

Cordt Kassner

From: Hospice & Palliative Care Today Newsletter
<subscriptions@hospicepalliativecaretoday.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 30, 2024 4:00 AM
To: Cordt Kassner
Subject: Your Hospice & Palliative Care Today Newsletter for 06/30/24

OUR SPONSORS

[Teleios Consulting Group](#)

[CHAP](#)

[LMHPCO Conference](#)

[Composing Life Out of Loss](#)

[Hospice Analytics](#)



HOSPICE &
PALLIATIVE CARE
TODAY

June 30th, 2024

Sunday newsletters focus on headlines and top read stories of the last week (in order) - enjoy!

A little help from your friends... Jennifer Hale, MSN, RN, CHPN, CPHQ

A little help from your friends is a memorial fund set up for Jennifer Hale's family. If interested, you can [read more about it and donate here](#). Donations accepted 6/30/24 - 7/15/24. ... We recently [announced](#) Jennifer Hale unexpectedly died Friday, 6/21/24. Vice President of Quality and Standards at Compassus, former Vice President Clinical Services at Optum Palliative Care and Hospice, and former Executive Director of the Georgia Hospice & Palliative Care Organization, Jennifer was widely known, respected, and loved in the hospice community. We share our condolences with her family, friends, and colleagues. Her obituary is posted [here](#).

Contents

1. [20 most socially responsible hospitals, per Lown Institute](#)
2. [Advanced lung cancer: Studies explore palliative care delivered by telehealth and in a stepped-care approach](#)
3. [Dementia decisions: Making tough choices about hospice, palliative care](#)
4. [Improving advanced care planning for late-stage cancer](#)
5. [Rendever and Lenovo collaborate to bring virtual reality experiences to Carolina Caring seniors](#)
6. [Medical aid-in-dying bill stalls in Delaware Senate](#)
7. [Getting muddy for Center for Hospice Care](#)
8. [How health equity impacts hospices' bottom lines](#)
9. [Silverstone Health expands care continuum beyond hospice, sees skyrocketing census growth](#)
10. [Today's Encouragement](#)

Headlines

[20 most socially responsible hospitals, per Lown Institute](#)

Becker's Hospital Review; by Mackenzie Bean; 6/25/24

Duke Regional Hospital in Durham, N.C., is the most socially responsible acute care hospital in the U.S., according to a June 25 [ranking](#) from Lown Institute. The nonpartisan healthcare think tank assessed more than 2,700 acute care hospitals and 800 critical access hospitals nationwide across 54 metrics related to health equity, value of care and patient outcomes. ... The 20 most socially responsible acute care hospitals in the U.S., per Lown Institute:

1. Duke Regional Hospital (Durham, N.C.)
2. Baylor Scott & White Medical Center–Pflugerville (Texas)
3. UCHHealth Greeley (Colo.) Hospital
4. Adventist Health Ukiah Valley (Ukiah, Calif.)
5. UNM Sandoval Regional Medical Center (Rio Rancho, N.M.)
6. Suburban Community Hospital (Norristown, Pa.)
7. Cedar City (Utah) Hospital
8. Methodist Medical Center (Oak Ridge, Tenn.)
9. St. Luke's Hospital–Upper Bucks Campus (Quakertown, Pa.)
10. Sonoma (Calif.) Valley Health Care District

11. [Click on the title's link for the remaining top 20, and for a link to their full list.]

Advanced lung cancer: Studies explore palliative care delivered by telehealth and in a stepped-care approach

The ASCO Post - American Society of Clinical Oncology; by Alice Goodman;

6/25/24 Early palliative care can be integrated into the course of treatment for patients with advanced lung cancer via delivery by telehealth with outcomes similar to when palliative care is delivered via in-person visits, according to results of the REACH PC trial presented by Joseph Greer, PhD, of Harvard Medical School, Boston, at the 2024 ASCO Annual Meeting Plenary Session. A separate randomized noninferiority study presented at the ASCO meeting by Jennifer S. Temel, MD, FASCO, also of Harvard Medical School, Boston, found that stepped palliative care was noninferior to monthly visits with early integrated palliative care. Results of the stepped-care study were published in *JAMA* to coincide with the presentation at ASCO. [This article includes:]

- Benefits of Telehealth ...
- REACH PC Details ...
- Stepped Palliative Care ...
- Study Details ...
- Expert Point of View ...

