



HAND-IN-HAND COMFORT FROM GATEWAY HOME!

Providing dignified comfort, care and support for our residents and their families.

DIRECTOR'S Corner

I would like to take the opportunity to introduce myself.

I am Sara Brunner and I am the new director for Gateway Home in Attica. I started at Gateway Home as an overnight aide with a goal of caring for people who had come to the end of their earthly journey. That is still my passion, It just looks a little different now as I contribute to this purpose in the board room and behind a computer more often than at bedside. Often, I do sneak downstairs and get my fill of face-to-face time with our sweet residents and volunteers.

I have been blessed in the few short months I have been in the director's chair with a fabulous and supportive board, a wonderfully warm and brilliant office manager, and a group of nurses, aides, and

volunteers that anyone would be proud of. I want to thank them all for taking their time to teach me and to share their expertise.

My hope is that in my time here, may it be long, that our home will help the people who need us and bless the families that surround them. Furthermore, I'd like to increase awareness of our presence, our services, and dedication to our community.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for the chance to be here and to see the miraculous things that happen in this space day after day.

May God bless each of you and Gateway Home.
Sara Brunner, Director

DID YOU Know?

Gateway Home is a comfort-care private home that welcomes residents to live out the last chapter of life in a safe, caring, and comforting environment.

We work with nursing agencies such as Hospice and VNA to execute medical orders provided to us on how to care for our residents during their end-of-life journey.

Representatives from these agencies visit Gateway Home about once a week to review the care plans, make changes as needed, and answer any questions that the Gateway Home nursing staff or trained volunteers may have as it relates to the resident's care.

Gateway Home is a not-for-profit 501C(3) organization that does not charge for any of the services provided, nor does it take any federal or state aid (i.e.

Medicaid / Medicare / Insurance). Operational costs equate to approximately \$225,000 annually. Funding is solely accomplished through volunteer efforts, donations, bequests, and community support.



Admission is based solely on need and Gateway Home has a working relationship with regional hospice offices, hospitals, and nursing homes that assist families and residents in transitioning to a comfort care facility such as Gateway Home.

For more information on Gateway Home please contact **Sara Brunner at 585-708-4331**.

Community Outreach

Recently Gateway representatives, Sara Brunner and Doug Domes met with Erie County Bar Association Members specializing in Elder Care to share information on comfort care. The presentation was well received, and the attorneys left with a more thorough understanding of hospice versus comfort care homes. They were also surprised that Erie County has one comfort care home and Wyoming County has three! Spreading the word and educating the general public on the amazing care that occurs behind Gateway doors is ongoing. If you are a member of an organization that may be interested in a presentation concerning comfort care and Gateway Home please contact Sara Brunner.

PRESIDENT'S Message

Spring is a time of renewed birth of God's blessings and for each of us to reflect on the everyday joys of spending quality time with those that we love.

Taking time to enjoy the upcoming Spring and Summer months and the myriad of celebrations that come and go so fast that it is sometimes difficult to capture these moments and create lasting memories. Celebrating graduations, weddings, picnics, backyard barbecues with those we love are moments to cherish. These remind us of the friendships we hold dear in our hearts of all the special people that come in and out of our lives.

Spring has brought a wonderful reminder of the generosity of our many volunteers who made our St. Patrick's Day breakfast so successful (green pancakes included!). We once again hosted a volunteer meeting at Attica High School to discuss the numerous volunteer opportunities associated with Gateway Home and heard a beautiful and heart felt presentation from Kim Kadziolka a resident family member. Her inspiring words and shared thoughts of her family's experience at Gateway underscores the true meaning of generosity.

The generous nature of those associated with Gateway Home creates lasting memories for our lovely residents and their beautiful families and friends. Generosity is measured in many ways here at Gateway, spending time with our remarkable residents and their families, keeping our home in pristine shape, supporting our many fundraisers, or dropping off homemade baked goods for all to enjoy are just a few examples.

Seasons may change but the unselfish nature of those associated with Gateway is a constant reminder of how very blessed each of us are to be immersed in a community of giving souls.

With gratitude,
Doug Domes, Board President

WISH List

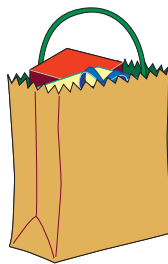
At this time Gateway Home has received wonderful support and is only in need of the following specific 'items'. Continue to check our Facebook page for wish list item updates!

- Stamps (always needed and appreciated).
- Brother Printer Ink Cartridge: LC30333PKS

Needs List

As many of you know, the Gateway Home Fundraising Team is very active over the summer months (see separate Events Calendar). Key to the success of these fundraisers are raffle baskets, gift cards, and volunteers to staff the events. Over the next six months we will need approximately **175 gift baskets / gift cards**. Maybe you received a gift card that you may not use....or perhaps you wish to 'regift' a basket of new items. We are happy to take these and use them toward one of our many fundraising events!

Please keep Gateway Home in mind throughout the year and help us achieve our fundraising goals!



