

STEERE HOUSE RECOGNIZES  
**Hope Hospice & Palliative Care**  
WITH 2018 LEGACY AWARD



Traditionally, Steere House announces the Legacy Award Recipient at the Annual Meeting held in June. This year proved no different as Executive Director, Julie Richard, announced that Hope Hospice & Palliative Care Rhode Island (Hope Hospice RI) would be honored with this year's award. In making the announcement, Julie spoke of the collaborative relationship that Steere House has with Hope Hospice RI, as well as how this organization's reliance on a strong volunteer effort ties in well with the spirit of the Legacy Award. As the 2018 Steere House Legacy Award and Autumn's Promise honoree, Hope Hospice RI President and CEO, Diana Franchitto, will accept the award on the organization's behalf at the Autumn's Promise event in September.

What is now known as Hope Hospice & Palliative Care Rhode Island (Hope Hospice RI), formerly known as Home & Hospice Care of Rhode Island, was established in 1976 and today cares for about 3,500 end-of-life patients per year. The organization's mission is focused on providing stronger end-of-life care in Rhode Island and offers compassionate and individualized support for grief at any stage. They help make each day its best by caring for the whole person – physically, spiritually and emotionally. The approach to this support is a mix of complementary patient services, including pet therapy, Reiki, hand massage and music and art groups in combination with traditional medical therapies. In addition, as a local nonprofit, Hope Hospice RI offers care to everyone, regardless of their ability to pay.

Essential to delivering on this level of care is the work of nearly 300 volunteers. Hope Hospice RI volunteers are vital members of the care and support teams. They work in partnership with the organization's staff with providing emotional support and companionship, offering respite care for family members who need a break from caring for a loved one, assisting with light household tasks or transportation; providing assistance in the office by answering telephones or preparing mailings, or assisting with planning and execution of special events. Volunteers also help facilitate Reiki, art and music groups or pet therapy; and representing the organization and speaking on its behalf at local gatherings and meetings.

Leading this effort for nearly a decade is Diana Franchitto, managing a 300-person staff of physicians, nurses, hospice aides, social workers, chaplain and grief counselors. Franchitto has been a strong, leading voice in hospice, palliative and home care. In January 2016, the affiliation between HopeHealth and Home Care & Hospice of New England, the parent company of Hope Hospice & Palliative Care Rhode Island in Providence and Visiting Nurse of HopeHealth in Lincoln, RI, was completed. Ms. Franchitto became the CEO of the expanded regional organization, HopeHealth, which is now New England's largest non-profit hospice and palliative care organization.

Join us as we bestow Diana and her organization with this award and toast the entire Steere House community at Autumn's Promise Dinner & Auction, September 28<sup>th</sup>.

To learn about the Steere House Legacy Award, visit our website:

[http://www.steerehouse.org/events\\_awards](http://www.steerehouse.org/events_awards)





## A Letter from the Executive Director

Julie H. Richard, NHA, MA

If your summer is passing as quickly as mine, you may be surprised to learn that it's mid-summer already! This means our Autumn's Promise Dinner & Auction preparations are well underway. Our first step, however, was the announcement of our 2018 Legacy Award Recipient and Autumn's Promise Honoree at our Annual Meeting in June: Hope Hospice & Palliative Care Rhode Island.

Just as Henry J. Steere and Lucy Bucklin actively contributed to the efforts of several clergy and individuals in the Providence area to support the need for the "formation of a society to provide a home for aged men, similar to the one founded for aged women", Hope Hospice & Palliative Care Rhode Island was established as the result of efforts by a volunteer planning committee of health care professionals and community members who cared deeply about providing end-of-life care in Rhode Island. It's heartwarming to hear these stories – of neighbors taking care of neighbors – and that from these genuine concerns spring a long-standing organization within our community serving the needs of others.

Today Hope Hospice cares for about 3,500 end-of-life patients per year with a 300-person staff of physicians, nurses, hospice aides, social workers, chaplains and grief counselors. At the helm is Diana Franchitto, as president and CEO. Diana has been a strong, leading voice in hospice, palliative and home care for nearly a decade and Hope Hospice has been a valued partner of Steere House and our families for over 25 years, providing support and care in a side-by-side relationship with our own team of nurses and social workers. And in keeping with one of the tenets of the Legacy Award, Diana and her organization's work with nearly 300 volunteers in a variety of capacities, inspires a true spirit of volunteerism in Rhode Island.

