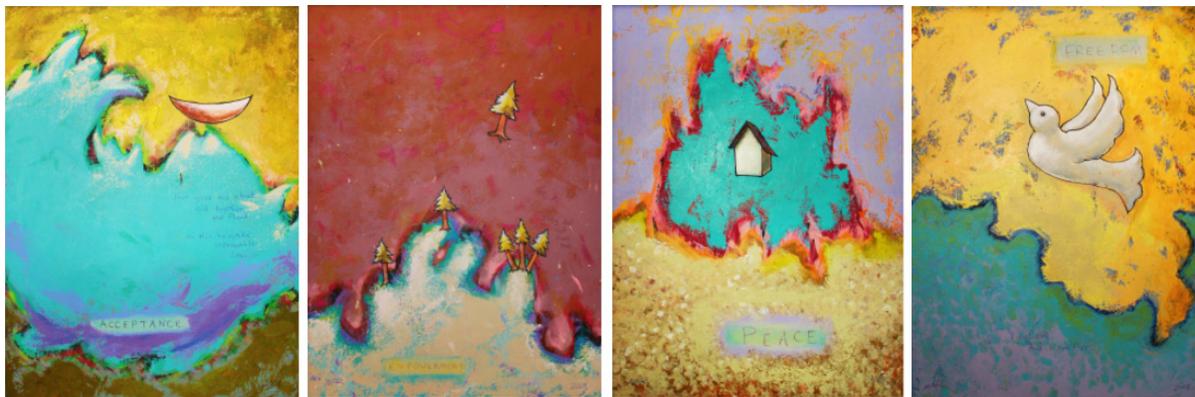




# the transitions™ vibe

Industry news and information from a source you trust

Welcome to the May 2021 edition of the Transitions Vibe—a monthly briefing filled with information for those who trust Transitions to provide hospice and palliative care services for their patients and residents.



**It's About Living.** [Submit a referral](#) or [contact us](#) at 877-726-6494 to discuss how we provide the tools and resources to assist patients and families through the physical, emotional, and spiritual challenges of life's final transitions.

[Visit our website to learn more.](#)

## Transitions Spotlight: Celebrating Nurses

### Celebrating our Nurse Healthcare Heroes

A conversation with **Liz Hoppe**, RN BSN, Administrator of Transitions Hospice in Central Illinois, **Rachelle Paolucci**, RN, BSN Executive Director of Transitions Hospice Indiana, and **Melissa Popp**, RN, CHPN, Executive Director of Transitions Hospice Illinois.

Nurses are the heartbeat of a hospice organization, taking on the role of caregiver, supporter, shoulder to cry on and so much more. At Transitions, we are fortunate to have amazing nurses working at all levels of our organization.

In honor of Nurses Week, we spoke with Liz Hoppe, RN BSN, Administrator of Transitions Hospice in Central Illinois, Rachelle Paolucci, RN, BSN Executive Director of Transitions Hospice Indiana and Melissa Popp, RN, CHPN, Executive Director of Transitions Hospice Illinois, to get their take on Transitions, our nurses, and what the future has to offer for hospice.

[Access the full interview here>>](#)

Thank you to all nurses for the dedication and care provided to those you serve. **Happy Nurses Week!**





## The Impact of Hospice Nurses During COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic created numerous barriers to the delivery of care, causing institutions and organizations to quickly adapt in order to provide the best care to patients.

As part of the solution, nurses continue to step up in an incredible manner to ensure that patients and families receive the care and compassion they need during this time.

Learn more about the great impact made by nurses throughout the pandemic through the following articles:

- [“Why 2020 Will Forever Be the Year of the Nurse”: A Look Back on How the Pandemic Has Impacted Nursing – J&J](#)
- [COVID-19: A Heavy Toll on Health-care Workers – The Lancet](#)
- [How a Javits Center Vaccine Nurse Spends Her Sundays – The New York Times](#)
- [‘If not us, then who?’ – Washington Post](#)

## Celebrating National Women’s Health Week!

Each year on Mother’s Day, National Women’s Health Week starts its celebration, encouraging women and girls to make their health a priority. Even during the COVID-19 pandemic, there are safe ways for individuals to stay active and healthy, including:

- Get recommended screenings and preventive care
- Get moving and exercise
- Enjoy a healthy and balanced diet
- Prioritize mental health
- Practice healthy behaviors

(Source: CDC)



To access more health tips and resources for healthy living, visit the following links:

- [Celebrate National Women’s Health Week – CDC](#)
- [Three Predictions for Women’s Health in 2021 – Forbes](#)

## Honoring Asian American and Pacific Islanders

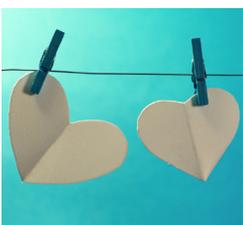
May is [Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month](#)—a celebration of Asians and Pacific Islanders in the United States. There are more than 300,000 living Asian-American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander American veterans. Also, Asian Americans are the fastest-growing ethnic minority in the USA, but we know little about end-of-life care for this population.

DYK? Cancer is the leading cause of death among Asian Americans, yet little is known about their use of hospice care.

