



AROOSTOOK
House of Comfort

2025 Annual Report



Welcome Message

Dear Friends,

It is a true privilege to serve as Executive Director of the Aroostook Hospice Foundation. Each year, I am reminded that the Aroostook House of Comfort is sustained not by one program or one person, but by a community that deeply believes in compassionate end-of-life care. In 2025, that belief was reflected in meaningful and measurable ways.

Together with our clinical partner, Northern Light Home Care & Hospice, we ensured that patients and families across Aroostook County and beyond experienced dignity, comfort, and peace. The Aroostook House of Comfort remains a sanctuary made possible by an extraordinary team of providers, nurses, aides, social workers, chaplaincy, and volunteers whose compassion defines our mission.

Community support this year was remarkable. Our 12th Annual Golf Classic raised over \$90,000, bringing its lifetime total beyond \$610,000. The 3rd Annual Walk for Hospice, held in Caribou, welcomed 364 participants and raised more than \$68,000. Our Fall Giving Campaign generated over \$25,000 in critical year end support. A revitalized Naming Opportunities Campaign resulted in newly dedicated spaces including the Family Dining Room, Suite 3, chapel chairs, and other areas throughout the House.

This year also brought a profound loss with the passing of Michael MacPherson, our devoted Vice Chairman and dear friend. Michael's steady leadership and unwavering belief in this mission helped shape the Foundation's growth and continues to guide our work.

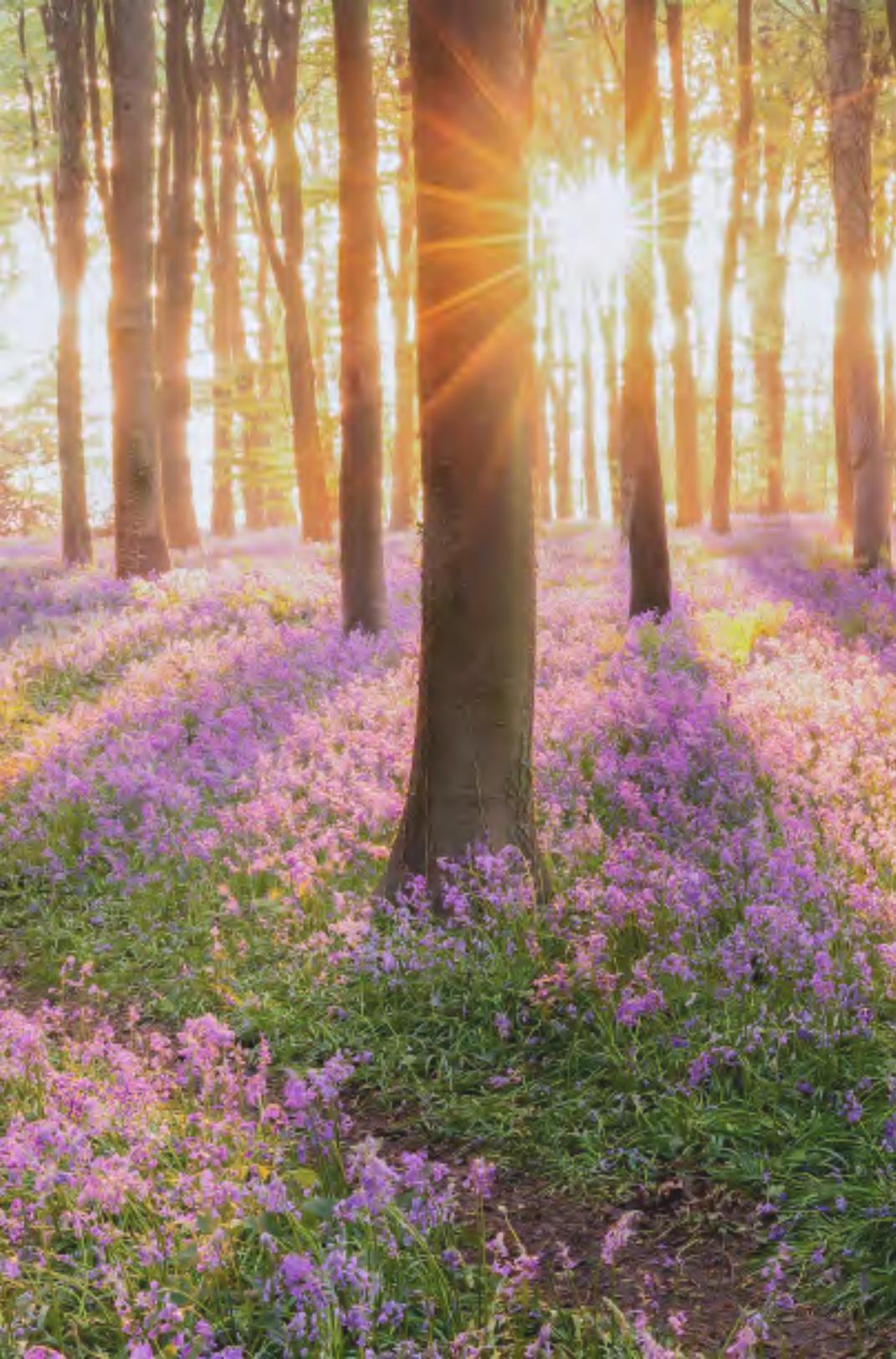
Through continued donor generosity, we strengthened our Charity Care Fund, ensuring financial hardship never becomes a barrier to compassionate care, even amid longer patient stays and increasing healthcare complexities. Generosity takes many forms, whether sponsoring an event, participating, purchasing from our wishlist, delivering treats for staff, volunteering at the desk, or sharing your story. Each act makes a meaningful difference.

