



Annual Report

2023-2024



The region's only affiliate of the California Hospice Network.



A young girl with a flower in her hair and an elderly man are shown in profile, looking at each other. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent teal filter.

Our mission is to serve our community,
providing the **highest quality of care**
to every patient, every family, **every time.**

Lives we've touched in one year

543

hospice
patients served

240

palliative care
clients served

1,145

caregivers
served

21

clients served
through the
Galileo Place

784

clients served
through the
Center for Loss
& Hope

2,768

volunteer hours
completed by
Citizens Who
Care

Actually, tax status matters



Only 18 percent of Americans trust the US healthcare system to put their well-being ahead of profits, according to a recent 2023 study called “Views and Experiences of Aging & End-of-Life Care in the US.”

The United States healthcare system is facing a reckoning. A set of interconnected social, demographic, medical, and economic forces are radically reshaping how healthcare works – and does not work – in the world’s wealthiest country. Despite the nation’s reputation as a world leader in research, innovation, and treatment, health outcomes at the population level are getting worse even as costs soar.

YoloCares, California’s first hospice and palliative care organization to be accepted into the National Partnership for Healthcare and Hospice Innovation (NPHI), is one of just 100 community-based agencies that helped fund this national study that also calls attention to the difference between nonprofit and for-profit healthcare providers. The data reveals that a widespread public distrust of the healthcare system is linked to the financial motives that dictate how healthcare works.

On average, nonprofit programs like YoloCares provide 10 percent more nursing visits and 35 percent more social worker visits than their profit-focused counterparts. Meanwhile, for-profits spend 300 percent more on advertising, but less than half as much on bereavement support.

These findings were validated by a 2023 review of more than 650,000 patient and family surveys about experiences with hospice care, conducted by the RAND Corporation. In that study, families reported having worse care experiences with for-profit hospices which were also rated in the low-performing category across all eight measures the researchers studied.

Unsurprisingly, the impacts of system flaws are felt most acutely by those in declining health . . . which is understood as an umbrella term that encompasses serious, advanced, terminal, and chronic illnesses, as well as the natural effects of aging. After centuries of progress in medicine, nutrition, and physical safety, it is now the

combination of illness and aging that leads to the vast majority of deaths in the US.

The vast majority of older Americans exhibit a clear preference for remaining at home as they age. This is unsurprising – home is where we feel most comfortable and safe. Yet, for increasing numbers of Americans, including those in older age ranges, having a stable, safe place to live is becoming more challenging. At the same time, we are currently in the midst of a large-scale reorientation of healthcare that will increasingly focus on the home as a site of care.

According to the NPHI study, this idea is not new. For hundreds of years, doctors routinely – and sometimes exclusively – made house calls to treat patients in their homes. As hospitals proliferated and expanded their outpatient service offerings, this trend reversed for much of the 20th century. A turning point came in the spring of 2020, when COVID-19 forced millions of people into quarantine, and healthcare providers scrambled to care for the huge influx of patients into hospitals around the country.

When YoloCares had to pivot its practice of taking care of patients in their home -- and do so in the middle of a pandemic -- it relied on the partnership and collaboration of other community-grounded organizations, regionally and statewide. What unites us is something much deeper than nonprofit tax status – it is about values, vision, and expertise. Only by raising our collective voice and asserting ourselves as the trusted authority on quality care for those in declining health can we fight back against the cynical profit-seeking that threatens our individual wellbeing and the broader healthcare industry.

Sincerely,



Craig Dresang, Chief Executive Officer

Executive Leadership



Craig Dresang, Chief Executive Officer

Craig Dresang brings more than 30 years of nonprofit management experience to his post. Prior to his role at YoloCares, Craig was the vice president for community development for JourneyCare in Chicago, a \$100 million healthcare organization that ranked in the top 20 nationwide for quality inpatient care, and was recognized as one of Chicago's top 100 workplaces.



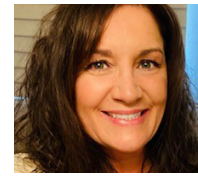
Kris Kirkendall, Chief Financial Officer

Kris Kirkendall was the finance director of YoloCares from 2014-2017 and returned to the agency to oversee the construction of Galileo Place and to manage special projects in 2019. She became CFO in 2022. Kirkendall is a CPA with many years of experience in healthcare finance and has worked for major healthcare systems such as Sutter Health and Dignity Health.



Stephanie Baxter, Director of Patient Care

Stephanie Baxter has been a registered nurse leader for seven years; five of the previous years have been spent in service of hospice patients and their families. In that time, Baxter was involved in all areas of hospice care including case management, admissions, intake and as the assistant director of nursing at another large California hospice.



Donna Feeney, Director of Quality & Compliance

Donna Feeney is a nationally certified medical assistant and brings ten years of experience in quality & patient safety. Prior to her time with YoloCares, Feeney developed and managed a centralized quality patient outreach program for Sutter Valley Medical Foundation.



