



Name of Organization: Dundas County Hospice

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Charitable Registration Number: 89131 6382 RR0001

Description of Proposed Project:

We are requesting \$10,000 for a pilot project for a period of one year to up-level our grief and bereavement program to better meet the needs of our communities. This will include professional grief counselling services, increase targeted support groups and one-on-one support by trained volunteers. We have no doubt that the project will be a success. We would then look for ongoing funding to sustain the program under our umbrella of services.

Our current grief and bereavement program is facilitated by an RN and 5 trained volunteers. It consists of providing resources, follow up calls, one-on-one support, a monthly drop-in group, 6 week closed group, annual Memorial Service and Surviving the Holidays workshop, guided Labyrinth walks, and bereavement themed book club.

Our clients greatly benefit from our services but they are limited by the expertise we have. We are able to do little to help those with more complex needs such as death by suicide, loss of parent or minor child, loss of child, multiple losses or (often unrecognized) losses such as loss of pet, loss of job, loss of the life once known because of illness or other reasons.

Limited services are available but are outside of our area (Cornwall, Kemptville, Ottawa). Some of these come with wait lists, fees and many of them are not accessible to those that need them for various reasons.

We need to expand the program to provide for complex clients; grow groups for specific losses i.e. spousal, sudden death, suicide; provide community education and additional training for our volunteers.

A professional grief and bereavement counsellor would: provide counselling for complex clients; grow groups for specific losses i.e. spousal, sudden death, suicide; and provide community education. Adding professional services would allow us to expand our services to address those people experiencing all forms of loss.

I have been given the authority to submit this proposal on behalf on the organization.

Dundas County Hospice is a Registered Charity and can issue tax receipts within 30 days.

What is the estimated cost of this project? \$10,000.00

What is the estimated date of completion if this group receives the donation? November 2020

How will completion of this project directly benefit the residents of South Dundas?

Unresolved grief can cause a multitude of mental health issues. These services do not currently exist in South Dundas. They exist in larger city centres but are not accessible to some of our rural clients because of transportation and financial restrictions. Some of the services offered in the city can cost up to \$200 per hour. Which also makes getting help inaccessible to many here in South Dundas.

What do you know about this organization that you wish everyone knew?

We wish that everyone in South Dundas knew that our services exist and how much they benefit families. We wish people would reach out in their time of need. We wish that people would seek help when they are struggling with a loss or multiple losses.

We would love to have better board member representation from South Dundas. Only 1 in 7 of our Board Members reside in South Dundas.