I am continually inspired by the sense of ownership and partnership our community extends to us. We are successful because we stand together. Thank you for standing beside us. Together, we will continue to ensure that comfort, compassion, and community remain at the heart of hospice care in Aroostook County.

With heartfelt gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Abbey Clair". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional yet personal style.

Abbey Clair, LCSW
Executive Director
Aroostook Hospice Foundation



What is AHOC?

The Aroostook House of Comfort, situated centrally in Aroostook County and recognized as the sole inpatient hospice facility north of Augusta, is owned by the Aroostook Hospice Foundation. Northern Light Home Care & Hospice, the longest-serving Medicare-certified hospice agency in Aroostook County, oversees the hands-on hospice care and staffing. Together, we offer compassionate care, comfort, dignity, and support to individuals and their caregivers on their journey through hospice. For more information, please visit aroostookhouseofcomfort.org.



What is Our Mission?

The Aroostook House of Comfort, together with the community, provides individuals and their loved ones compassionate care, comfort, dignity, and support when patient needs are greater than home hospice can provide.

What is Our Vision?

The Aroostook Hospice Foundation, owner of the House of Comfort, is committed to providing a family-centered hospice house in perpetuity, dependent on and supported by the community, in collaboration with a medical provider that exemplifies patient respect and excellence in the care of hospice patients.

Board of Directors



Abigail Clair, LCSW
Executive Director
Chapman, Maine



Richard Duncan
Chairman
Presque Isle, Maine



Michael Thibodeau
Presque Isle, Maine



Carol MacPherson
Secretary & Treasurer
Presque Isle, Maine



Nancy Duncan
Presque Isle, Maine



Norman Fournier
Wallagrass, Maine



Lise Collins
Caribou, Maine



Terri Ouellette
Caribou, Maine



Suzanne Hews
Presque Isle, Maine



Nancy Putnam, MSN FNP
New Limerick, Maine



Ray Hews
Presque Isle, Maine



Sue McCrum
Mars Hill, Maine



Gail Phair-Kirk, MSW LSW
Caribou, Maine



Tyler Stoliker, MSN, FNP-C, RN
Fort Kent, Maine



Dr. Caleb Swanberg
Caribou, Maine



Heidi Thompson
Washburn, Maine



Nancy Cronkite, *(Emeritus Board Member)*
Presque Isle, Maine

Dear Friends,

Serving as Chairman of the Aroostook Hospice Foundation Board is both an honor and a responsibility I hold with deep respect. The work of this organization is sacred, and it exists because our community believes that compassionate end-of-life care matters.