Clark Wright, Director of Business Development

Clark Wright has been a hospice business development leader in the Sacramento Area since 2017. He oversaw the business development department at Suncrest Hospice in Sacramento and played an integral role in the establishment of their presence in the area. Wright is passionate about helping people access end-of-life care and finding long-term solutions through teamwork and collaboration.



Lisa Adams, Director of Palliative Care and Patient Access

Lisa Adams has been an employee of YoloCares for 21 years, working first in medical records, then as the manager of patient access before becoming director of palliative care and patient access in 2023. Adams has extensive experience in health information management, referral relations, and healthcare administration. During her tenure with the organization, YoloCares has seen its census increase from 50 to 140.



Louise Joyce, Director of Community Programs

Louise Joyce has been with the agency for 12 years; initially hired as the community liaison to provide education, resources, and support to community and referral partners. Over the years, she carefully nurtured and developed YoloCares' community engagement activities, creating a multi-pronged community development department. She now oversees Citizens Who Care Volunteer Program, Galileo Place, Center for Caregiver Support, and Philanthropy.



Chris Erdman, Director of the Center for Loss & Hope and Johusa’s House

Chris Erdman serves as the Director of the Center of Loss & Hope and Joshua’s House—both expressions of YoloCares’ commitment to offer quintessential end-of-life care and support to anyone in the Sacramento region. Erdman holds a doctorate in organizational and personal transformation from Columbia in Atlanta and has led non-profit organizations in California and Pennsylvania since 1991.



Fikir Morkoc, MD, Medical Director

Dr. Morkoc attended medical school at Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan followed by an internal medicine residency at UC Davis Medical Center. Over the last fifteen years, he has cared for geriatric patients and has focused solely on hospice care for the last ten years.

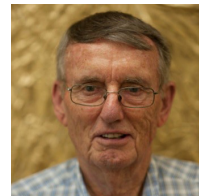
YoloCares Board of Directors



Keith Volkerts
President
Former CEO and CFO of YoloCares



Julie Sheehan
Vice-President
Manager of Swim-America Davis, retired



Pete Wilbur
Treasurer
Operations manager at Hunt-Wesson Foods, retired



Christye Hatfield
Secretary
Former Citizens Who Care board president

Marion Franck, Ex-officio

Columnist, Davis Enterprise

Tanya Altmann, RN

Chairperson, CSU, Sacramento School of Nursing

Madalon Amenta, RN

Founding executive director of Hospice & Palliative Nurses Association, co-author of Nursing Care for the Terminally Ill

