



September 17, 2024

Mayor Aina DeViet  
The Corporation of the Municipality of Middlesex Centre  
10277 Ilderton Road  
Ilderton, Ontario NOM 2A0

Dear Mayor DeViet:

On behalf of Jessica's House Hospice, I ask that you and the Council write a letter supporting our plans to expand our residential hospice capacity from 3 beds to 6.

The Minister of Health had previously announced that 84 new adult hospice beds were included in the provincial budget released on March 26, 2024. Invitations for Expressions of Interest for this funding were released today, and responses are required by October 18th.

As we prepare our case for expansion, we look at how we can better serve our rural communities. We know that people who live in rural communities prefer to stay in rural communities. If successful, funding for three additional hospice beds in our area will help alleviate the current pressures that our communities experience when families are unable to access a hospice bed because we're all at full capacity. This expansion is badly needed now and will only worsen over the coming years.

In addition, by adding 3 more beds, Jessica's House Hospice will be able to accommodate transfers from South Huron Hospital when they have patients who are considered palliative, which will help to relieve pressures on hospital beds that are so desperately needed in our community.

Therefore, we respectfully request that you and the Council address your letter of support for Jessica's House Hospice's application to the Ontario Health Provincial Palliative Care Program, Ontario Health West Region, to the attention of Ms. Lacie Hampson, BScN, MN, Lead, Palliative Care Implementation, and send it to us to be included with the application that is under development.

Mayor DeViet, we remain very grateful for your ongoing support for Jessica's House Hospice and look forward to launching this new expansion!

Warm regards,

Tracy Snell, B.Sc.N.  
Executive Director

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