IN My Words

The day before my sister, Jammie, came to Gateway Home last summer I spent the entire day with her at the hospital.

We talked about things sisters talked about - family, our relationships, our wishes, disappointments, and what came after this life. This day was vastly different than the previous six weeks since her cancer diagnosis, which were filled with doctors, testing, hospitals, and insurance companies. My family and I were her medical advocates when she couldn't do it for herself. As much as we wanted to bring her home when it became clear her cancer was terminal, we knew we could not care for her. Jammie did not want to die in the hospital.

We are so incredibly thankful she was accepted into the beautiful Gateway Home. From the very beginning, the staff listened to Jammie, and my family, down to the smallest details. Jammie talked about dreams of going to Jamaica. When she arrived, her room was decorated with the Jamaican flag and photos of beaches. It was perfect. We knew that all of Jammie's wants and needs were being met, which allowed us to just be her family. To sit with her and laugh, listen to Bob Marley, and reminisce. My dad brought his new puppy to visit.

The staff and volunteers took the time to explain things to Jammie and to us, reassuring us at such a scary time. Jammie spent just five days at Gateway Home before her death, but these were days she spent with her family and her friends, in a peaceful environment surrounded by love.

Gateway Home is a gift to the WNY community, and we will forever be grateful it was there for Jammie and our family.

With appreciation, Kim Kadziolka & family

Outdoor Enhancement:

Thanks to grant funding we have received from the East Hill Foundation, Gateway Home is adding a new brick walkway to our back-yard area, and replacing the existing walkway in front of our Home. As part of this project, we're creating a new opportunity to raise funds for our comfort care operations by letting our donors honor a loved one, or show that they themselves, their family, their business, or their organization supports Gateway Home.



You can "buy a brick" to be engraved with text of your choice. A \$150 donation buys a 4" x 8" brick, and a \$300 donation buys an 8" x 8" brick. **Preordered bricks will be installed Spring of 2024, along with blank bricks. Bricks ordered in the future will be engraved on-site based on scheduling.**

For more information or to buy your brick, download the Gateway Home "Buy a Brick" order form on our web site at: gatewayhomeattica.org or request the form via email at: info@gatewayhomeattica.org.



Gateway 'Volunteer' Appreciation

Our newsletter typically highlights the efforts of one outstanding volunteer that acknowledges their time and commitment to Gateway Home. Over the last six months there have been a number of changes at Gateway Home that have highlighted the amazing 'teamwork' that was shown by the nursing staff, administrative staff, and volunteers. We said goodbye to Dina Goodenbury in October, who created a positive and supportive environment for volunteers and staff and cared deeply for the mission of Gateway. During the search for a new director the core team of nursing staff, administration, and volunteers were amazing in their efforts to handle all aspects of daily operation at Gateway in a proactive manner never once forgetting that the residents and their families are the essence of Gateway.

As you know we were truly fortunate to promote a member of the Gateway family to Director. Sara Brunner transitioned into the role in December and hit the ground running and has offered a fresh approach to the position of Director. Special kudos to Sue Herman and Wendy Galland for wearing multiple hats during the transition time from Dina to Sara.

The Board of Directors appreciates each and every person associated with Gateway Home and the amazing "gift" you give each day to our residents and their family members. Your warmth, generosity and team effort are unparalleled, and we humbly thank you for your acts of volunteerism.

In future newsletters we will acknowledge and highlight specific volunteers within the Gateway Family but this time 'round you all deserve a standing ovation for your contributions and support!

Gateway Board of Directors

"CAN" You Help Us!

This is a fundraiser that assists Gateway Home year-round!

Collect your redemption items (glass bottles, cans, and plastic) and drop them at Gateway Home in the bins located near the storage shed behind Gateway Home. We are partnering with ARC GLOW and their Business Services Division of Hilltop Bottle & Can Return to pick up all donated redemption items at our location. Your continual support really adds up; last year Gateway was able to use the funds generated to cover all utility costs for the year!

Thank you to our donors!!!

Platinum Donors

Attica Package Company, Inc.
Attica Lions Club
Louise M Schiltz
Donna Ferry

Gold Donors

Marley Funeral Home LLC
Doug & Rosie Domes
Advanced Dairy Services, Inc.
Todd & Brittany Gadd
L Toal Plumbing, LLC
Robinson & Hackemer Funeral Home
S.J.F. Construction, Inc
Dr. Joseph & Marcy Craddock
Shirley Teachen
Providence Fellowship
James & Jane Frankenberger
Ralph A. Janes

Silver Donors

Shirley F. Peters
Michael & Marybeth Whiting
Ron & Peach Merrill
County Line Stone Co., Inc.
Connie Tartick
Jim & Sandy Ewert
Paul & Diane Luderman
Zehler Excavating, LLC
Durin Rogers & Paula Campbell
Harding's Attica Furniture
Joseph & Carol Pilc