Dawn Meyers

Program manager of Yolo Adult Day Health Center, Dignity Health

Rose Cholewinski

Business owner, Swim-America Davis

Jackie Clark, RN, MBA

CEO, California Correctional Health Care System, retired

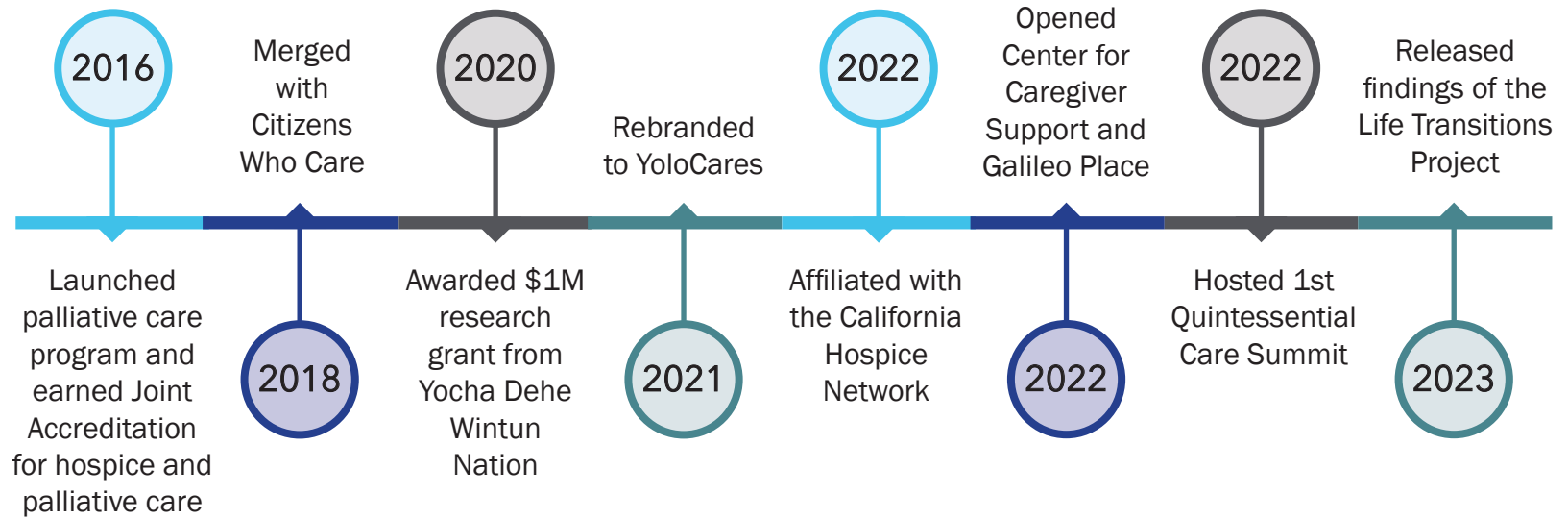
Beth Garbor

Manager of operations & strategy, Probation Department, County of Yolo

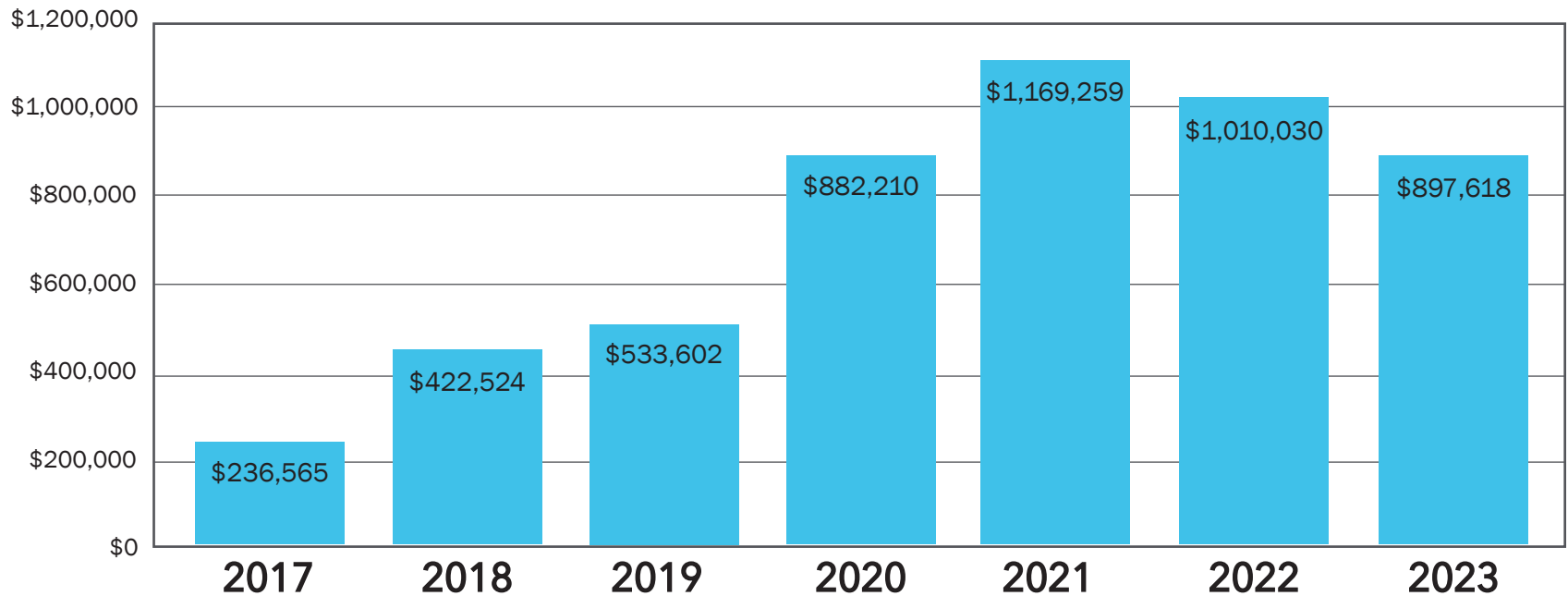
Carel Mountain

Assistant Professor, CSU, Sacramento School of Nursing

The Evolution of YoloCares



Annual Charitable Giving



More giving means more charity care and community programs!

A Year of Giving



YoloCares' Institutional Giving program was awarded grant funds totaling \$615,000 in 2023.

Yolo County Health & Human Services, a grants partner since 2018, awarded repeat funding of \$100,000 to the Senior Peer Companion program. Through the American Rescue Plan, the **Yolo County Board of Supervisors** awarded \$225,000 to support lower-income families with scholarships to Galileo Place Adult Day Program.

Other returning funders in 2023 included **Sutter Health**, which provided \$75,000 for Year 3 of the three-year Life Transitions Project and \$40,000 to provide certified trainers and in-home respite care for four days of dementia-care workshops with the Center for Caregiver Support.

The **Arthur N. Rupe Foundation** also awarded funding to the Center for Caregiver Support in its second year, with a grant of \$50,000.