It will be my pleasure to honor Hope Hospice during this special evening – one that has come to mean so much to the Steere House Community and I hope you will plan to join us.

*Julie H. Richard*



Dear Friends,  
Steere House is pleased to present our Annual Report for 2017. Of special note is the completed "Autumn's Promise" which brought our historic building back to life as a special care in the community work home care facility. Another project of note is our Foundation. This improvement would see how best to provide care for our most vulnerable leadership group. This project will not only be a wonderful improvement, but it will also be a model for other organizations in the Valley that serve clients and staff with the same level of care. Please support this effort as we make our connection with hope and faith.



## Steere House Holds 143rd Annual Meeting

Steere House Board President, Linda M. Cannistra, presided over the 143<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting held on Monday, June 25<sup>th</sup> at Steere House. Board Treasurer, Norma J. Owens, participated by presenting the Treasurer's Report, featured in the newly released 2017 Annual Report. Concluding the meeting, Executive Director Julie H. Richard announced Hope Hospice & Palliative Care Rhode Island as this year's recipient of the Steere House Legacy Award. Hope Hospice will be recognized at September's Autumn's Promise Event. Back by popular demand, residents displayed their recently completed artwork during the Board of Directors Meet & Greet, immediately following the meeting. Visit [www.steerehouse.org](http://www.steerehouse.org) to review the Annual Report online.

## Dr. Debra Saliba Featured Speaker at Kameny Lectureship

Seasoned geriatrician and recognized health services researcher, Debra Saliba, MD, MPH, AGSF will speak at the 2018 Pearl Kameny Lectureship in Geriatric Medicine on Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>.

Dr. Debra Saliba is the Anna and Harry Borun Endowed Chair in Geriatrics and Gerontology at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA); Director of the UCLA/Jewish Home Borun Center for Gerontological Research; Professor at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and Los Angeles VA; and Senior Natural Scientist at RAND Health. She has more than 20 years of experience leading geriatrics research across the continuum of care, developing tools and approaches to improve care for older adults. This work has helped advance assessment protocols to link frail older adults to more targeted care and services. Dr. Saliba led a nationwide team that developed a new Minimum Data Set (MDS) assessment tool now used over 14 million times a year to identify the needs of nursing home residents and generate

care quality measures for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to determine reimbursement for post-acute care in U.S. nursing homes.



An author of more than 100 research publications and chapters, Dr. Saliba earned her medical degree and completed residency training in internal medicine at the University of Alabama School of Medicine. She completed fellowships in Geriatrics and Health Services Research at UCLA and the Los Angeles VA while earning her Master of Public Health degree from UCLA.

Now in its 18<sup>th</sup> year, the Lectureship is a gift from Joan Gelch given in memory of her mother and Steere House resident Pearl Kameny. The Lectureship is held annually for medical staff and clinicians at Lifespan hospitals; Steere House staff; students, residents and fellows of Brown University School of Medicine; and CareLink members. The Lecture will be held at 8:00 a.m., George Auditorium, Rhode Island Hospital.

## Steere House Summer Nights



Steere House residents are enjoying something a bit new and unusual in their summer evening schedule – “Summer Nights”. The program runs sometime after five in the evening, about once a week, and features the opportunity to eat in or eat out. After the meal, the fun really begins with a game (we’ll be honest, something involving gambling is popular!) or movie.

# Steere House

NURSING & REHABILITATION CENTER

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# Calendar of Events

FRIDAY

# SEPTEMBER 28



## Admission Packets are Available

If you or someone you know is interested in placement at Steere House Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, please call for information.  
(401) 454-7970

## Best Wishes to Our Retirees!



Steere House recently celebrated the retirement of three long time staff members. Pictured here with three veteran retirees are (l-r) Dianna DeCarlo (23 years of service), Harriet Champi, Dorothy Nichols, Denise Trimble, Elaine King (49 years of service) and Frances Lowell (36 years of service). We wish you well!

*Steere House*

NURSING & REHABILITATION CENTER

100 Borden Street, Providence, R.I. 02903

[www.steerehouse.org](http://www.steerehouse.org)

(401) 454-7970



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*Steere House*  
NURSING & REHABILITATION CENTER

*Autumn's Promise*

DINNER & AUCTION

**FRIDAY • SEPTEMBER 28 • 6:30**

Providence Marriott Downtown  
1 Orms Street, Providence, RI

Tickets on sale now  
[www.steerehouse.org](http://www.steerehouse.org)

