

# House Happenings



Summer 2026



## Dear Friends,

I am inspired every day by what happens when people come together around a shared purpose. The work we do at Grace House is only possible because of the collaboration, compassion,

and commitment of individuals and organizations throughout our community who believe that no one should die alone.

As a home that provides care 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, Grace House depends on many hands and hearts. I am grateful for our caregivers, whose dedication ensures that residents experience comfort, dignity, and compassion during their final days. I am equally thankful for our Board of Directors, whose leadership helps guide our mission, and for our volunteers who generously share their time and talents to support our growing needs.

We are also fortunate to partner with hospice organizations, healthcare providers, educational institutions, faith communities, and countless community collaborators. Together, we are building a network of care that allows us to serve individuals who are unsheltered, medically

fragile, or facing the end of life without a caregiver.

This year has brought increased awareness of Grace House and the unique role we play in our community. More people are learning about our mission and recognizing the need for compassionate end-of-life care for our most vulnerable neighbors. That growing awareness is creating new opportunities to serve, educate, and advocate.

Everything we accomplish is the result of people working together. Every resident cared for, every volunteer hour given, and every donation made reflects a community committed to dignity, compassion, and care.

If you have not visited Grace House, I would love to welcome you into our home to witness firsthand what has been created by our community. Thank you for being part of that community.

With gratitude,

Holly Klein  
Executive Director & Co-Founder  
Grace House Akron

N O O N E D I E S A L O N E

# COMPASSION THROUGH CONNECTION

Grace House was built on love, and every day we are reminded just how many people help make our mission possible.

From volunteers and hospice nurses to students, community groups, and generous supporters, we are surrounded by people who believe that everyone deserves dignity, comfort, and compassion at the end of life.

One organization could not do this work alone. It takes a community. We are grateful for the many individuals and organizations who walk alongside us, ensuring no one dies alone.



## OUR HOSPICE PARTNERS:

Our hospice partners are an essential part of the care we provide at Grace House. The work our hospice partners do is deeply personal, and we are honored to share that responsibility with them.

Each day, hospice staff walk through our door ready to provide care and their expertise to our residents. Working side by side we support not only those that call Grace House home, but also their loved ones, ensuring they feel seen, supported and loved during a difficult time.

Our hospice partners are more than collaborators; they are part of the Grace House family. We are proud to work alongside them as we provide comfort and peace every step of our residents' journey.



## GROUP VOLUNTEER COLLABORATIONS:

While our caregivers provide extraordinary care to our residents, they never do it alone. Our volunteers are always making something happen at Grace House. Meals to prepare. Gardens to tend. Spaces to refresh.

That's where our volunteers and community collaborators step in to make a difference. Throughout the year volunteer groups from businesses, schools, congregations and community organizations roll up their sleeves to lend their helping hands. Every volunteer is an expression of the love this home was built upon.

## EDUCATIONAL PARTNERS:

At Grace House, we understand the importance of nurturing the next generation of caregivers, and we enjoy offering a meaningful learning opportunity for students, both collegiate and high school level. Through real-life experiences rooted in dignity and compassion, students gain valuable insights into caring for those in our comfort care home.



# Share our Mission with a Friend

Many people are surprised to learn that Grace House exists. They don't realize there is a place that people can go that fills a critical gap.

Each time someone learns about Grace House, it creates an opportunity for a person in need to find us, for a volunteer to get involved, or for a community member to become part of the work happening here.

## You can help us spread the word:

### 1. Invite us to Speak

We would love to visit your workplace, congregation, professional organization, civic group, or community gathering to share the story of Grace House and those we serve.



### 2. Share Our Story

Mention us in newsletters, community bulletins, podcasts, blogs, or conversations with friends and neighbors. Personal recommendations are one of the most powerful ways people learn about our home.



### 3. Follow & Share

Connect with Grace House Akron on social media and share the stories that resonate with you. Your support helps introduce our work to people who may never have heard about Grace House before.