In 2025, the Foundation continued to strengthen its long-term stability and strategic direction. Through thoughtful governance, careful stewardship, and continued growth in community support, we are ensuring that the Aroostook House of Comfort remains sustainable and strong for the families who will depend on it in the years ahead.

We are deeply grateful for our partnership with Northern Light Home Care & Hospice, whose clinical leadership, dedicated staff, and compassionate volunteers make the mission of the Aroostook House of Comfort a reality each day. Their commitment to excellence in care, combined with the generosity of this community, allows us to provide a level of support that reflects the very best of Aroostook County.

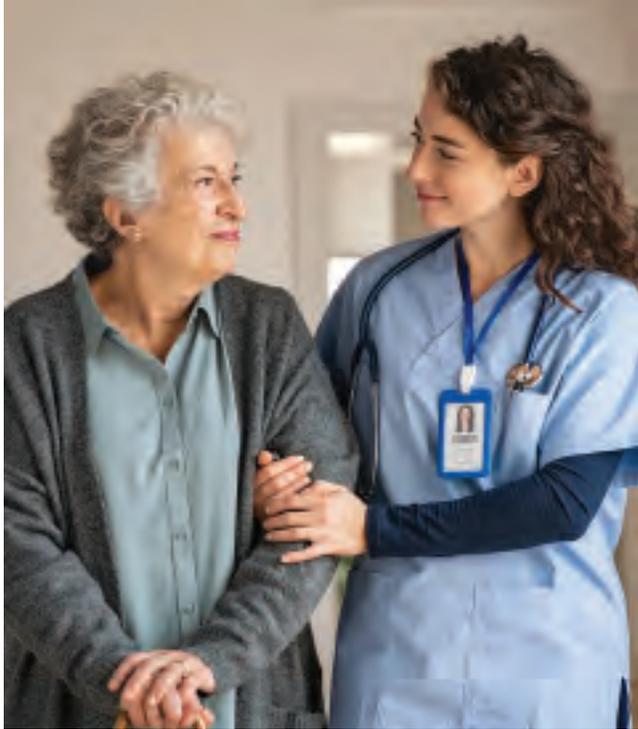
This year also brought significant reflection with the passing of our Vice Chairman, Michael MacPherson. Michael served with integrity, wisdom, and unwavering dedication to this mission. His leadership strengthened our Board and our organization, and his legacy continues to guide our work.

The Board of Directors remains focused on responsible oversight, fiscal integrity, and long-term sustainability. We are encouraged by the continued growth in donor engagement and by the renewed investment in initiatives that honor loved ones while supporting the future of hospice care in our region.

On behalf of the Board, thank you for your trust and partnership. Your support allows us to fulfill our responsibility to this community with compassion and confidence.

Sincerely,

Rick Duncan, Chairman
Aroostook Hospice Foundation Board of Directors



Circle of Care

Northern Light Home Care & Hospice, a local Medicare-certified agency, administers hands-on hospice care. The Aroostook House of Comfort and Northern Light Home Care & Hospice collaborate to provide individuals and their loved one's compassionate care, comfort, dignity, and support on their journey through hospice.

This hospice care team surrounds the patient and family with a "circle of care" consisting of the following:

- hospice physician
- nurses
- social workers
- healthcare aides
- spiritual care coordinator
- bereavement support counselor
- trained volunteers
- primary care physician or specialist



Hospice Volunteers

Hospice volunteers play a vital part in the "circle of care" at the Aroostook House of Comfort by connecting the patient and family to the rest of the hospice care team. They have a positive impact on the patients, caregivers, and families they serve while gaining a greater appreciation for life and a sense of fulfillment in contributing to their local community. Our volunteers come from different backgrounds and bring unique qualities, skills, and diverse life experiences. Yet, everyone at the Aroostook House of Comfort is united by a passion for making a difference through deep personal connection, thoughtful words, and supportive actions helping each patient, family, and caregiver through their hospice journey.