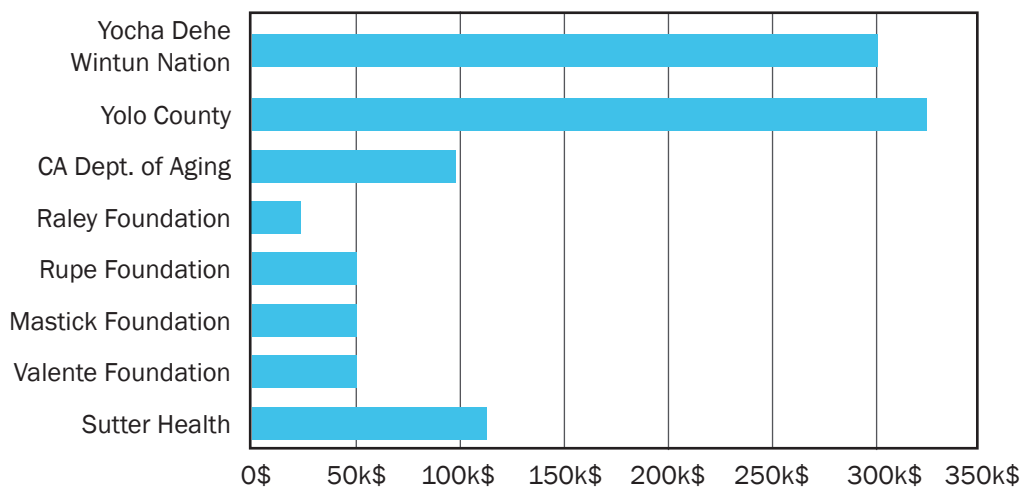
The **State of California Department of Aging** provided first-time funding through its Bridge to Recovery program, helping adult day programs combat the challenges brought on by COVID-19. YoloCares will use its \$99,000 grant to build a shaded, outdoor activity pavilion to provide reduced infection-transmission risk to its Galileo Place participants while still allowing for enriching activities.

Another new funder in 2023 was the **Thomas P. Raley Foundation**, which also supported Galileo Place with \$26,000 to fund the launch of Memory & the Arts, a program of music and art activities for those with cognitive decline.

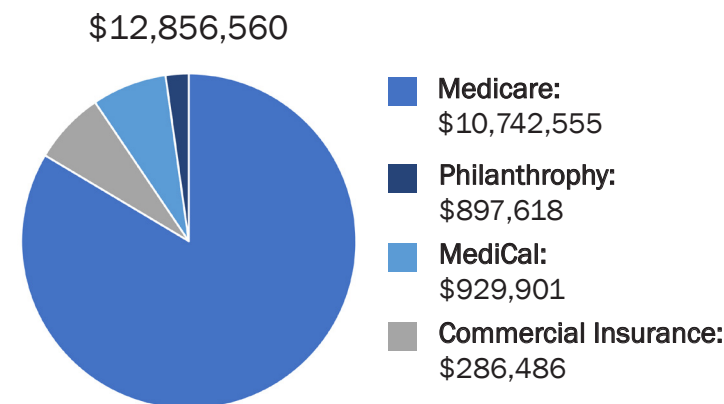
In addition to newly awarded grants in 2023, the **Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation** completed its three-year commitment to the Life Transitions Project with a \$300,000 gift, and the **Mastick Foundation** gave \$50,000 of a \$250,000 gift for the Irene Mastick Therapy Garden. The **George and Lena Valente Foundation** continued its long term support of YoloCares with a \$50,000 gift.

YoloCares' institutional giving team looks forward to continued success as it develops relationships with existing and new funders at the local, regional, and national level.

Grant Amount by Funder



2023 Revenue



2023 Donors

Each year, YoloCares receives over a thousand donations, many made in memory of a recently passed loved one, all of them made by people who were touched by the services that YoloCares provides. These donations enable YoloCares to offer the types of care that Medicare or other insurances don't reimburse us for—programs that are a lifeline to those who need it most.

\$100,000 - \$500,000

Sutter Health
Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation
Yolo County

\$50,000 - \$99,999

The George and Lena Valente Foundation
The Mastick Foundation
California Department of Aging
Arthur N. Rupe Foundation

\$10,000 - \$49,999

Pete Wilbur
Raley Foundation
Dr. Fikir Morkoc and Marni Paulo
Laura McClure

\$2,500 - \$9,999

Eugene Miyao
Hanson Bridgett LLP
Marilou and Robert Rennie
Robert Murray
Dr. Elise Smith-Hoefer
Caroline Bledsoe
Marlene von Friederichs-Fitzwater
First Northern Bank
Libby McGill
Craig Dresang and Joseph Cibelli
Madalon Amenta
Tom Frankel
Dr. Virginia Joyce and Dr. Oliver Stanton
Mark and Marcia Cary
Albert and Lora Lee Powell

\$2,500 - \$9,999 continued

Janet Hull-Micalizio
Graham and Betty Gall
Julie and Michael Sheehan
Dean Kinnee
Horizon Oxygen
Jefferson Pharmacy
Eskaton
HR Done Right, Inc.
Hospice of Michigan (HOM)
V.I.P Studio
Woodbridge Winery
Netsmart Technologies, Inc.

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Sharon Williams
Sacramento Region Community Foundation
Charles Hart
Mary Mathews Taormino
Charles Tujo
Renee D. Schafer
Barbara Anderson
Amy Moore
John and Nancy Keltner
David Rausch
Jay P. Schreider
Charles Geyer
Alan Garner
Rose Vidales
William Albert
Susan Carl
Carolyn Leonard
Marilyn and Peter Schiffman

Copies of YoloCares' full financial statements are available at 1909 Galileo Court in Davis.

