. Our project will consist of building new playground equipment, raking, removing existing garden beds, and mulching. We are looking for 10-12 volunteers that can assist with this type of outdoor work.

Interested volunteers will need to register by completing the form at this link:

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<https://www.wilmingtonchamber.org/form/view/30537> and should enter “Lower Cape Fear LifeCare” in the Team/Company Name box. Contact Katie Tate, 910.796.8039, with any questions.

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## Keep Us Informed!

As part of our Centers for Medicare & Medicaid compliance requirements, we are required to track and document volunteer education and training. As this newsletter serves to help satisfy the volunteer education requirement for our agency, it is important for us to know you have read the newsletter.

[Please click here to let us know you have read the newsletter.](#)

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### OUR MISSION

To provide access to the highest quality LifeCare, education, and supportive services to our patients, their families, and the communities we serve.



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## Thank you for being part of our team!

Please be sure to FOLLOW US on social media.

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You are receiving this email because of your interactions with Lower Cape LifeCare.

**Our mailing address is:**

Lower Cape Fear LifeCare

1414 Physicians Dr

Wilmington, NC 28401-7335