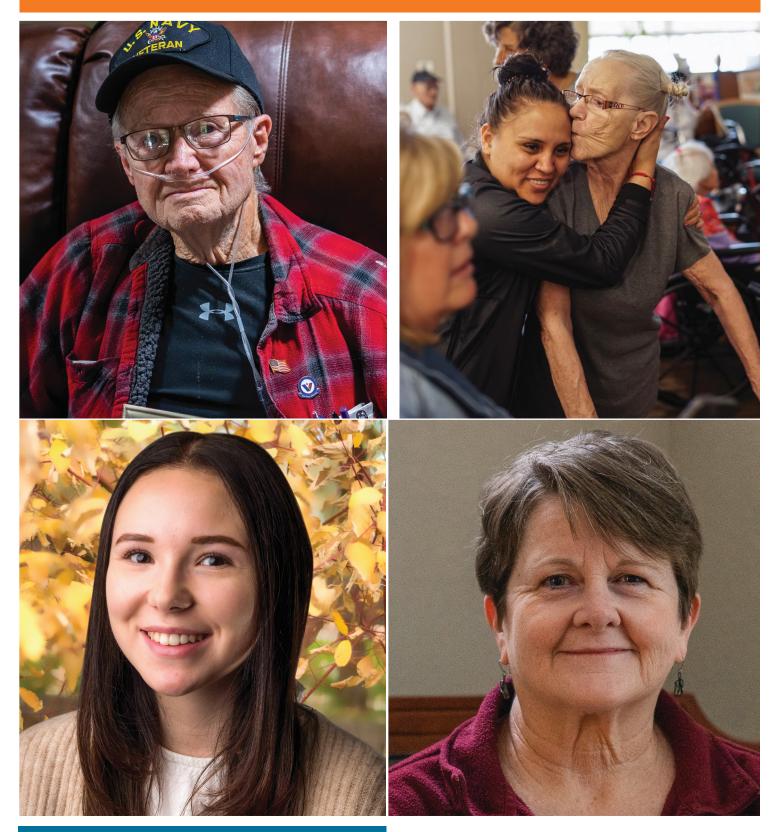
# **TRU** Community Care



2019 Annual Report



Affirming life at every step of your journey with illness and loss.



Dear Friends,

Thank you for your loyal support of TRU Community Care. 2019 seems so long ago. We live in uncertain times, and while it is important to focus on the present and build for the future, there is also value in reflecting on the recent past. With that in mind, we hope that you find helpful information about our organization in the following pages as we share stories, statistics, and more about our programs and operations in 2019.

Last year, we focused on solidifying the foundation of TRU Palliative Care, positioning that program for exponential growth in 2020; TRU PACE (Program of All-Inclusive Care) continued to thrive and broaden, nearly outgrowing our space on Park Lane; TRU Grief Services explored ways we can better serve a larger portion of our community; and TRU Hospice spent much of 2019 preparing to apply for The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval® for Home Care Certification. The Gold Seal is a symbol of quality that reflects a health care organization's commitment to providing safe and quality patient care. The certification, officially received in December 2019, recognizes TRU's efforts to provide patient and family-centered care and to optimize the quality of life for patients with serious illnesses.

TRU leadership is always looking for ways to thoughtfully expand the programs and services offered to our community. Acknowledging that end-of-life planning should be done far in advance of developing a serious or terminal illness, TRU Community Care joined forces last fall with The Conversation Project in Boulder County, which focuses on fostering meaningful and effective conversations around care at the end of life. Additionally in 2019, TRU's We Honor Veterans committee worked toward achieving Level V partnership status in 2020 by enhancing our programming for veterans.

