



Volunteer VOICE

FEBRUARY 2019

 **Morton Plant Mease**
BayCare Health System
Volunteer Resources



Camp Living Springs Celebrates 20th Anniversary!



Tim McMahan, former director of oncology services, along with eight breast cancer survivors, had a vision to bring this unique retreat idea to Morton Plant Hospital. With the help of a few volunteers, the CaPSS team, and the generosity of Morton Plant Mease Health Care Foundation, this camp began in 1998, with 21 campers attending the first retreat.

Each year Camp Living Springs continues to grow – we take on an average of 65-70 campers each year to enjoy this unique experience. We’ve been honored to serve more than 1,000 cancer survivors.

“This camp is a place where cancer survivors can let their hair down and take off their wigs. It gives them the courage to embrace their survivorship, instead of being filled with fear.”

~Tim McMahan
Director of Operations, St. Anthony’s Hospital

Spotlight on Our Patient Companions

Did you know our Morton Plant Mease hospitals provide a very unique service to our patients at their bedside?

Many of our patients are alone and don’t have visitors or family coming to see them. A patient companion is a volunteer who brings a bright and cheery smile along with the desire to listen to the patients’ stories. They may also help to orient family members to the patient’s room, patient floor and the hospital. Patient companions answer call lights, assisting the nursing team with simple tasks, such as bringing a warm blanket.

Built into the Patient Companion program is a valuable service called “Meal Mates.” This service helps patients with their meals when they aren’t able to feed themselves. It may be as simple as arranging their meal tray or actually helping to feed the patient.



Ed Darden
Mease Countryside Hospital



Bob Ferguson
Morton Plant Hospital

CareLift - New Name, Same Great Service



As of January 7, 2019, the free patient transportation services at Morton Plant Mease hospitals will operate under a different name, **CareLift**.

The change is a new name for some, but everyone can expect the same extraordinary service.

“By making this change, our hope is that it will be easier and more seamless for our patients to use this vital service,” said Suzanne Scott, director of Volunteer Resources, Morton Plant Mease Health Care. “We believe that connecting patients to their medical care is one of our most important services.”

Run by Volunteer Resources, the service provides free transportation to patients to and from medical appointments, as well as rides for patients being discharged from the hospital. For over 20 years, transportation services have provided hundreds of thousands of free rides to some of the most vulnerable members of the community.

CareLift was the original van transportation service that began at Mease Dunedin Hospital and expanded to Mease Countryside Hospital. CareVan has also provided free rides to patients in the Morton Plant Hospital service area. For the Morton Plant North Bay area in New Port Richey, the service was known as HealthRide. Now all van transportation services will function under the name CareLift.

There'll still be a dispatch office in each region, and they'll retain the same phone numbers for patients to call and schedule service.

**Mease Countryside Hospital
Mease Dunedin Hospital
(727) 734-6107**

**Morton Plant Hospital
(727) 461-8548**

**Morton Plant
North Bay Hospital
(727) 859-4730**

Service Awards

Congratulations

Mease Countryside Hospital First Quarter:

25 years Rosemarie Matteoni

20 years Jean Shufelt

10 years Patricia Slorah

Second Quarter:

40 years Hilda Myers

15 years Shirley Giammatteo,
Susan Kushel, Joan Swaim

10 years Lois Balsanek, John Balsanek,
Sammy Michael, James Kelly, Carol
Polacek, Caryl Fawcett, Nancy Chicollo

Mease Dunedin Hospital

First Quarter:

30 Years Ellen Gitchell

15 Years Pat Crean, Robert Lindberg,
Nick Schultz

10 Years Gayle Wentland,
Jamie Baughman, Della Mauck

Second Quarter:

20 Years Pat Hughes

15 Years Pat Morris

10 Years Ursula Noll

Morton Plant Hospital

First Quarter:

15 years Margaret Mathios

10 years Joseph Piccone

Second Quarter:

20 years Pat Best, Mary Ellen Owen

10 years Steve Kelly, Helen Buell

Morton Plant North Bay Hospital

Second Quarter:

10 years Gail Nalli, Matt Mathews,
Charlene Rogers, Arlene Schleicher,
Don Schleicher