



Hands of
Hope
Compassionate care for those experiencing k



Annual Report

February 2015 thru January 2016

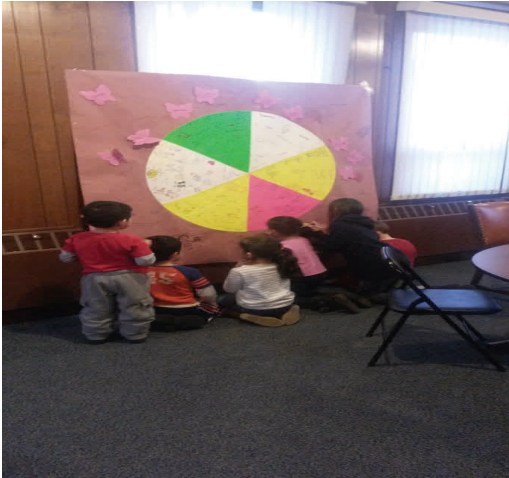


From the Executive Director

Fiscal year 2015-16 was an exciting time for **Fox Valley Hands of Hope**. A new name, the development of a comprehensive strategic plan and significant growth in the number of people served. Our mission states that “We believe that every person in need should be given hope” and FVHH has positioned itself to continue to meet the needs of those we have the privilege to serve.

As we celebrate our 35th year of important service to the community we look eagerly to building on FVHH’s past success as we work to meet the ever changing and expanding needs of those we serve. We know this will not be easy, but we continue our commitment to provide the best in compassionate care for those experiencing loss.

We would like to recognize and thank everyone who believes in our mission and supports FVHH. Our work is a collaborative effort. Dedicated volunteers, committed staff, generous donors and engaged community partners all come together to make our programs and services possible and our mission come to life. Thank you.



Greg Weider
Executive Director
Fox Valley Hands of Hope



200 Whitfield Drive, Geneva, Illinois 60134
(630) 232-2233
www.fvhh.net

Celebrating 35 Years of Celebrating Life

In the spring of 1981, a small group of professionals from the Fox Valley came together and rallied around a shared vision of a new way to care for the dying. Led by Illinois Senator John Groberg, these citizens joined forces to found Fox Valley Hospice. The agency was officially established as a non-profit organization and was the first hospice in the Fox Valley – reaching out to provide compassionate care, free of charge.

In the early days, “headquarters” was a church basement in St. Charles, and a few volunteer nurses, social workers and community volunteers drove from one end of the Fox Valley to the other to offer social, emotional and spiritual support to patients and their families. These pioneers’ work was funded entirely by donations and grants from local supporters. Much as it is today.

As the Fox Valley grew, so did Fox Valley Hospice. In the early 1990’s, land was purchased on the east side of Geneva and ground was broken for the building we operate out of today. This investment in the organization was made possible by contributions from hundreds of people and organizations in the area, and was spearheaded by the Dellora A. and Lester J. Norris Foundation, the Furnas Foundation, the Shodeen family, and the Hunt family, among others.

In 2006, the organization’s name was officially changed to Fox Valley Volunteer Hospice. As hospice became more accepted nationwide, Medicare hospices began to dot the landscape. The name change in the organization signaled the continued direction of FVVH as a community-funded, non-profit organization providing traditional social, emotional, and spiritual hospice support. By now, the agency had hundreds of volunteers who set out each day to provide comfort to adults, children, and families, regardless of age, income level, race, or religious beliefs.

As the hospice landscape and the needs in our community continue to evolve, so do we. In 2015 we saw our name change once again – this time to Fox Valley Hands of Hope. We are still the grass roots organization serving the greater “Fox Valley”. The “Hands” are our hundreds of caring, dedicated volunteers. And the “Hope” is what we provide every day to so many. In fact, over the last 35 years, we have given superb care – and hope – to more than 22,000 children and adults. Our programs today touch thousands of lives – the lives of children grieving the loss of a parent or sibling, the lives of adults mourning the loss of a significant other or parent, and the lives of countless men and women experiencing a life threatening or terminal illness.

As always, our staff and trained volunteers reach out, and provide unsurpassed support, to all those needing compassion. As our organizations founders believed 35 years ago, we still believe today - that every person in need should be given hope.

Thank you to all our volunteers and supporters over the last 35 years who have allowed us to help so many, and who contributed to the continued success of Fox Valley Hands of Hope.

