EOLWA: Financial stability provides a firm base for the future

For the first time in three fiscal years, End of Life Washington closed its books with a positive contribution to its reserves.

During the 2016-2017 fiscal year (July 1 – June 30), EOLWA exceeded its fundraising goals by more than $7,500 and held expenses to almost $10,000 under projections. Thus, $17,379 will be added to the reserves.

This responsible fiscal policy positions EOLWA to continue expanding its work with end of life decision making and to assure that every Washington State resident has access to the Death with Dignity Act, for which we all worked so tirelessly.

On the personnel front, stability was maintained with only one change in our office staff. At the close of the fiscal year, former client adviser Jillene MacCreery became Client Support Director, replacing Beth Glennon, who transitioned to another end-of-life position. Executive Director Sally McLaughlin, Development Director Kathy Sparkman, and Office Manager Lindsay Soyer continue to keep the organization on track.

The financial picture:

End of Life Washington’s services are free and available to anyone who seeks our assistance. This community service is possible because of many dedicated and loyal supporters. We gratefully acknowledge the more than 1,200 individual donors who provide the majority of our support:

- Individual donations (93%)
- Grants, etc. (7%)
Volunteers continue to expand EOLWA’s reach in Washington

Across the state, End of Life Washington Volunteer Client Advisers spend thousands of hours annually helping people who are facing their final days. EOLWA offers a full menu of end-of-life services. Changes in our profile:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of EOLWA volunteers covering clients across Washington State.</td>
<td>Number of EOLWA volunteers covering clients across Washington State.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>529</td>
<td>521</td>
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<tr>
<td>EOLWA clients served by volunteers.</td>
<td>EOLWA clients served by volunteers.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2,764</td>
<td>3,672</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer hours donated (speaking engagements not included).</td>
<td>Volunteer hours donated (speaking engagements not included).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average number of contacts between clients and volunteers.</td>
<td>Average number of contacts between clients and volunteers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>161</td>
<td>192</td>
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<tr>
<td>97%</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington Death with Dignity deaths attended by EOLWA volunteers.</td>
<td>Washington Death with Dignity deaths attended by EOLWA volunteers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>111</td>
<td>138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Events, speeches, conferences, workshops staffed by EOLWA personnel.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Our clients:

More than half (56%) of EOLWA clients are referred to us by hospice or medical professionals; 13% find out about our services on the Internet; and others find us via a friend or relative, in the media, or elsewhere.

The average age of a client in 2016 was 74. The youngest was 33 and the oldest 101.

Over three-fourths (77%) of Death with Dignity clients suffered from cancer, while 16% suffered from either neurodegenerative or respiratory diseases.

Nearly two-thirds (64%) of clients held a long-standing belief in Death with Dignity.

Demand for services continues to grow

Number of Death with Dignity participants in Washington State
End of Life Washington

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OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES
Mission: End of Life Washington upholds your right to the full range of end-of-life choices, including Death with Dignity, through advocacy, education, and support.

Vision Statement: We envision a world where people understand their end-of-life choices and can die on their own terms, without barriers.

Values: Excellent Client Care, Integrity, Professionalism, Compassion, and Stewardship.

You can help so we can help
As noted above, End of Life Washington never charges a fee for its services and depends on the generosity of individuals to keep the organization afloat.

More than nine of every ten dollars EOLWA receives are from individual donors – not large corporations or foundations.

Please consider joining the generous individual donors who make it possible for EOLWA to continue its important work throughout the state.

Contact Kathy Sparkman at 206-256-1636.

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