TRU continues to make changes to the way we deliver health care, always striving to better meet our patients' needs in the most efficient and affordable ways possible. We were already building a framework for the TRU Tele-Care program in 2019, allowing us to respond quickly to the changing healthcare landscape brought about by the pandemic. We partnered with mHealth Impact Lab at the University of Colorado Anschutz and the NextFifty Foundation on a teleconsult study which found that telehealth technology offers increased provider productivity without compromising quality of care and that most patients were satisfied with telehealth and agreed that talking to their provider in a telehealth visit was as effective as meeting in person. Findings from this study informed the development of the TRU Tele-Care program, which ramped up significantly in the early months of 2020.

Looking ahead, we remain centered by our vision of leading a healthcare transformation by engaging with our communities and offering innovative, meaningful care for those living with illness and loss. As we navigate our way through this pandemic and as we face the ever-changing economics of healthcare, TRU will continue to lead with courage and intention, anticipating challenges, innovating solutions, and forging partnerships as we go.

Thank you for supporting TRU, both in 2019 and today, and for standing with us as we transform the future of care for our community.

With gratitude,

mty Coffin Locus

Marty Coffin Evans **Board Co-Chair** 

**Jim Williams** Board Co-Chair

Hilliams It Michael S. Mª Hala

Michael McHale President and CEO

#### MISSION

Affirming life at every step of your journey with illness and loss

### VISION

We are leading a healthcare transformation by engaging with our communities and offering innovative, meaningful care for those living with illness and loss.



### VALUES

- Courage leading despite uncertainty
- Accountability accepting responsibility and working to exceed expectations
- Relationship succeeding together with integrity
- Engagement always putting forth our best

### **TRU COMMITMENTS**

- Commitment to Quality: We embrace a culture of high reliability and impeccable customer service supporting ongoing quality improvement and operational excellence through appropriate education, training, utilization of tools, and best practice.
- Commitment to People: We strive to be the employer of choice in our community by fostering an environment of professional development, shared governance, and living the mission to the fullest for every employee and volunteer.
- Commitment to Growth: We seek to increase access to Hospice Care, Palliative Care, PACE, and Grief Services for those in our communities who need our services by strengthening existing, and developing new, partnerships to achieve our mission.

• Commitment to Financial Stewardship: We operate a financially strong and trusted organization that carries out its mission and accomplishes strategic priorities through fiscal responsibility and increased philanthropy in service to our community.

• Commitment to Transformation: We desire to become thought leaders and partners of innovation in developing new care delivery models across the care continuum that achieves clinical excellence, outstanding value, and exceptional experience.

# Who We Are



#### **OUR HISTORY**

- 1976: Founded as Boulder Hospice, Inc.—the first hospice in Colorado
- 1977: Fifteen patients cared for in the first year
- 1995: Name changed to Hospice of Boulder County
- 1999: First Inpatient Care Center opened on Balfour campus
- 2003: Name changed to HospiceCare of Boulder and Broomfield Counties
- 2005: Thrift Shop and first Grief & Education Center opened in Boulder
- 2006: Formed partnership with Bumbuli Lutheran Hospital Hospice and Palliative Care in Tanzania
- 2007: Introduced Palliative Home Health program
- 2013: Name changed to TRU Community Care to reflect our expanded programs and growing service area
- 2014: Consolidated with Hospice of Northern Colorado to better provide services to our communities
- 2016: Celebrated 40th anniversary
- 2017: Began serving participants through TRU PACE (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly)
- 2018: Expanded TRU PACE and TRU Palliative Care programs
- 2019: Received The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval<sup>®</sup> for Home Care Certification

Joined forces with The Conversation Project in Boulder County

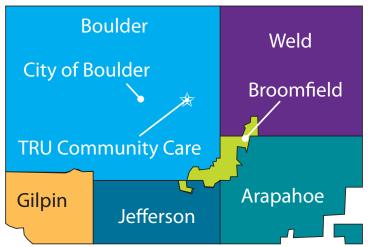
TRU Community Care is a Colorado-licensed, Medicare and Medicaid-certified, 501(c)(3) nonprofit health care organization serving Boulder, Broomfield, Adams, Jefferson, Weld Counties, and beyond. With a focus on providing a continuum of care for members of our community, TRU Community Care programs include hospice home care, inpatient hospice care, palliative care, PACE (Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly), and grief services. Our programs are supported by the generous funding of various community partners, donors, corporate sponsors, TRU Thrift Shop, and volunteers.