Mission

The mission of Fox Valley Hands of Hope is to enhance the quality of life and to provide hope for those experiencing grief or life-threatening illness. Our professional staff and trained volunteers are community-funded, allowing us to provide the best in compassionate care, free of charge. Our programs are designed to provide support for adults, children, and families, regardless of age, income level, race, or religious beliefs. We believe that every person in need should be given hope.

Vision

The vision of Fox Valley Hands of Hope is to be regarded as the leading provider of exemplary services to those experiencing grief or life-threatening illness. Our staff and trained volunteers continuously provide unsurpassed support to all those needing hope and compassion.



Additional Services

Informational Library

The informational library at FVHH is open to the public and contains books, periodicals, and videos on a range of topics including cancer, suicide, grief and a variety of other topics related to the end of life. In addition, books and tapes in Spanish are available.

Community Equipment Loan Closet

Fox Valley Hands of Hope has wheelchairs, walkers, canes, commodes, shower benches and tub transfer benches available to borrow, free of charge, for short-term use. These items are available to anyone in the community.

Community Education

Fox Valley Hands of Hope is a leader in community education in the areas of palliative care, coping with loss, and individual well-being. All sessions are open to our corps of trained volunteers; most are open to all community members, free of charge. Schedule changes quarterly.

Programs

Emotional and Spiritual support is provided by a team that includes trained volunteers who have excellent listening skills and who are experienced in working with families facing loss and grief. Licensed counselors support families emotionally and help access helpful services. All programs and services are provided free of charge.

Bereavement

One-on-One Counseling. The death of a loved one can be a devastating experience. To help the bereaved cope with the pain of grief and put control back into their lives, Fox Valley Volunteer Hospice offers a range of services, including an individual care program that is managed by a licensed clinician and implemented by a trained volunteer. In addition, assessment, short-term one-on-one counseling, referral to resources, and support groups are also available.

Support Groups. FVHH offers a comprehensive range of support groups to help those who have lost loved ones, including Pathways for those who have lost a life partner; Next Step, a monthly meeting for those who need continuing support; Herbie's Friends for families with children ages 5 to 18 who have experienced a loss; Footprints for parents and adult family members who are coping with a miscarriage, ectopic pregnancy, stillbirth or newborn death; Young Adult Grief Journey for young adults age 18 to 28 who have lost a loved one or friend; M.A.L.E.S. (Men After a Loss Expressing themselves Safely) for men of all ages who have lost a loved one; Memories of Mom, for daughters who have lost their mothers; and Light Finders, for survivors of suicide loss. Groups meet on a regular basis, with new schedules starting quarterly.

Grief Takes a Hike. Grief Takes a Hike is a weekend adventure for families who have experienced the death of a loved one — grandparents, parent, child or other significant person. Families come together in a supportive setting to experience the therapeutic value of nature while sharing and processing feelings. Indoor and outdoor activities include hiking, swimming, art, story sharing, relaxing and singing by a campfire. Through art projects, games, stories and a memorial service, families are taught to identify positive coping skills, to understand the differences between adult and child grief, and to understand the value of processing feelings as a family. There is no charge to families.

Project Hope

FVHH's school-based programs address these children's needs and help them to begin to heal. Our social workers provide one-on-one counseling in the school setting as well as coordinate groups where these children can come together and express their grief in a safe environment through developmentally appropriate activities. This program encompasses every school in our service area -- elementary, middle school, and high school. Any child or youth who needs our help will receive it free of charge!

Hands of Hope

Receiving chemotherapy and radiation treatments is often a frightening and unpleasant experience. FVHH's Hands of Hope program works to comfort and support patients receiving these treatments at Dreyer Medical Clinic in Aurora and at Provena Regional Cancer Care Center in Elgin.

Because emotional health plays a significant role in a person's ability to heal, volunteers provide a healing presence to patients during their infusion treatments. Patients of all ages receive fleece blankets, comfort pillows, listen to music of their choice and enjoy refreshments as well.

Cuenta Conmigo (Lean on Me)

In order to serve the ever-growing Spanish-speaking population in our communities, FVHH created a parallel volunteer program to the one that currently exists by recruiting, training and sustaining a corps of Spanish-speaking volunteers and translating training materials. Cuenta Conmigo (Lean on Me) gives staff the opportunity to support individuals and their families in the Latino community in ways they have never been able to before because of the language barrier. Spanish-speaking volunteers assigned to a Latino family are able to communicate directly with the family members instead of through an interpreter. Spanish interpretation is also available for all bereavement support groups and community education classes.