### 4. Volunteer

Whether serving residents directly or supporting behind the scenes, volunteers make our work possible and make Grace House feel like a home.



If one of these opportunities speaks to you, we'd love to hear from you. Please contact Ashley Manning, Director of Development and Communications at [ashley.manning@gracehouseakron.org](mailto:ashley.manning@gracehouseakron.org).

# Listening with the Heart: The Good Listening Project

At Grace House Akron, care extends far beyond physical needs. Every day, residents are surrounded by compassion, dignity, and meaningful human connection. One partnership helping deepen that care is with The Good Listening Project, an innovative program that uses listening and poetry to create moments of reflection and connection.

The roots of this collaboration trace back to Grace House Akron's earliest days. Dr. Kevin Dieter first became involved while working alongside Holly Klein at Hospice of Summa, where he witnessed the vision for Grace House begin to take shape.

"We had several conversations about Holly's passion and determination to address the needs of people dying without the support of family around them," Kevin shared. "It was clear to me she would find a way to make it happen."

Years later, Kevin discovered The Good Listening Project through a collaboration with the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine. After participating in a Listener Poet session himself, he became deeply moved and later trained as a Certified Listener Poet.

Through one-on-one sessions, Listener Poets create a safe space where individuals can share



**Dr. Kevin Dieter**  
Retired Hospice Physician

their thoughts, memories, and emotions. Those conversations are transformed into personalized poems that reflect a person's unique story.

At Grace House Akron, these sessions have become meaningful opportunities for legacy work, reflection, and connection. Residents, caregivers, volunteers, and nursing students alike are experiencing the healing power that can happen when someone simply takes the time to truly listen.



What a joyful day at the Akron Zoo for Walk for Grace 2026! We had 200 of our supporters attend and raised \$45,000. We are grateful to everyone who joined us for the day of festivities, and to those who supported from home. Every donation was DOUBLED with the help from our anonymous donor, providing double the impact.

