



Our Mission: To care for anyone experiencing the impact of a life-threatening illness or grieving the death of a loved one.

This month, most of us will celebrate Father's Day - a day devoted to honoring fathers and celebrating fatherhood. But for children and teens who have recently lost their father, the day can be a painful reminder of their loss. There are more grieving children than most of us realize - one out of 20 children will experience the death of a parent before they graduate from high school and one out of every five will face the death of someone close to them.

Hospice of Santa Barbara's Children and Family Services program provides free professional support and coping tools for children, teens and their families that are essential for successful emotional growth and healing.

Please [visit our website](#) for a complete listing of our programs supporting children and teens.

June 2015

Message from our CEO

I Have a Friend?

James Petrucci @ HSB

Introducing Jeff Martinez

Upcoming Events

SB Home Improvement Center

New Volunteers at HSB!

Upcoming Events

June 6th

12:00 - 3:00 pm

4th Annual

Caring and Sharing Event

Over 60 area nonprofits come together to provide the public an opportunity to meet and learn about the wonderful work they perform.

[Click here for more information.](#)



I Have a Friend? Mentor Program

"Will I ever be normal again?" Those words, spoken over a decade ago by a 12 year-old boy whose father had recently died, sparked the creation of Hospice of Santa Barbara's innovative I Have a Friend? Mentor program.

By matching a trained adult volunteer who has experienced the death of a parent at a young age with a child newly coping with a similar death, the child is given a companion for the journey; one who truly understands the incredible loss as well as obstacles that will be encountered in the years ahead.

We know death and grief are part of the life's journey, but for children and teens the death of a parent can be paralyzing and overwhelming.

For children and teens, untended grief from the loss of a parent has the potential for long lasting effects on the personality development and functioning of a child. Poor coping responses also emerge as young people turn to drugs, alcohol or violence in efforts to alleviate pain.

Because I Have A Friend? Mentors have shared the loss of a parent, they create a unique bond with the child that allows open and honest communication about their feelings. Mentors serve as role models for grieving children, helping them develop their resiliency and ability to thrive.

While their lives will be forever changed, the goal of the I Have a Friend? program is to light the way for children experiencing this most intimate loss. I Have a Friend? Mentors are living proof to grieving children that there will be hope, happiness, and wholeness - they will be normal again.

If you are interested in becoming a Mentor volunteer, please contact Nicole Romasanta at Nromasanta@hospiceofsb.org.

Local Painter Showcased at Hospice of Santa Barbara with New Art Exhibition "weightless"

**June 18th
4:00 - 6:00 pm**

Community Five Wishes
Workshop

The Alliance for Living and Dying Well offers free community workshops to facilitate end-of-life discussion and assistance in completing advanced health care directives. Workshops are offered the third Thursday of each month at HSB.

To register, please call
805-845-5314.

**August 13th
5:30 - 7:00**

Opening Art Reception featuring
Margaret Singer
Leigh Block Gallery, Hospice of
Santa Barbara

Ongoing Support Groups
[See our current calendar of groups.](#)

New Corporate Sponsor!



"HSB is grateful to Gary Simpson and Santa Barbara Home Improvement Center for their ongoing and continued support over the years and especially their Bronze corporate sponsorship this year at the \$1,500 level as well as last year's \$10,000 donation in honor of Jill Nida, Director Emeritus," said Hospice of Santa Barbara CEO David Selberg. "For 48 years the Simpson family and Santa Barbara Home Improvement Center have been providing customers with a mix of friendly, knowledgeable customer service all the while offering the largest mix of quality goods for the



"Distant Memory", 22x30, Oil and mixed media on paper mounted on panel. 2014

On Wednesday, May 13, Hospice of Santa Barbara welcomed local artist James Petrucci, who displayed his new exhibit "weightless" at the Leigh Block Gallery located within Hospice of Santa Barbara. Attendees enjoyed a wine and hors d'oeuvres open house reception for the exhibition and were able to view and purchase Petrucci's artwork, which will be on sale through the duration of the showcase with 25% of proceeds benefiting Hospice of Santa Barbara, Inc.

The exhibit, which will be displayed at Hospice of Santa Barbara's Leigh Block Galley through July 31, features imagery that explores the passing of time and renders landscapes through the lens of fading memory.

To read more about the artist and his work [click here](#).

Welcome Jeff Martinez, Finance Manager



We are pleased to announce Jeff Martinez as our new Finance Manager. Jeff brings with him a wealth of accounting experience across various industries including legal, commercial real estate, media, car rental, hotel management, oil and gas development and financial services.

To read more about Jeff, [click here](#).

home at general pricing unmatched in Santa Barbara. We know Santa Barbara Home Improvement Center is proud to have been recognized in 2014 as the ACE Hardware's second largest volume retailer out of 4,300 of its stores and likewise is very proud to be on board with HSB as an ongoing corporate sponsor."

For more information about Santa Barbara Home Improvement Center and the services they offer, please visit [Santa Barbara Home Improvement Center](#).

Donate Now

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Hospice of Santa Barbara Celebrates

New Patient Care Volunteer Graduates



Back row from left to right- Judy Bartlein, Cindy Sherrett, Nancy Shobe, Jerry Jeffreys, Mike Champion, and Eric Kruger Front row from left to right- Shirley Llewellyn, Sharon Lee Sciacca, Nancy Moore, Theresa Rusca, Laurel O'Connor, Harriet "Ruby" Roberts, Kat Martin, Art Willner, Sally Turvey (HSB Volunteer Services Assistant), Nicole Romasanta (HSB Director of Volunteer Services), and Rachelle Fudge

After six weeks of comprehensive training that included instruction on Grief and Loss, Family Dynamics and Boundaries, and Cultural and Spiritual Awareness, Hospice of Santa Barbara's Patient Care volunteers have completed their program and received a certificate of completion.

Patient Care Volunteers provide companionship, respite care, transportation, household help and support to our patients and clients. As Hospice of Santa Barbara volunteers, they will become a vital member of the Hospice of Santa Barbara Patient Care Services Team who are dedicated to providing social, emotional, spiritual and practical support for anyone impacted by a life threatening illness.

To find out more about volunteer opportunities, [click here.](#)