Extensive Volunteer Training

Volunteers are an integral part of Fox Valley Hands of Hope and the true heart of the organization. Each volunteer is valued and respected for the gifts they bring to the work of hospice. They make a difference in the lives of those they serve and make a valuable contribution the community, all while enhancing their own well-being.

FVHH provides extensive training in patient care, adult bereavement, and child bereavement. Group facilitator training is available for experienced volunteers. In addition, all volunteers are required to attend two continuing education classes annually.

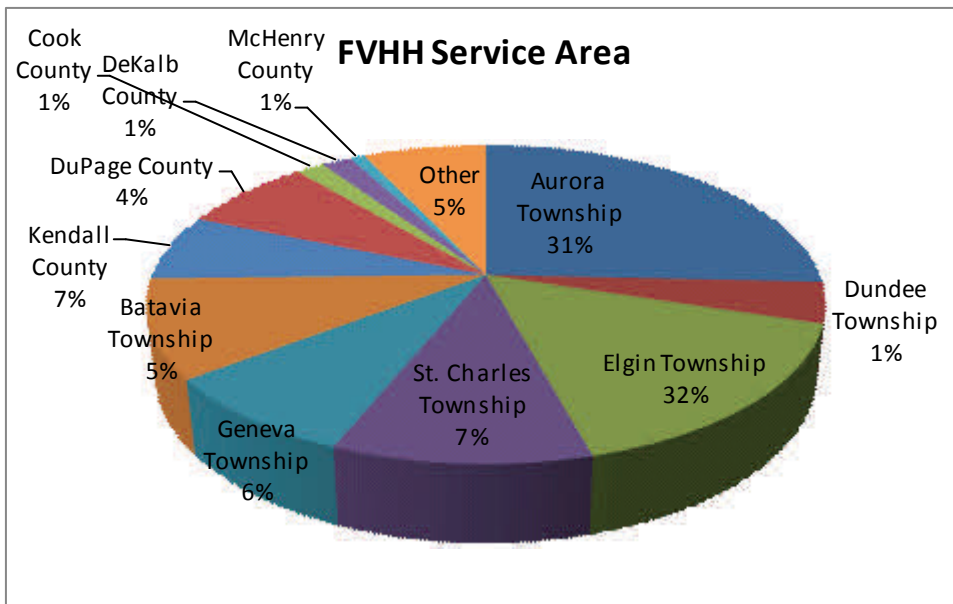


Our Service Area

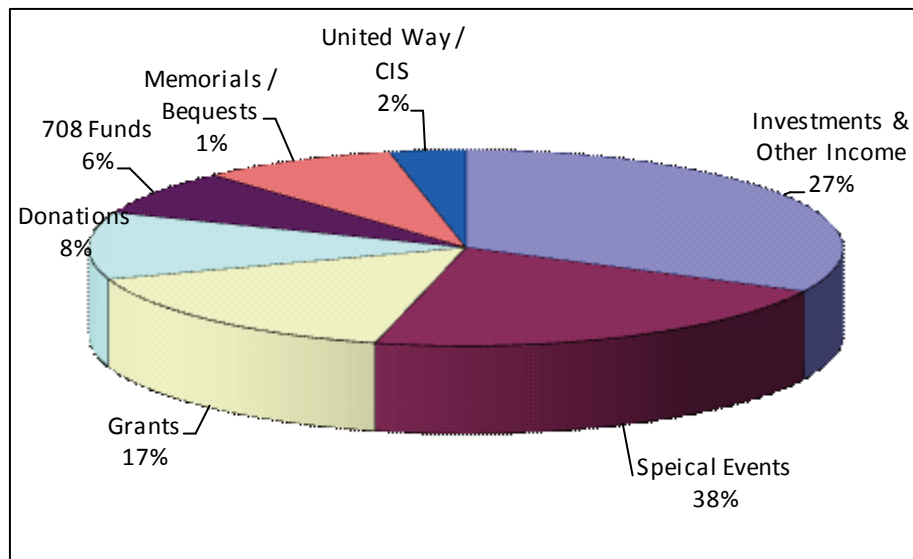
The Fox Valley Hands of Hope service area includes all of Kane and Kendall counties as well as parts of DuPage, Cook and McHenry counties.



A Glimpse at our Service Area



FVHH Funding



Special Events

Income from special events is important to FVHH, bringing in 38% of our annual funding. Special events give community members an opportunity to support our mission while having a good time.

