

The Journey Matters

pikespeakhospice.org



Georgiana and Sean McMenamín

A YEAR WITH SEAN

Georgiana and Sean McMenamín had a whirlwind romance. They met while Sean was deployed with the U.S. Army in Georgiana's home country of Romania. After a long-distance relationship, Georgiana came to Colorado, and the two married in late 2019.

Instead of building a life together, though, they spent the next year preparing for the end of Sean's. In January 2020, Sean learned he had cancer, and in May 2021, he died at the age of 35.

Georgiana said she didn't expect him to pass away so quickly. Still, she was grateful for the special moments they shared: vacations to Las Vegas and California and a month-long visit with Sean's parents in Pennsylvania. She said she knew Sean's doctors wouldn't approve of their travel during the pandemic, and even after his death spoke about their trips as if

they were students cutting class, but neither of them knew what to expect for the year ahead. She said they wanted to take advantage of the times when he was feeling good, and she was glad to spend time getting to know Sean's family.

In the final weeks of his life, Sean received care from the staff at Pikes Peak Hospice & Palliative Care. Georgiana said she appreciated that when she had to leave the Inpatient Care Unit for short periods of time, she could trust that he was in good hands.

The Pikes Peak staff worked as a team to give him comfort and care and so that he could be there, present and engaged with his family and friends as much as possible.

"We take pride in how we deliver care, and value the trust that families place in us," said Dawn Darvalics, PPHC president.

INTRODUCING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LAURA ROSENDO

The Pikes Peak Hospice Foundation is excited to introduce executive director Laura Rosendo. She joined us in August and brings a wealth of experience in fundraising and philanthropy.

Laura brings over 15 years of experience in the nonprofit and fundraising sector in Colorado Springs. Prior to joining the Pikes Peak Hospice Foundation, she served as the director of development at Colorado College, where she managed the major gifts, corporate and foundation relations and gift planning programs. While at Colorado College, she led the team to complete the most successful fundraising campaign in the history of the college, raising more than \$465 million in seven years and capturing some of the college's largest individual gifts ever.

Laura said she came to Pikes Peak because she has witnessed the impact of hospice work firsthand and



Executive Director Laura Rosendo

values how the team takes a personal approach to each patient's physical, emotional and spiritual needs while supporting the patient's loved ones throughout their care.

"In a time when it feels as though modern medicine has grown increasingly impersonal, Pikes Peak Hospice & Palliative Care continues to let the human element take center

stage and genuinely takes a team approach to the care of each patient and loved one," she said.

Laura is thrilled to lead the Pikes Peak Hospice Foundation team to focus her energy locally and make an impact on the Colorado Springs community she has made her home. In addition to her work in philanthropy, she serves as the vice chair of the board of directors for El Pomar Youth Sports Park.

Laura was born in Seattle, where her grandparents were early homesteaders, and came to Colorado Springs on a soccer scholarship to Colorado College. The competitive spirit she had as an athlete brought her into the world of philanthropy and fundraising. She has stayed in Colorado Springs and continues to enjoy the Colorado lifestyle with her husband, Tony Rosendo, and their two boys, Tiago and Rio.

Foundation News

COMMUNITY FIRST FOUNDATION



December 7, 2021

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR COLORADO GIVES DAY

Colorado Gives Day is Dec. 7. The annual statewide giving drive celebrates philanthropy and encourages Coloradans to give within their community.

Once again, the event includes an incentive fund of more than \$1 million. The more money Pikes Peak raises, the larger share it receives from the incentive fund. Donations can be scheduled ahead of time starting on November 1, 2021. ColoradoGives.org



2021

TREES OF LIFE

TREES OF LIFE

We invite you to remember someone special during this year's Trees of Life.

During the winter holiday season, the trees surrounding the Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum will be illuminated for the Trees of Life celebration in memory of thousands of loved ones. This 37-year-old community tradition is free to attend and open to all. It also pays tribute to our military and first responders by illuminating a special red, white and blue tree in their honor. Additionally, loved ones' names will be read aloud in remembrance.

Visit our website, www.pikespeakhospice.org for participation options, and join us for this year's tree-lighting ceremony at 5 p.m., November 13.



PIKES PEAK HOSPICE & PALLIATIVE CARE RECEIVES ACHC ACCREDITATION

Pikes Peak Hospice & Palliative Care was recently recognized for its excellence in patient care by receiving accreditation from the Accreditation Commission for Health Care (ACHC).

The ACHC gives accreditation to health care organizations that meet certain high marks for quality of care. Pikes Peak Hospice & Palliative Care earned ACHC accreditation for its services in hospice care, palliative care and inpatient care at Penrose Hospital. Within the industry, ACHC has become synonymous with value, integrity and customer service.

"ACHC accreditation reflects the exceptional level of care that all of our staff and volunteers provide," said PPHPC President Dawn Darvalics. "It demonstrates our commitment to providing the best care possible."

PARTNER AGENCY



HELP PIKES PEAK AND OUR NEIGHBORS THROUGH THE EMPTY STOCKING FUND

The Empty Stocking Fund sparks the giving spirit in the Pikes Peak region to benefit local health and human service agencies, like Pikes Peak Hospice & Palliative Care.

Every dollar donated to Empty Stocking Fund grows by 45.3 percent through matching funds. Donate to the Empty Stocking Fund and support Pikes Peak Hospice & Palliative Care at www.emptystockingfundco.org.



Providing a special kind of care, a different kind of hope.

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Pikes Peak Hospice & Palliative Care, Inc. is a community-based nonprofit serving the Pikes Peak region since 1980.

Our Mission

- Provide compassionate & expert end-of-life care to patients & their families.
- Partner with those who share our vision.
- Lead change in the community to ensure comfort for all who face serious illness.

Our Core Principles

- Hospice care is about living.
- End-of-life events are universal.
- Comfort & dignity should be accessible to all.
- Every life experience is exceptional.
- To listen is to understand.
- Hospice & palliative care is ever-changing.
- Optimism is powerful & contagious.

Honored to walk this journey with you.