

South Coast Hospice & Palliative Care Services, Inc.

1620 Thompson Road - Coos Bay, OR 97420 - 541-269-2986 - sch@schospice.org - www.schospice.org

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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South Coast Hospice & Palliative Care Services Updated Response to COVID-19 and Operations Status

South Coast Hospice is still here, providing services daily to our friends, neighbors and community members who require end of life care with dignity. In addition to Hospice services, we also direct the South Coast Hospice Thrift store which, we know, many have inquired and want to know when will be open.

The first thing we want our community neighbors to know, is thank you! Thank you for the countless calls to ask when we're opening and that you have donations! We love to hear that and glad that we are missed but unfortunately still cannot reopen. Although the Governor has lifted the closure on small businesses we fear it will return and with the increased number of COVID-19 cases across the State of Oregon, we still do not believe that the threat of the virus is contained and that places both our staff and our customers at risk. We continue to say that our staff are very important to us and hope to have all of them return and we are staying in communication with all of them.

We will be re-evaluating the possibility of re-opening our Thrift Store every two weeks and hope to be open very soon! We were set to re-open until the COVID-19 cases started to climb to unsafe numbers which has made us re-think our decision. We thank everyone for doing their part to decrease the growing COVID cases across the state. Keep an eye out for further information to follow!

The Pay It Forward program will continue. Member non-profits and agencies can contact us at our office at 541-269-2986 or sch@schospice.org to submit requests for needed items. Organizations who have not signed up yet for the program can contact us for the simple form to fill out and submit.

We will have two staff in the Thrift Store to provide security, work on projects and fulfill the needs of the Pay It Forward organizations. We have used this time to make changes at the store both inside and out and are looking forward to being able to open our doors once again and ask that you take your donations elsewhere for the moment. When we do open we will not have the open space for all the donations we expect.

Your not-for-profit program serving Coos County patients and families since 1985

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As the Thrift Store provides 17% of our revenue for patient care services, we are currently seeking financial donations to help us through this crisis. Please contact Doreen at 541-297-3241 or d.kelly@schospice.org if you are able to help. At this time we are experiencing an increase in patient referrals and plan to continue to provide care and support to some of our most vulnerable community members.

Our care team staff will make home visits as necessary to limit exposure and will be available by phone 24/7. When visiting, our team members will enter homes wearing eye protection, masks, and gloves to prevent the spread of any virus to our patients. Our staff have been instructed to not report to work if they have symptoms of illness. South Coast Hospice is monitoring reports from the Oregon Health Authority, Coos Health and Wellness, and the CDC for the latest information and following all state and federal guidelines regarding COVID-19.

We have canceled all bereavement and illness support groups, trainings, events, and classes until it is safe to resume. Those in need of bereavement or grief support can call our office at 541-269-2986 and ask for Mia.

Thank you for understanding and working with us to help our patients, their families, and the community during this difficult time.

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