Bronze Donors

Jeannie K. Bates
Richard & Linda VanDette
Gary & Renee Hanley
Martha Whittington
Melissa Spink
Laurie Valenti
Richard H. & Maria Walczak
Clarence & Mary Weaver
Ronald J. Demers
Kevin & Lisa Cochrane
Connie Holt
Lynn & Linda Camp
Stuart & Janis Hempel
David & Judith Brockner
Helen Leonard
Paul & Maryann Simonsen
Diane Phelps
Daniel & Barbara Krazmien
Patricia Herman
Warsaw Pennysaver
Barbara C. Schiltz
Helen Nichols
Joseph & Laura Schmieder
Jerilyn Clark
Brennan & Shelly Burdett
Andrew & Carla Gasiewicz
Ann & Deane Foster
Gary & Carol Barrow
Bernard & Janet Meinweiser
Barbara Myers
Alan & Kelly Heizmann
Timothy J. & Donna Embt
Cooke & Steffan - Mr. Tom Steffan
Laura Feger

Bronze Donors, *Continued*

Mike & Karen Shadbolt
Daniel & Shannon Ford
Howard & Muriel Herman
Angela Milillo & Doug Patti
Sandra C. Green
Donald & Linda Schmidt
Jerry & Sue Elmore
Orangeville Immanuel United Church of Chr
Anna Nutty
Can Can Redemption
Robert & Eileen Disinger
Rose Bartz
Pat Forsha Truck and Auto Collision, Inc.
Gary & Karen Beideck
Virginia & Burt Fugle
Susan Grew
Randy & Mary Szczesniak
Empire Access
The Greenery
Matthew & Mary Mest
M&M Meats
J & S Agen, Inc. - Design Art
Dennis & Carol Piechowiak
Gina M. Morrison
Toshmin D. Duncan
Kelly Nelson
Paul & Carol George
Robert & Barbara Peters
Don & Patti Almeter
David & Connie Rethlake
Sandra Urquhart
Robert & Maureen Kirby
Daniel & Susan Boss
Robert A. Koerner Construction
Arch & Peggy Snyder
Charles & J. Terri Woodruff
Daniel & Jean Burling
Michael & Peggy Morrissey
Springtyme Landscaping & Design Inc.
Tim & Louise Royce
Dave & Joanne Thornton
Grace Strollo
Dan & Brenda Miller
Jeff & Elizabeth Clark
Wilkins Insurance Agency, Inc.
Norb & Marilyn Fuest
Logel Appliance, Inc.
Don & Jude Carpenter
Norma Gerhardt
Gerald & Deborah Landowski
Alfonso J. Ficarella
Lynn Herman
Kirk & Nina Reisdorf
William Errington
Peter & Dawn Mark
Sons of the American Legion Post 1720
Donald and Jane Beechler
Lor-Rob Dairy Farm
Janet Romesser
Herbert Hammond
William J. Renz Jr.
John E. Jaszko
Jeff & Elizabeth Clark

EVENTS Calendar

- April 21st: **Russell's Famous Chicken BBQ**
(Attica Elementary School/ Drive Thru)
- July 13th: **Judy Russell Memorial Golf Tournament**
(Batavia Country Club)
- July 25th: **Golfing for Gateway**
(Quiet Times Golf Course, Attica)
- July 28th: **Junkyard Reunion Car Show**
(Almeter Memorial Park, Varysburg)
- Sept.28th: **Gateway Annual Meat Raffle**
(Alexander Fire Hall)



Throughout the summer Gateway Home has an 'army' of volunteers that give their time at Darien Lake Concerts via Live Nation. These concerts are a terrific and fun way to volunteer for Gateway Home and enjoy the camaraderie of fellow volunteers, people watch, and hear some terrific music. The relationship with Darien Lake / Live Nation has been extremely successful. We have been able to cover our annual budgetary costs for nurses and aides!

Got your attention?

Contact Gateway Home for more information on volunteering for concerts or for any of the other events.

Thank you to our Pancake Breakfast Volunteers, with your help we raised over \$3,500!



The future's looking bright! We are so impressed with the amazing students that have volunteered their time recently for Gateway Home. We enjoyed their youthful energy at our Fall Chicken BBQ, our Pancake Breakfast and we also appreciate the time spent inside our home building storage shelves, cleaning and baking for our residents. A big shout out goes to both Alexander and Attica Central Schools for your assistance coordinating these helpers!



It hurts to lose someone.

Grief Share is a friendly, caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences.

You don't have to go through the grieving process alone. Find a Grief Share support group or event near you: www.griefshare.org

Sara Brunner, Director
Sue Herman, Office Manager

Contact us:

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Web: gatewayhomeattica.org



Gateway Home Mission Statement

Gateway Home is established to give comfort care to people who are medically determined to be in their last stages of life (three months or less). Our organization will provide both medical and spiritual care to support the residents as they pass from this life to the next. Gateway Home staff and volunteers are committed

to provide dignified care, comfort and support for our residents and their families. Gateway Home is a nonprofit organization and does not charge for services provided. Funding is accomplished through donations, bequests and community support. Admission is based solely on need.