\$1,000 - \$2,499 continued

Regi Hamel
Dr. Gwendolyn Kaltoft
John and Denise Rose
Kraig and Kathy Brady
Marion Franck and Bob Lew
Brett Raven and Diane Kleinecke
Connie Hamilton
Yolo County Realty Inc.
Barbara Gardner and Robert Poeschel
Kris Kirkendall
Trish and Kim Timothy
Prescott Heald
Robert Westfall
Rose Cholewinski
Beth Gabor
Craig Sharp
John Ott
Wilbur Benware
Arlan Holst
Bethelen Johnson
Carol Braun
John Youmans
Barbara Talkington
Gerry Nishikawa
K. Greer Whitters
Gail Kennedy
Richard LeFlore
William Leipham
Clyde A. Bowman
Ryan Baum
Annamaria Esquivel
Sharon and Russ Ewers
Jackie Clark
Anita and Thomas Nyland
Craig and Darien Blomberg
Jan Sterling
Vivian and M. Andrew Walker

\$1,000 - \$2,499 continued

Louise Joyce
Jill Brooks
William Lacy
Richard and Lucille Harrison
Pam Rhodes
Melanie and Robert Ferrando
Helen Chew
Ted Clark
Kathy and Richard Hayes
Carolyn Feroben
Diane Monheit
James Faulkner
Ellen Zagory
Mr. Pickle's Sandwich Shop

\$500 - \$999

Terry and Jim Wehner
Helen Thomson
William Parker
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cretti
Anne Callaway
Wilfred Uecker
S. Joan Skinner
Jerry Vanegas
Hung Jung Lin and Ming Mei Lin
Nugget Market - Mace
Susan and Ralph Griffin-McCormick
Edward and Lynn Marie Crandall
Kay Resler
Wayne and Liz Gilbert
Ken and Mary Scarlett
James Bigelow
Albert Chin
Henry Wan
Brian and Lia Youngs
M. Keehn-Hamacher
Elmer and Linda Cornelius

\$500 - \$999 continued

Jeremy Simons
Dr. Ronald Cole
Frank and Kathleen Brown
Casey McElheney
William Davenport
Ellie Wolpaw
Sandra Strong
Linda Pluto
Kiwanis Club of Greater Davis
Monley Cronin, Inc.
John Hamilton
Kirk and Jill Aoki
Marjory Hein
Cindy and Michael Miller
Steve and Linda Blake
Karen and Craig Penrose
Dale Wierman
Phyllis Gallaway
Ms. Anne Duffey
Kathleen Campbell
Helen Campbell
Barbara and Jeffrey Robin
Robert and Heidi Smith
Robert and Gail Feenstra
Robert and Barbara Kelly
Barbara Massa
Nina Marshall
Dee Martinez
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Grey
Dr. and Mrs. Jensen
Amy Del Bondio
Sandra Hamel
Mrs. Nan Yates
Richard and Carol Bourne
Victoria Shams
William Fife
Cynthia Miller
Beth Lew-Williams

Citizens Who Care Volunteer Program

Volunteers play an integral role in the day-to-day operations of YoloCares. YoloCares volunteers, known as Citizens Who Care, are responsible for nearly 3,000 hours of patient care and administrative support annually. They can be found offering respite to caregivers, reading to patients, making calls to families, supporting bereavement groups and much more.

57

active
volunteers

2,650

volunteer hours
completed in the last year

2023 Volunteers

Abigail McMahon
Ahya Snyder
Allison Kwon
Alondra Villa-Gallegos
Amy Teutemacher
Andrea Nguyen
Angelica Tujo
Annie Armistead
Ayushi Ambekar
Beth Gabor
Carel Mountain
Christye Hatfield
Chuo Ying Zhai
Dawn Meyers
Dina Jacopi

Emily Gales
Gary Jones
Gloria Devitt
Jack Jonas
Jackie Clark
James Mayer
Jan Lee
Jan Arnold
Jan Sterling
Janet Krueger
Joan Randall
Jon Siiteri
Jovita Musha
Judy Heberle
Julie Sheehan

Katie Byrne
Kayla Koenigshof
Keith Volkerts
Ken Firestein
Lia Youngs
Lucetta Swift
Luisa Nye
Madalon Amenta
Marianne Kern
Marion Franck
Mary Olander
Mick Dill
Nancy Hardaker
Nathan Shimamoto
Patricia Grieshop

Pete Wilbur
Pieter Pastoor
Rebecca Akl
Riley Savage
Robert Heberle
Rose Cholewinski
Samuel Carter
Sharon Hoard
Subhokrity Banerjee
Tammy Tujo
Tanya Altmann
Tristan Ting
Veronica Blanco

YoloCares honors Luminaries

On October 19, friends and supporters of YoloCares gathered at Park Winters Estate for the annual Luminaries of Life Gala which raised \$50,000. The night's honorees included **Alborz Alali, MD; Sanaz Ghafouri, MD; Sonia Reichert, MD; and the Cancer Care Team at Dignity Health Woodland Clinic; former board member and Sutter Health surgeon Virginia Joyce, MD; longtime volunteer Mary Olander; and Mike Deitz of Dietz Corporation, and Nick Avdis of Avdis and Cucchi, LLC,** community partners who have supported Joshua's House.