#### Total Patients/Participants Served = 1,911

### **TRU PROGRAMS**

- TRU PACE
- TRU Palliative Care
- TRU Hospice Care
- TRU Grief Services

### **SERVICE AREA MAP**



### **Mission Moments**

We share Mission Moments in staff meetings, employee and volunteer newsletters, blog posts, and on social media. Mission Moments highlight why we do what we do and what makes our work so special. Here are two of many Mission Moments from 2019:

### INTERNATIONALLY KNOWN VOCALIST TEAMS UP WITH TRU STAFF MEMBERS

On December 3rd, TRU Community Care staff and volunteers



gathered at the home of Mardi and Jane Byers for an intimate concert performed by Mardi Byers, Hopi Moore-Sargent, and Larissa Gensolin. Mardi and her mother were very grateful for the services they received from TRU.

During a home visit, Mardi, an internationally known opera singer, learned that TRU staff members

Hopi and Larissa are also accomplished musicians. She had the idea to put together a performance for the staff and volunteers as a way to give back and thank them for the care they provided. TRU team members were treated to several duets with

Mardi and Hopi, as well as solos performed by each artist. They performed several opera pieces as well as classical and contemporary songs. At one point, Larissa played an entire song by memory! The afternoon ended with a



beautiful and touching solo by Jane Byers. It was an honor to share the talents of these beautiful women.

#### THRIFT WITH A MISSION

Infectious joy. Those are the two words that people frequently use to describe the atmosphere at TRU Thrift and the volunteers who work there. And it has the ability to impact anyone who steps foot into the store.

Mary Scripter has been volunteering with TRU Thrift for over three years. She helps with everything from organizing the literacy section to working the register. She even helped start the TRU Thrift Online Amazon Bookstore. She loves

volunteering with TRU Thrift because of their mission — and the first look at all of the items coming in the door doesn't hurt either.

Originally from South Dakota, Mary went to college in Wyoming and has lived in Colorado since 1971. She has been



volunteering with hospices across Colorado since 1976. She began working with hospice communities after her sister's death.

"When you've been helped by a hospice, you want to give back." Mary tells us. "TRU Community Care has such a wonderful community, who donate furniture and goods to TRU Thrift."

She understands that when people go through the death of a loved one, they want to give back and support others who are going through a similar experience. Mary's favorite section is in the book stacks. There are days that she organizes hundreds of donated books.

# **TRUPACE** Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly

#### A FULLY INTEGRATED CARE MODEL

PACE, unlike most areas of health care, views every individual under a holistic lens. PACE understands that the human experience is comprised of each person's physical, emotional, spiritual, and social well-being. The PACE model is a social model emphasizing the importance of socialization to combat isolation and depression among the elderly. At the core of this model is the Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) who delivers fully integrated care. These IDT members consist of 12 different disciplines who assess and treat our participants in every aspect of their care needs.

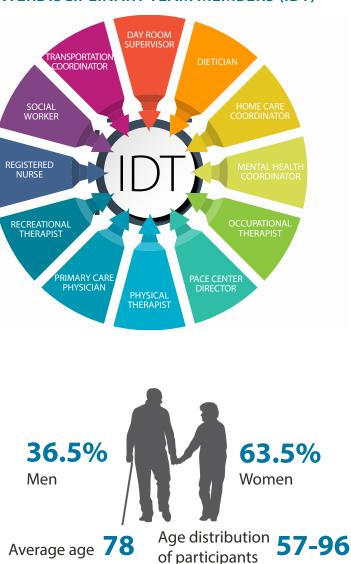


- **11,034** Hospitalizations, Skilled Nursing Facility, and Assisted Living Days of Care
- 6,570 Home Care (CNAs & Personal Care Workers) Visits
- 5,325 Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy Visits
- 3,920 Clinical Nurse Visits
- **702** Behavioral Health Counseling Visits
- 46% PARTICIPANTS HAVE A BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIAGNOSIS
  37% PARTICIPANTS HAVE COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENTS



