

ABBOTSFORD HOSPICE SOCIETY
Volunteer Information Letter
January 2009

A Happy New Year to you! The staff at Abbotsford Hospice Society wishes you joy and satisfaction in all you choose to do in 2009!

Some of the staff has been away over Christmas, but most of us will be back by Jan. 5. Yoko is visiting her family in Japan and will be back in the office on Jan. 12. Juanita is also away until Jan. 12.

2009 Upcoming Volunteer Support Meetings:

We are pleased to announce the upcoming Volunteer Support Meetings for the next six months. Please mark your calendars. We would like to have our meetings consists of two parts:

1. Information / Education / Inspiration
2. Connecting with other Hospice Volunteers by sharing your experiences of volunteering, learning from each other, and being encouraged by each other.

January Volunteer Support Meeting
January 20th: 10am – 12pm

Introducing the new AHS Client Services Counsellor: **Juanita Fleming**
She will guide a conversation about :
“Making a good ‘first and last visit’ as a Client Support Volunteer.”

February 17th: 7pm – 9pm

Guest Speaker: “Personal Grief Story”

March 17th: 10am – 12pm

Spiritual Care for Grieving/Dying clients – followed by Potluck Lunch!

April 21st: 7pm – 9pm

Honouring the AHS Volunteers past & present

May 12th: 10am – 12pm

National Hospice Palliative Care Week: Learn about the Tertiary Palliative Care Unit

June 2nd: 6pm – 9pm

Volunteer Appreciation BBQ

Upcoming AHS Groups:

Please tell your family and friends!

Several groups are continuing this winter. These include:

- Supporting Children through Music (Every other Saturday 1pm – 3pm)
- Support and Share (Meets on Wednesday evenings, next meeting Jan. 7)
- Perinatal Loss Support

For further information or registration, please contact Juanita.

Client Support Volunteer Training – winter schedule 2009

Our next session of **VOLUNTEER TRAINING** begins on January 21st. If you know of anyone who would like to take this training please pass along the information. Remember this training is not only essential for all AHS client support volunteers but we encourage anyone to participate for professional development or life skills training.

Times: Wednesdays - 6:00 to 9:00 pm and Saturdays - 9:00 am to 4 pm

Place: AHS Resource & Support Centre – 33134 Marshall Road

Start Date: Wednesday, January 21st

Final session and Graduation Day: Saturday, February 7th

- An Orientation session will be held on Monday, January 19th – It is not mandatory to attend this session however it is a chance to meet other participants and learn a little more about AHS services and resources. There is no cost for this session.
- The cost for the client support training is \$150 which includes workbooks, reference materials and a lifetime membership in AHS
- Students receive a 50% discount on this course (\$75)
- Also: Pay for the course by January 7th and pay only \$125
- Deadline for payment is January 19th and there are no refunds after that date
- Space is limited to 20 participants so I encourage you to contact Kelly as soon as possible to register
- Course objectives available upon request

To register or for more information please contact Kelly at 604.852.2456 or email at info@abbotsfordhospice.org

Discover the Treasures of the Nile

*We hope you can join us for the 5th Annual “Hearts for Hospice” Benefit
A Night in Cairo*

The “black tie optional” event will take place at the **Ramada Plaza and Conference Centre** in Abbotsford on **February 14th, 2009** starting at **6:00 pm** and will feature Abbotsford’s own “**No Code Blue**”, an elegant meal, live and silent auctions, mingling at the **Pharaoh’s Bar**, shopping in the **Egyptian Bazaar**, and a few more entertainment surprises! Attending this event will give you the opportunity to meet many of our other supporters at a fun and exciting evening.

* Join the Fun! Tickets are \$110 each and are available from Bonnie

* **If you know of any businesses or organizations who may be interested in donating to and/or sponsoring the event please let us know** or contact Debbie or Kelly to pick up a sponsorship information package.