

PREFACE



For Hospice Georgina, 2017 was an important year. Let me give you some context to tell you why. In 1994, a group of concerned Georgina residents started a grass-roots organization to help people at end of life and the bereaved; Hospice Georgina was born. By 1997, the organization had grown and stabilized, and in that year it was incorporated. Over the past twenty years, Hospice Georgina's volunteers and staff have been supporting those with life-limiting illnesses and palliative people, their caregivers, and the bereaved in Georgina. We continue this work, and on our twentieth anniversary of incorporation, we wanted to celebrate the impact of our volunteers.

Over the years, we have put an emphasis on recruiting, training, supporting, debriefing, and recognizing our volunteers so that they can provide quality support to clients. This year, we wanted to do something special and lasting: a volume in the series entitled *Hearts Linked*

HEARTS LINKED BY COURAGE

by Courage. This book captures stories from people in the community who have been touched by Hospice.

This beautiful book shares stories from clients, caregivers, volunteers, board members, staff, and others who have been involved with Hospice Georgina since its grass-roots founding in 1994. Celebrating our twentieth anniversary since incorporation, these stories highlight the impact that Hospice Georgina has had in our community, and shares stories of endurance and hope. Clients have told us, “Hospice Georgina saved my life,” and others have pondered, “What would I do without the support I get [got] from Hospice Georgina?” Other people have volunteered for or worked for Hospice Georgina, and it changed their outlook on life. These are their stories.

— Marie Morton, Executive Director, 2013–