Over 150 attendees had the opportunity to explore the grounds of Park Winters Estate and enjoyed cocktail hour on the veranda before an expertly prepared farm-to-fork dinner. The event's program was kicked off by CEO Craig Dresang who announced the five honorees of the evening, celebrating each individual for their contributions to the mission of YoloCares.

Generous sponsors of Luminaries of Life include Hanson Bridgett, Eskaton, HR Done Right, Horizon Oxygen, First Northern Bank, Northstar Care Community, Woodbridge Winery and VIP Photography.

"Every year, Luminaries of Life affords us the opportunity to highlight the incredible work of YoloCares, from expert end-of-life care to grief counseling and beyond," says CEO Craig Dresang. This year's event turned the spotlight on The Center for Loss & Hope, which is the premiere grief support program in the Sacramento Valley. With a dozen unique support groups, frequent community memorials and workshops, as well as one-on-one counseling for the families of YoloCares, The Center's mission is to change the way our community processes and recovers from grief.

"Nights like Luminaries of Life are so beautiful to watch. Not only is it heartening to see the community rally around YoloCares and The Center, but it is an avenue to express our pride for the wonderful work our team and agency does in the community," says Chris Erdman, director of The Center for Loss & Hope.

To view more images from Luminaries of Life, visit yolocares.org/events. To learn more about sponsorship opportunities for future events, please reach out to Louise Joyce, director of community programs, at ljoyce@yolocares.org.



The Cancer Care Team at the Dignity Health Woodland Clinic is a champion of high-quality end-of-life care and has been a trusted partner of YoloCares for over a decade. **Dr. Alali, Dr. Reichert, Dr. Ghafouri,** and the team's clinicians have proven to be proactive and knowledgeable about their patients' needs, maintaining excellent rapport with patients.



Mike Deitz has been key in the timely, efficient, and high-quality work that created Joshua's House, going above and beyond expectations at every turn. Since 2016, **Nick Avdis** has volunteered more than 12,000 hours of time on legal issues, expertly guiding the Joshua's House Team.



Volunteer Mary Olander has served YoloCares for over two decades and has touched the lives of many patients and families with her kindness and generosity.



Virginia Joyce, MD has been invaluable to YoloCares during her three terms as a member of the Board of Directors. Her leadership has led the agency through accreditation visits, transitions and more.

YoloCares spearheads community education initiative

The Quintessential Care Summit

In 2022, YoloCares held the agency's first national palliative care conference, the **Quintessential Care Summit**, in partnership with the **California Hospice Network** and **Sacramento State Department of Gerontology**. Headlined by internationally recognized author and doctor BJ Miller, the summit was attended by over 350 professionals from across the US.

The summit is returning on March 15, 2024 with a new and exciting lineup of thought leaders in healthcare and beyond. Headlined by award-winning poet Mark Doty and the National Partnership for Healthcare and Hospice Innovation's Dr. Cameron Muir, attendees can expect engaging and provocative sessions on topics ranging from bedside care to the cultural impacts of grief and beyond.

As an investment into the future workforce, YoloCares offers free summit tickets to nursing, social work and medical students. "At YoloCares, we believe that we are first an educational agency. We teach caregivers to care for their loved ones, we teach the community about grief and the end-of-life journey, and now we're proud to say that we are teaching fellow clinicians and caregivers by hosting the region's biggest palliative care conference," says Louise Joyce, director of community programs.



In 2022, Dr. Miller gave a deeply moving keynote.

2024 Notable Speakers



Mark Doty

Praised by the New York Times for his "dazzling, tactile grasp of the world," Mark Doty is a renowned author of poetry and prose. He is the author of three memoirs: the New York Times-bestselling *Dog Years* (2007), *Firebird* (1999), and *Heaven's Coast* (1997). He is the author of nine books of poetry, most recently

Deep Lane (2015), a book of descents: into the earth beneath the garden, into the dark substrata of a life. Doty has also received two NEA fellowships, a Guggenheim Fellowship, a Whiting Writers Award, and a Lila Wallace/Readers Digest Award.



Cameron Muir, MD.

Dr. Cameron Muir serves as the Chief Innovation Officer for the National Partnership for Healthcare and Hospice Innovation (NPHI) where he established and oversees the NPHI Innovation Lab. Unique in the hospice space, the Lab focuses on population health, claims analytics, practice optimization, and other

systematic approaches to enhance and improve advanced illness care. Dr. Muir is a nationally recognized physician, educator and executive leader in hospice, palliative medicine, and advanced illness care.



Laura Wayman

Known as the Dementia Whisperer, Wayman is an internationally recognized dementia care expert, educator, patient advocate and author.



Carrie Cooley

Cooley is the principal of Weatherbee Resources. Her expertise includes forensic clinical record auditing, baseline compliance audits, clinical due diligence and more.



Frish Brandt

Brandt is an author and a "Letter Midwife." She founded My Last[ing] Letters to guide hospice patients and caregivers in writing their essential letters.

