

September 17, 2013

Jane Meier Hamilton MSN, RN
Partners on the Path
P. O. Box 612
Gwynedd Valley, PA 19437

Dear Jane:

As the Holy Redeemer Caregiver Support Program coordinators who worked very closely with you on the **Care for Caregivers** program, we have been asked to write a letter of recommendation for you. We had the opportunity to work closely together for over 10 months and know the scope and quality of the work you did for Holy Redeemer. We are pleased to write this letter to describe and commend the services you provide.

At Holy Redeemer Health System, many of our employees are professional caregivers. A significant number of them also care for family or friends during “off-work” hours. Being a compassionate caregiver often takes a physical, emotional, and spiritual toll. Caregiver stress can erode the capacity to be effective when working and to be compassionate when caring.

Holy Redeemer’s mission to “care, comfort and heal” applies to those we serve and to the 4,000+ people who work at Holy Redeemer. Motivated by our mission and committed to supporting valued employees, in 2012 Holy Redeemer collaborated with Partners on the Path to develop and implement an innovative **Care for Caregivers** program. A wide range of resources were offered:

1. Caregiver education: Showing caregivers how to care for themselves as they care for others with programs provided at thirteen Holy Redeemer sites in PA and NJ and a webinar
2. Leader education: Showing supervisors and managers how to recognize and respond to caregiver stress at the individual, work group and organizational levels
3. Telephone support: Small group discussions of family caregivers’ concerns
4. Individual self-assessments: Of professional compassion fatigue and family caregiver burden
5. On-line resources: Links to www.PartnersonthePath.org and to other web-based resources
6. Caregiver Resource Guide: A customized guide created in collaboration with a team of Holy Redeemer managers and staff, now on the Holy Redeemer intranet, that provides resources for caregivers’ financial, housing, legal, personal, emotional and care coordination dilemmas

Our goals for the project were achieved on time and within budget. The program was very well received by nearly 375 people. All of the programs were facilitated by you and consistently received favorable praise from participants. Pre/post survey data show the **Care for Caregivers** program:

1. **Demonstrated the organization’s care and concern** for employees by providing real help for caregiver stress

2. **Positively impacted participants'** awareness of caregiver resources, stress management practices and productivity
3. **Positively affected workplace interactions** among colleagues and with those receiving care at Holy Redeemer

To organizations considering work with Partners on the Path we can attest that our experience was an extremely positive one. You are tremendously skilled in consulting, facilitating, teaching, writing and public speaking. You "walk the talk", manifesting the caring and compassion that you teach. You are a content expert on the issue of caregiving. Partners on the Path's products, services and interactions were always of the highest quality. Your passion and energy on the topic fueled our work with you in establishing **Care for Caregivers** that raised compassion and consciousness about the scope of caregiving. You work with integrity and professionalism. You are down-to-earth, personable and a very positive partner.

We enjoyed the experience of working with Partners on the Path and are delighted with the outcomes of our project. We confidently recommend you and your organization, Partners on the Path for expert consulting and support to caregivers.

Sincerely,



Patrice Morris
Dean, Experience Learning &
Organizational Change
Holy Redeemer Health System



Patricia McGettigan
Licensed Psychologist
Administrative Director
Holy Redeemer Counseling Center

CC:

Michael B. Laign, President/Chief Executive Officer

John Kepner, Senior Vice President

Joe Cassidy, Vice-President, Human Resources