

We at Hospicare and Palliative Care Services are extremely moved and quite taken aback by the fact that registration, when it opened on May 3 for this year's swim, reached its limit in a record 15 hours! More than 300 women have signed up to swim across Cayuga Lake on August 14 to raise funds to support Hospicare's services for individuals living with serious illness along with those who care for them, and those who are learning to live with loss.

Ultimately, we are simply not able to expand the swim this year to safely and comfortably accommodate more swimmers and the boaters necessary to escort swimmers across the lake. We take the suggestions and ideas we hear seriously and, as we do each year, will incorporate these ideas into plans for next year's event. Thanks in advance for your creative input - we hear you and appreciate your commitment to our success.

As far as we are concerned, even if you aren't swimming, you are a part of Women Swimmin' as a whole and we appreciate your support. We want anyone who is interested in Women Swimmin' to remain active and engaged and we hope you take advantage of some of the opportunities to be a pivotal part of the event. Stay involved by signing up as a boater or an event volunteer, or create an alternative challenge for yourself to raise funds for Women Swimmin' for Hospicare...

Sign Up as a Boater

- Sign up as a boater and float alongside the swimmers. Boaters are the key to making this event safe! [Register today](#).

Sign Up as a Volunteer

- Help with swimmer or boater "check-in/registration" on August 13.
- Support a swimmer by being their training partner and event day buddy.
- Help manage the pods as they line up to board the MV Columbia. This is a very important role in ensuring safe check in procedures.
- Assist swimmers by securely removing and stowing their personal belongings from the MV Columbia for when they get back to shore.
- Cheer on the swimmers and help make this event the celebration of life that it is!
- Help with onshore activities like the "Good Grief Program" event of prayer-flag making. Create something with children or on your own to add to our display which will be assembled and then strung up at various sites in the community.
- Help with breakfast, sell merchandise, or manage raffle ticket sales.
- Assist with minimal waste efforts by ensuring all waste goes into the proper bins, items are recycled, and participants and families can find the water stations.

- There are a plethora of fun things to get involved with. Thank you in advance for all of your help and support. Contact jc27@cornell.edu to become a volunteer.

Many thanks!

Alternative Swim Plans

We are humbled and very touched by the following supporters of Hospicare...Thank you for your creativity and generosity!

- Denny Grout, a past swimmer, plans to swim 1.2 miles in her pond and ask friends to support her swim.
- Kirsten Miller, who in the future has plans to walk 1.2 miles with her young son to raise funds for Hospicare.
- Several other women have contacted us to say they plan to fundraise in lieu of swimming this year.

If you plan on doing something to support Hospicare, please let us know so that we can formally thank you and recognize your outstanding efforts! Contact info@womenswimmin.org with the following information: Your name, mailing address, email address, telephone number, and a brief description of what you're planning to do. Using this information, we can create a personal page to facilitate online fundraising. What a truly amazing community we live in.

Warm thanks!