**11,382** DAY CENTER VISITS PROVIDED IN 2019 **16,740** MEALS PROVIDED IN 2019

> New Participants Enrolled in 2019 = 87 Participants Served in 2019 = 215



#### INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM MEMBERS (IDT)

# TRU Palliative Care

TRU PALLIATIVE CARE (TPC) is a program with specialty-trained palliative care providers who support the patient, caregivers, and the primary physician to optimize quality of life. TRU's collaborative approach manages physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs. TPC is a shared effort to maximize health and minimize symptoms and can be provided alongside curative or lifeprolonging care. TRU provides patients and families with the education, support, and guidance needed to establish goals for care and to make informed choices throughout the course of the illness. TPC is for patients experiencing symptoms that interfere with their ability to live their lives and patients who could benefit from advance care planning and goals of care conversations. Care can be provided by a medical doctor/nurse practitioner, social worker, chaplain, registered nurse, and volunteers. TRU launched TPC in December of 2018.



Palliative Care Patients Served = 622

### **TRU Hospice Care**



Hospice Patients Served = 1,074 Average Length of Stay on TRU Hospice (in days) = 66 Hospice Patients Served at Care Center = 329



Home Hospice Care Accredition by **The Joint Commission** 

#### **HOSPICE HOME CARE**

TRU Hospice Care is available for patients with advanced illness for whom curative treatment is no longer being pursued. TRU Hospice offers exceptional medical, emotional, and spiritual care wherever the patient resides - at home, in an assisted living or skilled nursing community, or at our inpatient hospice facility, the TRU Hospice Care Center, in Longmont, CO.

#### TRU HOSPICE CARE CENTER

The TRU Hospice Care Center is an inpatient unit offering short-term, intensive care for patients with complex medical needs at Longmont United Hospital. For compassionate care when it's needed most, it's the next best place to home. The Care Center focuses on aroundthe-clock nursing care, state-of-the-art pain management, emotional and spiritual support, personalized volunteer attention to symptoms requiring active interventions, complex wound management, and short-term respite care.

### **TRU Grief Services**



2019 Butterfly Memorial and Release

#### ADULT GRIEF SUPPORT GROUPS

Bereaved Parents Support Group Eight Week Bereavement Support Program First Year Spouse/Partner Grief Support Group Hiking Group Lafayette Grief Support Group Newly Bereaved Support Program Spouse/Partner Loss Grief Support Group Widowed Senior Grief Support Group Writing Through Grief Support Group Yoga After Loss Support Group

#### **YOUTH & FAMILY GRIEF GROUPS**

Healing with Horses Group Family Grief Group

56% Support group participants came through TRU Hospice

Adult grief support group participants: 1,219

Children and teens grief support group meetings: 30

Bereavement calls: 2,942

Grief services mailings: 11,587

Individual counseling sessions: 807

I attended the TRU Butterfly Release in June. Attending the Butterfly Release was meaningful to me because I'm outdoors a lot and my grandpa was outdoors a lot. He was a very fun person, very energetic, and every time I see a butterfly, it reminds me of him.

~ Brian

I lost my sister and her husband to the flu. My heart hurt, and I really didn't know what to do with that. I attended the Lafayette grief support group that meets monthly. Somehow that's easier; it didn't feel like I was burdening those people with my loss the way I would if I was talking to my loved ones. I can't encourage people enough to use hospice services earlier rather than later.

