



Our Mission

Vancouver Hospice Society provides compassionate end-of-life care for those facing death and bereavement.

About

We are a team of healthcare professionals, staff and volunteers who are dedicated to providing compassionate end-of-life and bereavement care for individuals and their families in Vancouver. In addition to offering quality end-of-life and bereavement care at our 8-bed residential hospice, we provide a range of support services to individuals with a life-limiting illness during the last year of life, and their families within the Vancouver community. We embrace a patient-centred approach to care, with a focus on dignity, comfort and respect for all.

Core Values

- Life is cherished as a precious and fragile journey of growth and development with death and dying as a part of life.
- Everyone deserves to be treated with compassion, empathy and respect.
- We believe in enhancing the quality of life for those facing advanced illness and death.
- We promote comfort, dignity and respect for all persons, through the end-of-life and bereavement journey.
- Focus is on care rather than cure, and we are dedicated to making this time as comfortable and meaningful as possible.
- Family and friends are an integral part of the circle of care, and will be supported through their bereavement process.
- We believe in a community-based model of care.

Background

Vancouver Hospice Society was formed by a group of volunteers, nurses and physicians within the palliative care community. Their goal was to build freestanding hospices where individuals with life-limiting conditions could live with dignity during their final days, and where families and friends could feel welcomed and supported. VHS was incorporated as a non-profit charitable organization in December, 2003. Since then, a large group of dedicated volunteers have worked tirelessly to raise funds to build the hospice, and support its operations since it opened in April, 2014.

Along with donations raised through fundraising campaigns and events, Vancouver Hospice Society has received significant revenues derived from two local, volunteer-run thrift shops: Hospice Opportunity Boutique (HOB) in Kerrisdale, and HOB Too in Kitsilano.

In May, 2017, we secured a commitment from Vancouver Coastal Health to provide ongoing funding for clinical operations at the hospice. We are also grateful to receive an annual Community Gaming Grant from the Government of BC (since 2013) to support our Bereavement Program.

2023 Facts & Figures

8
HOSPICE BEDS

~ 120
PATIENTS/YEAR

~ 25
DAYS/ AVERAGE
LENGTH OF STAY

~ 50
EMPLOYEES

~ 200
ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS

2
THRIFT STORES

7
BEREAVEMENT
PROGRAMS

~ 120
COUNSELLING PATIENTS

~ 25
DAYS/ AVERAGE
LENGTH OF STAY

Leadership

Sarah Cobb, Executive Director

Sarah has many years of experience working in palliative and end-of-life care. She is passionate about person and family-centred care and supporting excellence in nursing and multidisciplinary collaboration. She has experience in strategic planning, quality improvement initiatives, and change management strategies. Prior to joining VHS, Sarah led practice in the role of Clinical Nurse Leader at St Paul's Palliative Care unit for over 10 years. While in that role, she supported excellent patient and family centered care as well as supporting her palliative care program's Accreditation Canada process, and many initiatives across the organization to improve access to end of life care. She has also been a member of the Vancouver End-of-Life Working group since 2010. Sarah has worked hard to make a difference in the clinical and administrative practice of palliative care and feels honoured to be in a leadership and advocacy role as Executive Director at VHS.



Additional Leadership

Tamara Tang, Clinical Coordinator

Gigi Rentoria, Accounts Manager

Janice Oakley, Home Hospice Volunteer Coordinator

Andrea Hernandez, Volunteer Coordinator

Cecilia Abreu, Communications Manager

Board of Directors

David Gruber, Board Chair

Neil Perk, Director

Pat Porterfield, Director

Pat Richardson, Director

Howard Jampolsky, Director

Afzal Mangalji, Director

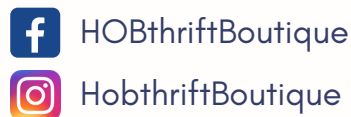
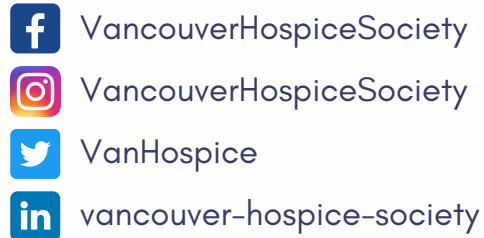
Jennifer Woolley, Director

Mandy Hoeltgen, Director

Patricia Lucy, Director

Dr. Elinor Wilson, Director

Social Media Accounts



Media Contacts

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