



# IN TOUCH

HOSPICE OF THE VALLEY DEMENTIA NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2008

## Helping Your Patients with Dementia: Send them H.O.M.E.

Do you have a patient with dementia who is not yet eligible for hospice service? Does the patient's family need help providing care?

H.O.M.E., Helping Our Memory-Impaired Elders, is Hospice of the Valley's solution.

This nationally recognized and award-winning program provides home visits from a nurse, social worker and occupational therapist. Working with the patient's attending physician, our staff teaches caregivers state-of-the-art behavioral management, helps with social issues and discusses advance directives. Medications are reviewed by skilled clinical pharmacologists and a geriatrician.

The goal of the Medicare-certified home health program—available to those living in private homes, group homes and assisted living—is to improve the quality of life for dementia patients and their families.

A physician order is required for admission. The patient should be predominantly homebound and have Medicare primary—no senior plans.

For information, call: 602.287.7050 or e-mail program director Beth A. Hale, RN, PhD, [bhale@hov.org](mailto:bhale@hov.org).

### COMMENTS FROM H.O.M.E. FAMILIES

"Having the help, wisdom, support and encouragement of Hospice of the Valley made life at least manageable."

"Most of all, you helped me to face reality. Without you, I am sure I would still be at the bottom of my barrel."

"Things are better; Mom doesn't ask us to take her to the emergency room all the time. She is calmer, doesn't see the cat playing up on the ceiling anymore! Ambulation is

improved and she rarely uses her walker. She is no longer taking Tramadol, and her pain is controlled with only occasional use of Tylenol."

"I know which activities I need to avoid in order to keep Ralph calm and to prevent unwanted behaviors."

"You saved my life. It is all so confusing, and you have helped me understand what is going on. Thank you! I don't know what I would have done if you hadn't come in to help."

"I am thrilled that I can have some semblance of a social life now that things are better. We had a Super Bowl party, and he actually participated. It was wonderful!"



Connie Sands, RN, H.O.M.E. program nurse, arm wrestles patient Jack Storey.



1510 E. Flower St. • Phoenix, AZ 85014.5656  
602.530.6900 • [www.hov.org](http://www.hov.org)