Editor's Note: This article describes implications and practical uses of a research article we posted on June 8, and again in our Sunday "Most Read" articles on June 16, "Stepped palliative care for patients with advanced lung cancer: A randomized clinical trial."

Dementia decisions: Making tough choices about hospice, palliative care

Being Patient; by Katy Koop; 6/25/24

In the later stages of Alzheimer's, palliative and hospice care can be necessary. But how do you find a facility designed for dementia patients? ... Dr. Maribeth Gallagher, director of Arizona's [Hospice of the Valley](#) dementia program, joins Being Patient video reporter Mark Niu to discuss how to make these difficult decisions and what makes a palliative or hospice care program "dementia-capable." Gallagher's work directing the Hospice of the Valley's dementia program has received national and international awards for its innovative

approaches. Her focus on dementia care was initially inspired by her personal experiences as a family caregiver, sharing the journey with her loved one from diagnosis to death. [Click on the title's link for the full conversation, in both audio and text.]



Accelerate Results
Accelerate Growth
Accelerate Learning

Sponsor of Hospice & Palliative Care Today

Improving advanced care planning for late-stage cancer

Medical Xpress; by Melissa Rohman; 6/24/24

Multilevel care interventions improved clinician–documented advanced care planning (ACP) compared with a clinician-level intervention alone for patients with genitourinary cancer, according to findings published in *JAMA Oncology*. "Clinicians often have limited time to assist patients in fully understanding ACP. This intervention is one approach to improve ACP and care delivery among patients with advanced stages of genitourinary cancer," said Gladys M. Rodriguez, MD, MS, assistant professor of Medicine in the Division of Hematology and Oncology and lead author of the study. For patients diagnosed with late-stage cancer, ACP can help reduce unnecessary acute care, increase [palliative care](#) and improve quality of life. However, previous reports have found that less than 20% of patients will engage in ACP with their health care providers. ... The primary outcome was ACP documentation in the electronic health record by the patient's oncology clinician within 12 months. Secondary outcomes included shared decision-making, palliative care use, hospice use, emergency department visits and hospitalizations within 12 months.

Rendever and Lenovo collaborate to bring virtual reality experiences to Carolina Caring seniors

Fox 8, Boston, MA; by Rendever; 6/19/24

Rendever, the Boston-based company pioneering the future of aging through virtual reality (VR), announces the deployment of its virtual reality platform with Lenovo to Carolina Caring patients. The rollout allows clinicians and

caregivers to bring expansive, once-in-a-lifetime VR experiences to older patients whose worlds have become limited. Over the last year, Rendeвер and Lenovo combined their products into a joint solution that senior living providers can easily adopt to improve the quality of life for older adults through positive shared experiences. Rendeвер's award-winning virtual reality solution delivered on Lenovo's ThinkReality VRX headset provides an all-in-one standalone solution that meets the evolving needs of enterprises with modern virtual reality with six degrees of freedom, full color, and high-resolution experiences. Rendeвер is deployed in over 700 communities nationwide and looks to further expand with the addition of Carolina Caring in collaboration with Lenovo.

Medical aid-in-dying bill stalls in Delaware Senate

Bay to Bay News, Dover, Delaware; by Joseph Edelen; 6/24/24

An act that would allow physician-assisted suicide stalled in the state Senate on Thursday. House Bill 140, if enacted as written, permits a terminally ill individual who is an adult resident of Delaware to request and self-administer medication to end their life in a humane and dignified way. ... The bill, brought by Rep. Paul S. Baumbach, D-Newark, narrowly passed the House of Representatives in April, with a vote of 21-16. On Thursday in the Senate, the measure logged 10 yes votes and nine no votes, with Sen. Kyra Hoffner, D-Dover, not voting. But Senate sponsor Bryan Townsend, D-Newark, then changed his yes vote to no. The alteration meant that the initiative stalled in the Senate but could be brought back to its floor for another vote by Sunday, the last day of this year's legislative session. Many senators seemed emotional while speaking about the measure Thursday. ...

