



LISAARD &
INNISFREE
HOSPICE



14TH ANNUAL
HIKE FOR HOSPICE
SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 2023

Still Hiking After All These Years

When we recently spoke with one of our returning Hikers about why she continues to raise thousands of dollars in our annual Hike for Hospice, her answer was simple, direct, and to the point:

“When I believe in something, I really go for it 100%. That’s why I Hike.”

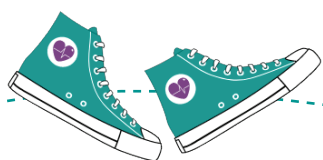
Geri Ysinga has been a supporter of Lisaard & Innisfree Hospice for many years, having known some of our residents who have experienced the love and care we provide as people face their final days in our Houses.

“All my supporters know me well – they know I’m determined, steadfast, and I stand behind what I believe in. We are so lucky to have a treasure like Lisaard and Innisfree in our community, and we all have someone we care about that may one day need the support that’s provided here. Even ourselves,” remarks Geri.

And in 2018, something happened that really kicked her fundraising efforts into high gear – her lifelong friend Jo Ann who, coincidentally, was our Director of Operations, was diagnosed with breast cancer. Geri galvanized her circle of supporters, surpassed her fundraising goal long before the Hike, and surprised Jo Ann on Hike Day with special t-shirts she’d had made for the team.

“It just really hit home for me that year especially, how important it is to raise the money needed to help this organization. And now that I’ve been part of this movement for so many years, I can’t not participate – I will keep hiking as long as I’m able.”

Geri has good friends on her team that are just like family, and prior to Hike Day, Geri spends time with each one of her supporters, not online or through email, but face-to-face. “I register online for the hike, but I meet personally with everyone who donates, to spend time over coffee, see how they’re doing, and talk about how important Lisaard & Innisfree Hospice is to our community. And after the Hike, I revisit everyone to thank them and hand-deliver their tax receipt.”



TEAM JO

We are so grateful for community cheerleaders like Geri! And you don't need to hike to help - if you're unable to join us to hike this year, please consider a donation to our Hospice Heroes team. This team represents our Nurses and PSWs, our Social and Bereavement Services, our Resource Team, and our Volunteers, who together deliver the exceptional 24/7 palliative care we are known for in our community.

"Each day I make it my mission to do something that helps others," Geri observes as we wrap up our chat, "we have to help each other and organizations like Lisaard & Innisfree Hospice - if we haven't already, we're all going to go through similar experiences with family and friends, and knowing there's a beautiful, tranquil place to spend those final days surrounded by comfort and support is so important."