\$80,072
saved annually
2,518 x \$31.80 per hour



44
AHOC volunteers



2,518
AHOC volunteer hours
2025





Where hospice care and heart come together.

Maine Towns Served in 2025

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| Alexander | Littleton |
| Amity | Madawaska |
| Ashland | Mapleton |
| Bridgewater | Mars Hill |
| Brookton | Masardis |
| Caribou | Monticello |
| Castle Hill | Newport |
| Chapman | New Canada |
| Clifton | New Limerick |
| Connor | New Sweden |
| Crouseville | Oakfield |
| Easton | Portage |
| Ellsworth | Presque Isle |
| Fort Fairfield | Princeton |
| Fort Kent | Sherman |
| Frenchville | Stockholm |
| Hodgdon | Van Buren |
| Houlton | Washburn |
| Island Falls | Woodland |
| Limestone | |

How to Support the Aroostook House of Comfort?

Our generous donors make it possible to maintain a 9,800-square-foot state-of-the-art facility where individuals and families receive compassionate care, comfort, and support on their journey through hospice. A portion of funds raised is allocated to assist patients and families who may be underinsured, uninsured, or lack other financial means in covering the expenses associated with care at the Aroostook House of Comfort. Our unwavering mission is to provide quality end-of-life care, regardless of one's financial capacity. Fundraising efforts include private donations, naming opportunities, grants, and local fundraising events such as the Annual Golf Classic, Remembrance Way, and the Annual Walk for Hospice. Our success is due to the support of volunteers, donors, and our local communities.



One-Time Donation

Your gift will help sustain our non-profit facility and assist families in need of hospice services regardless of their ability to pay.



Recurring Donations

Your support provides compassionate care and comfort to hospice patients and their families.



Legacy Giving

Aroostook Hospice Foundation partners with Plancorp, LLC for asset management and to support planned giving.



Naming Opportunities

Supporting the Aroostook House of Comfort is a way to honor a loved one and invest in our mission.



Fundraising

Discover how you can support our mission for compassionate hospice care through your time or sponsorship.



Volunteer

Gain a greater appreciation for life and a sense of fulfillment in contributing to your local community.



Fundraising Efforts

AHOC Golf Classic

Each Father's Day Weekend, the Aroostook Hospice Foundation proudly presents the Annual Golf Classic at the Presque Isle Country Club. Serving as the cornerstone of our fundraising initiatives, this tournament has successfully raised over \$610,000 in the past decade. With open arms, we've embraced numerous new golf enthusiasts and sponsors to join us in making this event truly exceptional. Anticipation is building for our 13th Annual Golf Classic scheduled for this June, as we continue our commitment to ensuring access to inpatient hospice care here in Aroostook County. Please visit our website for more information at aroostookhouseofcomfort.org/golfclassic.



45
Teams



167
Sponsorships



32
Volunteers



\$90,000
Raised in 2025

Remembrance Way Memorial Garden & Pathway

The Aroostook House of Comfort's Remembrance Way Memorial Garden & Pathway is paved with personalized etched stones and benches honoring family and friends. Situated between the gazebo and the hospice house, it is a peaceful haven for comfort and reflection. We invite you to memorialize your loved one with a stone and message of your choice. A dedication ceremony is to take place in August, after the new stones have been properly placed. Your gift helps us provide compassionate care, comfort, dignity, and support to those who journey through hospice. Please visit our website for more information at aroostookhouseofcomfort.org/remembranceway



29
Stones, Benches, & Gardens



\$41,750
Raised in 2025



Walk for Hospice

The Aroostook Hospice Foundation held its 3rd Annual Walk for Hospice on Saturday, September 13th, at the Caribou High School Track & Trails, raising over \$68,000 for the Aroostook House of Comfort! The mission of this annual event is to raise funds for the Aroostook House of Comfort, promote community awareness, and celebrate the lives of those impacted by hospice. The 3rd Annual Walk for Hospice proudly featured Greenlaw Electric, LLC as the Event Sponsor, with the Family of Dr. David Jones as the Memorial Dedication Sponsor. The event was also supported by 20 Trail Sponsors, 22 Community Sponsors, 38 Friend Sponsors, and 10 In-Kind Sponsors. A total of 24 teams and 364 participants registered for the walk. It was a beautiful day to walk and reflect with family members, friends, and colleagues.