NEW Workshop

**Become one of the first to
achieve the CHLead® credential.**



Healthcare Leadership Certification Workshop

San Diego, CA | October 8-9

Getting muddy for Center for Hospice Care

LaporteCounty.life; by Center for Hospice Care, Valpraiso, IN; 6/24/24

The Sunday of Memorial Day weekend the South Bend Sod Busters hosted their annual mud bog. For years a portion of the proceeds from this event have benefitted Center for Hospice Care. One of the first times Red Fisher attended the event as the events manager for Hospice Foundation, he told the organizers, "When you go over \$100,000 total for this event, I will go down the bog in a white tuxedo!" A couple of years ago, they surpassed that mark – and this year Red kept his word. Thanks to our friends at Louie's Tux Shop, Red got into one of the vehicles and went down the bog – not once, but twice – while wearing a stylish white tux!

Editor's Note: Calling all leaders, what fun, fundraising challenges might you offer?

How health equity impacts hospices' bottom lines

Hospice News; by Holly Vossel; 6/18/24

More hospices nationwide have increasingly recognized the value proposition of expanding their reach into untapped and underserved populations and geographic markets. Aside from increased access, census volumes and quality, health equity's return on investment can also include a better recruitment and retention outlook, according to David Turner, vice president of special projects and initiatives at St. Croix Hospice, which serves 10 Midwest states. Turner is also CEO and partner of Nashville-based Heart'n Soul Hospice. Hospices stand to benefit from recruiting and retaining a more ethnically diverse base of interdisciplinary workers and c-suite executives, Turner said at the Hospice News Elevate conference in Washington D.C.

Silverstone Health expands care continuum beyond hospice, sees skyrocketing census growth

Hospice News; by Jim Parker; 6/19/24

Dallas-based Silverstone Health has expanded its continuum of home-based services while growing its total daily census from 17 patients to 2,000. Silverstone came on the scene in 2020 as a standalone hospice after CEO Alfonso Montiel's purchase and rebranding of Comfort Care Hospice in the Dallas-Fort Worth region. Since then, the company has built a palliative care service and is developing a personal care business. In the interim, Silverstone also acquired

two small home health agencies for undisclosed amounts, as well as a physician group, according to Montiel.



**Collaboration in Peace,
Comfort & Dignity:**

BE that change

 **LOUISIANA-MISSISSIPPI** 2024 CONFERENCE
JULY 24-26, 2024

Sponsor of Hospice & Palliative Care Today

Today's Encouragement

Life can only be understood backwards, but it must be lived forwards.
~Soren Kierkegaard



Caregiver and family education
Online video libraries 24/7

Composing Life
... through Serious Illness, Hospice, and Grief Care

Sponsor of Hospice & Palliative Care Today



HOSPICE ANALYTICS

TURNING DATA INTO INFORMATION – TO IMPROVE PATIENT CARE

Sponsor of Hospice & Palliative Care Today

Sign up for our free daily newsletters [here!](#)

The Fine Print:

Paywalls: Some links may take readers to articles that either require registration or are behind a paywall. ***Disclaimer:*** Hospice & Palliative Care Today provides brief summaries of news stories of interest to hospice, palliative, and end-of-life care professionals (typically taken directly from the source article). Hospice & Palliative Care Today is not responsible or liable for the validity or reliability of information in these articles and directs the reader to authors of the source articles for questions or comments. Additionally, Dr. Cordt Kassner, Publisher, and Dr. Joy Berger, Editor in Chief, welcome your [feedback](#) regarding content of Hospice & Palliative Care Today. ***Unsubscribe:*** Hospice & Palliative Care Today is a free subscription email. If you believe you have received this email in error, or if you no longer wish to receive Hospice & Palliative Care Today, please unsubscribe [here](#) or reply to this email with the message "Unsubscribe". Thank you.