Dementia Care Workshops

Sutter Health, now in its fourth year as a funding partner, expanded their support of **YoloCares' Center for Caregiver Support** with a gift of \$40,000 to underwrite dementia care workshops in 2023 and 2024. The workshops are conducted through partnerships with **A Positive Approach to Care, the Davis Senior Center, the Woodland Senior Center, and Your Home Assistant**.

Positive Approach to Care is a nonprofit agency led by Teepa Snow, one of the world's leading experts in dementia and other forms of brain change. The workshop series, A Positive Approach to Dementia Care, helps caregivers understand how dementia impacts their loved one and offer practical strategies to improve daily interactions, and better support them as their needs change.

A special component of these workshops is respite care for caregivers' loved ones at home during the events. Care is provided by professional home health aides from Your Home Assistant. This respite care is crucial to the success of the programs, as it allows the caregivers the freedom to attend and fully focus on the training, secure in the knowledge that their loved one is receiving compassionate, professional care at home.

Thanks to Sutter Health's generous support, workshops and respite care during the events will be offered at no cost to

caregivers and their loved ones.

"Being a caregiver for a loved one with brain change is a bewildering experience but when caregivers receive coaching around how to support their loved one and understanding their disease progression can make all the difference. Our goal is to support caregivers so that their loved ones can remain in their home for as long as possible," says Amy Meier, certified dementia care coach and Galileo Place program administrator.

2024 Dementia Care Workshops

Thursday, February 8

Woodland Senior Center
2001 East Street, Woodland, CA 95776

Friday, March 15

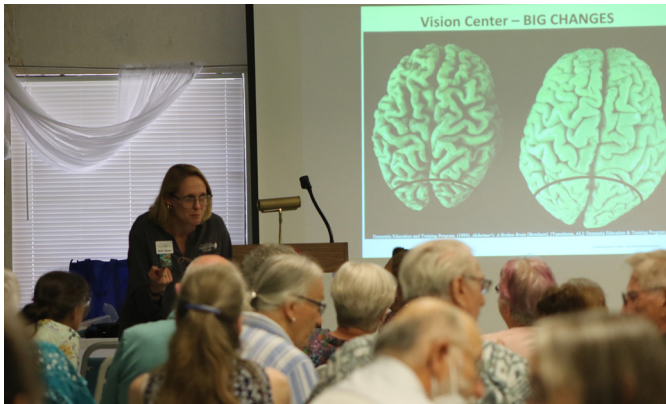
Sacramento State
6000 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95616

Wednesday, July 24

Davis Senior Center
646 A Street, Davis, CA 95776

4th Thursday of the month

Galileo Place Adult Day Center
1909 Galileo Court, Davis CA



In 2023, Beth Nolan, A Positive Approach To Care Coach, led a dementia care workshop at the Davis Senior Center. She was accompanied by local resident Lauren U who is a retired nurse and is living with a form of dementia. U shared her experience with her disease, adding a valuable and enriching perspective to the workshop.

YoloCares releases findings of three-year study

In the summer of 2023, YoloCares published the findings of the **Life Transitions Project**, a three-year Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) and quality improvement project that identified barriers to accessing end-of-life services for Native American and rural populations.

The assessment was generously supported through a million-dollar grant from the **Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation**, a self-governed nation located in the Capay Valley of Yolo County as well as Sutter Health.

“At YoloCares, we believe that every person deserves dignity at the end of life. The Life Transitions Project represents our commitment as an agency to uphold this principle within our own community,” says Craig Dresang, CEO of YoloCares.

Project leads gathered community input through a public survey, community workshops, focus group discussions, and one-to-one interviews. Discussions included community perceptions regarding advance care directives, grief practices, healthcare access barriers faced by both Native American and rural communities, and utilization of in-home care services.

Foundational community relationships were built to seek ways to combat historic disparities. YoloCares worked to understand the needs of the community directly from rural and Native American community members and utilized the community’s feedback to develop solutions to address barriers to accessing end-of-life services.

Solutions proposed in the final report indicate a need for greater cultural humility and increased healthcare provider knowledge of traditional beliefs and practices for Native American patients. For agencies who aim to serve rural communities, actions must be taken to address geographic barriers to access.

The report also found specific factors that contribute to lower utilization rates among rural and Native American communities when compared with white, English-speaking populations. These factors include a lack of community education opportunities and accessible, appropriate materials for those who do not subscribe to western cultural norms as well as Spanish speakers.