~ Karen

#### Individual Grief Counseling

### Grief Counseling for Family and Friends of TRU Hospice Patients:

Family and friends of patients served by TRU Hospice are offered complimentary counseling sessions for 13 months after the death of their loved one.

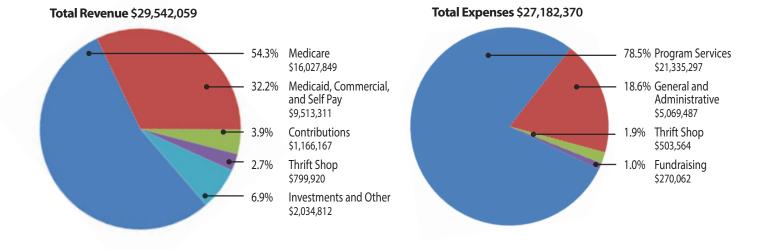
**Individual Grief Counseling for Community Members:** Beginning in 2019, bereaved members of the community are now offered grief counseling sessions for a fee.



2019 Lights of Life Holiday Remembrance

# 2019 Financial Summary

#### TRU COMMUNITY CARE 2019 REVENUE AND EXPENSES



SERVICES & SUPPLIES PURCHASED FOR PATIENTS	5	
Medications	\$ 1,878,769	\$ 1,150,935
Durable Medical Equipment and Oxygen	\$ 650,071	\$ 627,419
Patient Medical Supplies	\$ 241,711	\$ 185,758
Inpatient and Outpatient Services	\$ 5,172,566	\$ 3,000,444
Therapies	\$ 370,598	\$ 401,242
Diagnostic Tests	\$ 153,004	\$ 107,788
Ambulance	\$ 610,638	\$ 462,146
TOTAL SERVICES & SUPPLIES FOR PATIENTS	\$9,077,358	\$5,935,732

GIVING BACK TO OUR COMMUNITY	2019	2018	
Unreimbursed Care	\$ 107,303	\$ 73,739	
Unreimbursed Grief Support	\$ 373,725	\$ 393,986	
TOTAL GIVING BACK TO OUR COMMUNITY	\$ 481,028	\$ 467,725	

# TRU Events in 2019



#### PACE ART GALLERY OPENING

More than 60 people joined TRU PACE to celebrate the opening of an art gallery featuring the works of PACE participants and visiting artist, Al Canner. The artwork created by PACE participants was produced through the therapeutic art program, Purple Art.

#### **VETERANS DAY EVENTS**

TRU welcomed Deborah Grassman, a leading expert in caring for our veterans, to co-host staff and voluteer training; a community-wide Veterans Day celebration complete with a veteran band, a local middle school ensemble, the American Legion Post 111 color guard, and veteran pinnings; and a documentary screening of Go in Peace! followed by a panel discussion.





#### **BUTTERFLY RELEASE AND MEMORIAL**

Approximately 200 people gathered to remember lost loved ones, many of whom received hospice care from TRU. Quickly becoming an annual tradition in the community, this celebration of life is an important part of the grief process for many family members coping with a loss.

#### **PEACHES FOR HOSPICE**

TRU staff and volunteers spent a fun August morning greeting customers, loading cars with fresh Palisade peaches, and sharing stories. The summer tradition of enjoying peaches from the Western Slope brings support to TRU, Colorado's first hospice, from across the state with a truckload of peaches from White Orchard in Palisade.





#### TRU CARES FUNDRAISING LUNCHEON

The second annual TRU Cares Fundraising Luncheon was held in November at Academy Senior Living in commemoration of National Hospice, Palliative Care, and Family Caregivers Month. It was a special afternoon spent celebrating TRU's work and remembering lost loved ones. This year's Luncheon will be held virtually on October 22, 2020.

#### LIGHTS OF LIFE HOLIDAY REMEMBRANCE

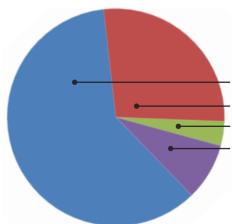
Community members and those touched by hospice came together in December at Unity Columbine Church to celebrate and remember loved ones during the holiday season. More than 100 gathered together to reflect on memories of loved ones who have passed. This year's Lights of Life ceremony will take place virtually on November 14, 2020.