364
Participants



24
Teams



45
Volunteers



\$68,000
Raised in 2025



Naming Opportunities Campaign

In 2025, we proudly revitalized and relaunched our Naming Opportunities Campaign in loving memory of Michael D. MacPherson. Since the relaunch, families and supporters have embraced this meaningful way to honor loved ones while strengthening the future of the Aroostook House of Comfort.

This year, we were honored to dedicate the Family Dining Room, Suite 4, the Suite 3 and Suite 4 gardens, the Staff Break Room, a Chapel Chair, Seating Areas for Suites 3 and 4, and the Quilt Armoire. Each gift celebrates a life and helps ensure that compassionate, dignified hospice care remains available to all who need it for generations to come.



9
Spaces Dedicated



\$93,000
Raised in 2025



Fall Giving Campaign

This fall, we launched our inaugural Fall Giving Campaign, inspired by the heartfelt testimonial shared by Debbie Nelson in loving memory of her husband, Garry Nelson. Her reflection beautifully captured the comfort, dignity, and peace that define the care provided at the Aroostook House of Comfort.

This meaningful year-end initiative brought our community together in support of compassionate hospice care. Gifts to the campaign strengthen our Charity Care Program, help maintain our home and grounds as a warm and welcoming space, and support the long-term sustainability of our mission. We are deeply grateful to every donor who responded with generosity. Your support ensures that hospice and heart truly come together for families across Aroostook County and beyond.



112
Number of Donors



\$26,870
Raised in 2025



Where Hospice & Heart Come Together

Your Gift Ensures

- Maintenance of a state-of-the-art facility with six patient suites, a beautiful family living room overlooking gardens, conference and counseling rooms, a fully equipped kitchen, children's playroom, a chapel, and several private gathering areas.
- The long-term existence of the only inpatient hospice care facility north of Augusta.
- The Aroostook Hospice Foundation's ability to sustain a Charity Care program. A portion of funds raised is allocated to assist patients and families who may be underinsured, uninsured, or lack other financial means in covering the expenses associated with care at the Aroostook House of Comfort. Our unwavering mission is to provide quality end-of-life care, regardless of one's financial capacity.
- The Aroostook Hospice Foundation's commitment to delivering compassionate care, comfort, dignity, and support to individuals and their loved ones when the patient's needs extend beyond what home hospice can provide.



167

Patients in 2025



1,235

Patients Since 2018



39

Maine Towns Served in 2025



44

AHOC volunteers



2,518

Volunteer Hours



\$92,500

Charity Care Funds Distributed in 2025



9

Approved Charity Care



96

Charity Care Days in 2025



\$616,122

Funds Raised in 2025
(Gross amount)



\$90,000

2025 Golf Classic



\$41,750

Remembrance Way in 2025



\$68,000

2025 Walk for Hospice



Looking Ahead Together

As we close this year's report, we do so with deep gratitude. The Aroostook House of Comfort exists because our community believes compassionate end-of-life care is essential. Every gift, sponsorship, volunteer hour, and shared story strengthens our capacity to care for families with dignity, comfort, and peace.

Looking ahead, our responsibility remains clear. The need for inpatient hospice care in rural Aroostook County continues, and sustaining this home for future generations requires steady stewardship and ongoing investment. By strengthening our Charity Care Fund, maintaining our facility, and safeguarding access to care, we ensure this mission endures.

Thank you for walking alongside us. With your partnership, hospice and heart will continue to come together now and for years to come.





In Memory of Michael D. MacPherson

April 26, 1949 - March 1, 2025

The Naming Opportunity Campaign is dedicated in loving memory of Michael MacPherson, our esteemed board member, Vice Chairman, and dear friend. We are thankful for his legacy of compassionate leadership.



AROOSTOOK
House of Comfort

www.aroostookhouseofcomfort.org