It is important to support patients who could benefit from hospice services and help eliminate potential barriers. Learn more by reading the following articles:

- [Race, Socioeconomics Are Largest Barriers to Hospice and Palliative Care](#)
- [Asian American Medicare Beneficiaries Disproportionately Receive Invasive Mechanical Ventilation When Hospitalized at the End-of-Life](#)
- [Palliative Care for the Asian American Adult Population: A Scoping Review](#)

## Grief Notes



### Join the Conversation About Grief

Welcome to our new standing feature, *Grief Notes*, where our Bereavement Coordinator, Joe Agnello, will have open conversations about grief, bereavement, spirituality and dealing with a loss.

Grief is also known as “broken heart syndrome,” and while it is a natural and normal human reaction to loss, it is also a process that requires resilience, patience and great support. In this installment of *Grief Notes*, Joe provides an introduction to grief. [Read more>>](#)

## Grief and Bereavement Support Services

At Transitions, our bereavement team engages in a variety of grief interventions to support our patients and their families through the stages of grief they may be experiencing.

The bereavement team works hand in hand with Transitions trained volunteers to provide care and support for the patient’s family members long after the patient transitions. [Learn more about our approach>>](#)



## Partner Spotlights



Located in Wheeling, IL, the [Addolorata Villa](#) senior living community offers independent living, assisted living, memory support, skilled nursing, rehabilitation services and home healthcare from Franciscan Care Solutions.

In honor of [Skilled Nursing Facility Week](#), read insights from Transitions partner, Dawn Cohn, LNHA, SHRM-CP, CDP, Executive Director for Addolorata Villa, about the Franciscan Way and how it influences the work of Addolorata Villa with its residents. [Click here to learn more>>](#)



Since John F. Kennedy's Presidential Proclamation in 1963, May has been designated as a specific month to show support to older adults. And, since its founding in 1987, the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (NAELA) has recognized May as [National Elder Law Month](#). Learn more about this celebration from our partners at Dutton Casey & Mesoloras P.C. [Access their article here>>](#)

## Transitions News & Events

### Recent Industry Appointments

The following Transitions team members have been appointed to industry positions:

- [AgeGuide](#): Katie Monahan Brooks, Board of Directors; Stephanie Tintner, Advisory Council
- [Illinois Hospice and Palliative Care Organization](#): Jimmy Dale, Legislative and Communications and Membership Committees; Melissa Popp, Board of Directors



### Who Decides When Your Client/Patient Can't: Understanding the Surrogate Decision Makers

**Presenter:** Amy Gjesdahl, JD, Dutton Casey & Mesoloras

**Date:** Thursday, May 6, 2021

**Time:** 9 a.m. - 10 a.m. CT

There is no charge for this event.

[Register](#)

**About the session:** Join Dutton Casey & Mesoloras and Transitions Hospice as we discuss the types of decision-makers authorized by Illinois law to make decisions on behalf of a disabled adult including agents under Powers of Attorney, trustees, guardians and health care surrogates. Objectives include:

1. Identifying types of decision-makers authorized by Illinois law
2. Understanding the differences between Powers of Attorney, trustees, guardians and health care surrogates
3. Identifying whether a decision-maker is legally entitled to make the decision at issue
4. Understanding the extent of a decision maker's authority and what ethical standards should apply when making decisions

1.0 CE available for Illinois Nurses, Professional Counselors and Social Workers. Zoom link will be sent after registering.



May Is National  
**Elder Law Month**  
National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys

Who Decides When Your Client/  
Patient Can't: Understanding the  
Surrogate Decision Makers

*Amy Gjesdahl, JD*



## Professional Boundaries: Understanding Your Role

(virtual session)

**Presenter:** Katie Monahan Brooks, Business Development Manager, Transitions Hospice

**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021

**Time:** 5:30-6:00 Networking; 6:00-6:20: Chapter Meeting; 6:20-7:20: Presentation; 7:20-7:30: Wrap Up

[Register](#)



**About the session:** Healthcare professionals have an ethical responsibility inherent in their role. This presentation aims to define professional boundaries in the healthcare environment with a focus on ethics from both the nursing and social work professions. Objectives include:

1. Define professional boundaries in the healthcare environment
2. Identify why professional boundaries matter in the healthcare environment
3. Recognize signs of over-involvement in the therapeutic relationship
4. Understand the risks of compromising the professional boundary

Complimentary if registered by May 3. This is our way of thanking all of our health care workers and organizations. After May 3, \$10.00 for CMSA Chicago and CMSA National Members; \$15.00 for Non-Members. No registrations accepted after May 9. No refunds/cancellations.

*\*\*This session has been applied to CCMC for approval of 1.0 credit hours. This session has been approved for 1.0 credit hours RN, SW through CMSA Chicago as an approved sponsor of continuing education through the state of Illinois.*

## Honoring Memorial Day

America's veterans have done everything asked of them in their mission to serve our country. At Transitions, we believe it is never too late to give them a hero's welcome home. That's why our hospice is a part of the [We Honor Veterans Program](#).

Our staff understands the unique needs of veterans and are prepared to meet the specific challenges that veterans and their families may face at the end of life.

[Learn more>>](#)

Mary Ellen Heelan, MT-BC, Music Therapist, has created a video for Memorial Day, remembering those who paid the ultimate sacrifice to keep us free. The video honors all branches of the service and shares songs of hope and love for our country that encouraged our soldiers and those at home through World War I.

[View>>](#)



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