### Volunteers and Thrift Shop

#### **TRU VOLUNTEERS**

In 2019, 357 active volunteers provided critical support across the organization. Volunteers provide comfort touch, companionship, respite, pet therapy, and more for our patients and families. They run grief support groups, provide office support, and operate our thrift shop.



#### **VOLUNTEER HOURS WORKED**

Thrift Shop Hours: 22,879 (60.5%) Patient Care Hours: 10,362 (27.4%) Clinical Support Hours: 1,378 (3.6%) Admin. Support/ Board/ Misc.: 3,229 (8.5%) **Total Volunteer Hours = 37,848** 

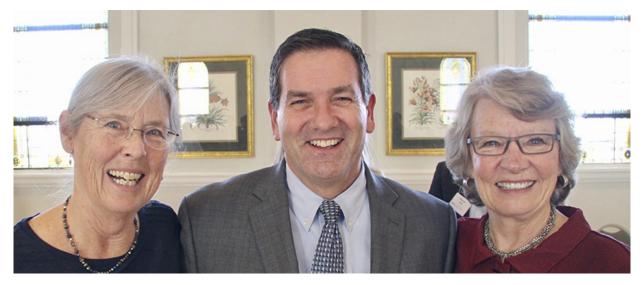






#### **TRU THRIFT SHOP**

For more than 15 years, TRU Thrift Shop has supported the work of TRU Community Care. Run almost entirely by passionate and dedicated volunteers, TRU Thrift engages our community in creative ways. In 2019, we celebrated the addition of a café featuring gourmet coffee, and we were honored to be named Boulder County's best thrift store for the seventh year in a row. We introduced story time for kids, hosted dozens of volunteer groups, and continued to partner with more than 40 local nonprofits through our Giving Room program. TRU Thrift reduces family burden for many of our hospice families needing help parting with a loved one's belongings and wanting to support a good cause. It also provides a fun and unique environment for shoppers looking for a great find.



#### TRU JOINS FORCES WITH THE CONVERSATION PROJECT IN BOULDER

In September 2019, TRU joined forces with The Conversation Project in Boulder County (TCPB) to broaden the reach of both organizations and to provide important end-of-life planning resources for our community. Through TCPB, TRU offers free confidential coaching for individuals and families who want help having a conversation about future medical care, assistance with filling out a Medical Durable Power of Attorney, speakers for large and small community groups, workshops and seminars open to the public that provide education around the importance of appointing an informed medical decision-maker, and training for professionals and lay people about advance care planning.

#### **TRU TELE-CARE**

In 2019, TRU continued to invest in the TRU Tele-Care program, setting ourselves up for rapid expansion in early 2020. We completed a tele-consult study in partnership with mHealth Impact Lab at CU Anschutz Medical Campus that measured the tendency for providers to reach different conclusions for inperson vs. video conference observations. Results found that telehealth technology offers increased provider productivity without compromising quality of care. Study results were shared with the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the National Hospice & Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO) in an effort to allow providers to substitute e-consults for face-



to-face visits and still fulfill regulatory requirements. Learnings from this study informed the development of our TRU Tele-Care program, a comprehensive telemedicine program that improves patient care, improves health care outcomes, and reduces the overall cost of care.



Affirming life at every step of your journey with illness and loss.

TRU Administrative Offices TRU Grief Services 2594 Trailridge Drive East Lafayette, CO 80026 TRU Hospice Care Center 1950 Mountain View Ave. 4th Floor South Longmont, CO 80501 TRU Thrift Shop 5565 Arapahoe Ave. Boulder, CO 80303 TRU PACE TRU Tele-Care 2593 Park Lane Lafayette, CO 80026