**Date for next year's event to be determined.**





## **SUPPORT GRACE HOUSE WITH EVERYDAY ESSENTIALS**

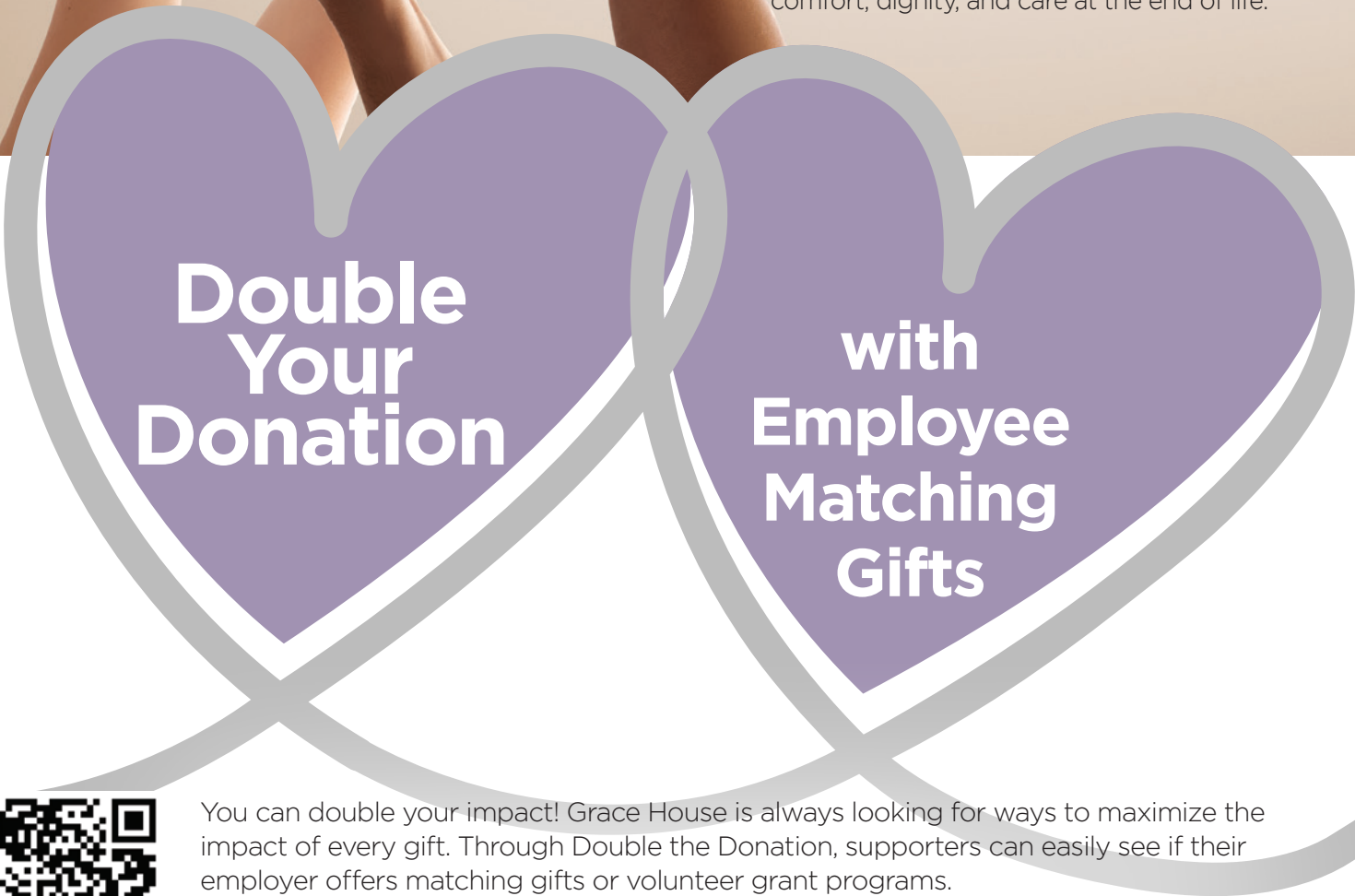


Looking for a simple, meaningful way to support Grace House? Our Amazon Wishlist is a great place to start! We keep it updated with essential items that help us care for our residents and keep our home running smoothly, from comfort items and cleaning supplies to snacks and toiletries. Every item donated helps create a home filled with comfort, care, and dignity for our residents.

In addition to our Wishlist, here are some other options:

- Gift cards to grocery stores (like Giant Eagle or Acme), Target, or Walmart
- Uber or Lyft gift cards to help with transportation for our residents
- Pet supply store gift cards, especially food and treats for our beloved pet companions

Every donation, big or small, helps provide comfort, dignity, and care at the end of life.



**Double  
Your  
Donation**

**with  
Employee  
Matching  
Gifts**



You can double your impact! Grace House is always looking for ways to maximize the impact of every gift. Through Double the Donation, supporters can easily see if their employer offers matching gifts or volunteer grant programs.

Many companies are willing to match charitable contributions, creating an opportunity to double the support provided to Grace House. It's a simple way for our community to make an even greater difference in helping ensure no one dies alone.

**Visit our website to check if your employer is participating!**



475 North Howard St.  
Akron, OH 44310

*grace house*

A COMFORT CARE HOME

NO ONE DIES ALONE.

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
CLEVELAND OH  
PERMIT NO. 498

## Grace House Save the Date!



**Todaro's Party Center**  
1820 Akron Peninsula Rd,  
Akron, OH 44313

### **Bet on love!**

Get ready to roll the dice for a great cause at this year's upcoming Graceful Gathering: Viva Las Vegas! Join us for an evening of fun and friendly competition while enjoying delicious food, casino games, tables, entertainment, and surprises throughout the evening. Place your bets to ensure that our residents receive dignity and compassionate care. When you join us, you're not just playing the odds- you are helping build a community where no one dies alone.



Purchase tickets here:  
[https://secure.qgiv.com/  
event/gracefulgathering  
2026/](https://secure.qgiv.com/event/gracefulgathering2026/)  
or scan this QR code.