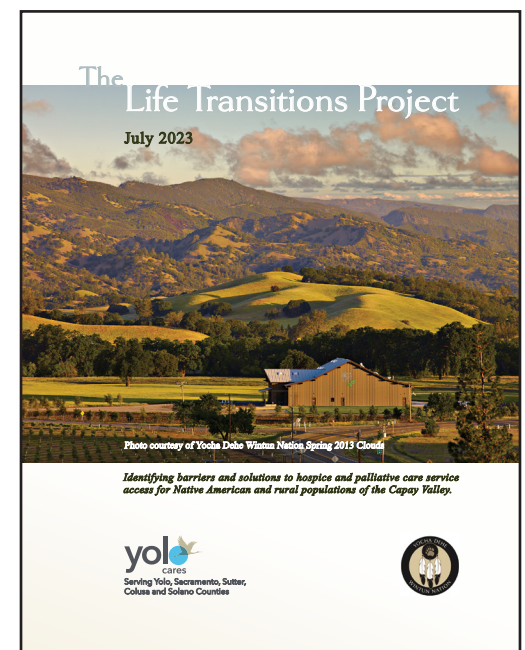
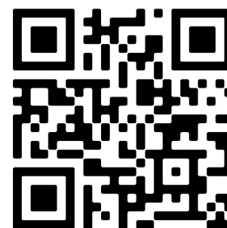
A general mistrust in medical systems also exists because of historic traumatic events caused by colonization, such as forced relocation, governmental suppression of resources, and many other forms of injustice. This is further compounded by a lack of diverse representation across clinicians and care providers in all healthcare systems.

YoloCares intends to utilize community feedback to develop a series of programs and reforms aimed at improving ease of access of services, including reworking informational materials to be more culturally appropriate and accessible for differing literacy levels.

The agency will continue to strengthen relationships through continued outreach and community education initiatives, and will also create a community advisory board to help guide efforts, further amplifying the voices of the those represented in the Life Transitions Project. Additional initiatives include diversifying the offerings of YoloCares’ Center for Loss & Hope and spiritual care programs.

While this report cannot offer a one-size-fits all solution for clinical agencies, the Life Transitions Project intends to create avenues for agencies to review current community education and outreach, employee training and hiring, and communications practices to better serve Native American and rural communities.

Scan the QR code to view the full report.



Galileo Place receives funding

Galileo Place Adult Day Program was awarded \$225,000 in funding from the **Yolo County Board of Supervisors**. The funding, which will provide scholarships to low-income families who attend Galileo Place, was initially part of the American Rescue Plan, a \$1.9 trillion economic stimulus package brought forth by the Biden Administration in 2021.

The funds will extend respite care to local caregivers who would otherwise not have the resources to participate at Galileo Place, giving people with cognitive impairment healthcare access to an enriching adult day program while providing their caregivers with the respite they need to maintain the demanding life of a family caregiver.

“The Board of Supervisors decision to provide funding for Galileo Place represents their vested interest in serving Yolo County’s growing seniors and their caregivers,” says Craig Dresang, CEO of YoloCares. “Galileo Place is more than just an adult day program, it’s a valuable resource for families of people experiencing cognitive decline. It offers a source of community, not just for our clients, but for their caregivers as well, connecting them to additional services throughout their loved one’s healthcare journey.”

Thomas P. Raley Foundation is a new funding partner in 2023, awarding YoloCares a \$26,000 grant to launch the Memory and the Arts program. Memory care clients at Galileo Place will benefit from a variety of arts activities, including painting, drawing, singing, playing and listening to musical instruments, clay sculpture and mosaic making. The Raley Foundation grant will provide one-time equipment purchases, such as a drum balls, musical instruments, easels, and a karaoke machine, as well as supplies for projects. In addition, the grant will purchase an oversized canvas for the clients to create a mural that will be shared with the community via installation in various public locations to raise dementia awareness.

“Art therapy is a great way for people with dementia to express themselves, stimulate their mind and experience a sense of accomplishment,” says Amy Meier, Galileo Place program administrator and dementia care coach.

About Galileo Place

Galileo Place offers a caring and supportive environment for adults with limited mobility and cognitive impairments. Participants receive physical and cognitive exercise through group workouts and mind-sharpening games, and most importantly, social interaction and a sense of purpose and community.

Galileo Place also hosts a wealth of free community programs offered through YoloCares’ Center for Caregiver Support and Center for Loss & Hope, such as advance care planning workshops, grief seminars, and caregiver retreats.

Open Monday through Friday from 7:30am – 5:30pm, Galileo Place offers a varied schedule to allow flexibility for families. Scholarships are available to families who qualify.

If you would like to tour Galileo Place or learn more, please call (530) 758-5566 or email Program Administrator Amy Meier at ameier@yolocares.org.





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Ways to Give

Make a
one-time
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Make a gift in
memory of a
loved one

Leave your
legacy

Make a gift of
stocks, bonds, or
cryptocurrency

YoloCares is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. All hospice and palliative care services offered by YoloCares are free of charge. Our patients never receive a bill for services, ever. For more information on how to support this invaluable community resource, please contact Louise Joyce, Director of Community Programs, at ljoyce@yolocares.org.

We take a moment to acknowledge the land on which our office is located. For thousands of years, this land has been the home of the Patwin people. Today, there are three federally recognized Patwin tribes: Cachil Dehe Band of Wintun Indians of the Colusa Indian Community, Kletsel Dehe Band of Wintun Indians, and Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation. The Patwin people have remained committed to the stewardship of this land over many centuries. It has been cherished and protected, as elders have instructed the young through generations. We are honored and grateful to be here today on their traditional lands.