Garden Party

Garden Party is FVHH's signature fund-raising event, raising about one-quarter of FVHH's annual operating budget. Contributing to the event are a dedicated committee of more than 40 friends and associates, scores of area businesses and professionals, and over 800 guests who attend annually.

Held each spring, Garden Party highlights are lunch and entertainment; the sale of raffle tickets with a chance to win one of the expansive "baskets," which aren't baskets at all, but groupings of items, gift certificates, and services, all focused on a theme; a large silent auction; and a live auction.

A Walk to Remember

Held in the fall, Hike A Walk to Remember is a 5K loop along the Fox River, starting in Batavia. It is an opportunity for the entire family to support FVHH. Participants are asked to solicit pledges from friends and family, and can dedicate a portion of the course to a loved one.

Villa Verone

The generous folks at Villa Verone restaurant in Geneva open their doors to FVHH supporters each winter, and serve a delicious Italian buffet, including appetizers and desserts. We add a little entertainment, and it's a great way to beat the winter blues.

Wing, Wings, & Wheels

Held at the Valley Air Service airplane hangar at the DuPage Airport. The event features tastings of superb wines. Various aircraft and high-end, classic cars are on hand for viewing.

Financial Statement

Statements of Financial Position

Balance Sheet for Year
Ending January 31, 2015

Assets:

Cash	198,966
Unconditional	
Promises to Give, Temporarily	
Restricted	22,500
Prepaid Expenses	7597
Investments	3,309,647
Property and Equipment:	
Land	320,684
Buildings and Improvements	642,718
Furniture and Equipment	341,243
	<u>1,304,645</u>
Accumulated depreciation	<u>-715.788</u>
Net Property and Equipment	<u>588,857</u>
Total Assets	<u>4,127,576</u>

Liabilities:

Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	50,076
Deferred Revenue	14,383
	<u>64,459</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>64,459</u>

Net Assets:

Unrestricted	
Operating	638,551
Quasi Endowment	2,813,200
Net Investment in Property and Equipment	588,857
Total Unrestricted	<u>4,040,608</u>
Net Assets	4,040,608
Temporarily Restricted	22.500
	<u>4,063.108</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>4,063.108</u>

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS **4,127,567**

Statements of Activities

Support and Revenue

Contributions	76,227
Foundations and Grants	172,772
United Way	16,370
Special Events	
Sponsorships and Donations	93,676
Event Revenues	217,079
Interest Income	16
Investment Income Designated for Operations	<u>208,121</u>

TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUES

752,390

Expenses

Program	512,359
Supporting Services	117,387
Cost of Special Events	78,330
Fundraising	<u>43,860</u>

TOTAL EXPENSES

751,936

INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS

BEFORE OTHER CHANGES

454

Other Changes:

Investment Return, Net of Amount Designated for Operations	<u>(320,812)</u>
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INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS

(320,358)

NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR (AS ADJUSTED)

4,383,466

NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR

4,063,108

Our Generous Donors

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\$10,000 & more

Fred J. Brunner
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&
Mental Retardation
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Linda Murphy
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Jacobs
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Marjorie Matthew
Mary Ann Callahan
Mary Ann Tilton
Mary Essex
Mary Jo Sheehy
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Michael Ward
Mothers Club Of
Geneva
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Sally Stratton
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Themis Askounis
Theresa Warner
Vicky Hollister

Garden Party 2015

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Garden Angel

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EFS Foundation

Benefactor Angel

Hotel Baker
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Friends
Kane County Chronicle
Rainbow Hospice &
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Hospital
Serenity Packaging Corp.

Sponsor Angel

Destination Unknown
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*In Memory of Mike Daly &
Marge Thompson*
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Zukowski, Rogers, Flood
& McArdle
Table Angels
A Friend of Hospice
Mario and Margie Conte
Contractors Flooring
Outlet: *Flooring Made
Simple*
Destination Unknown
Donors
Eagle Flexible Packaging,
In Memory of Kim Hansen

For Landscape Lovers

Donors
Fox Valley Orthopaedic
Institute
Fox Valley Volunteer Hos-
pice Board of
Directors
Julie Goodyear, Realtor Baird
Warner
Hotel Baker, *In Memory
of Pilar P. Felix*
Louise Mangos Mamalakis
& Georgia Mangos
Darras
*In Loving Memory of
Jim and Helen Mangos*
Innovative Systems
Group, Inc.
INX International Ink Co.
Glen Lochmueller M.D.
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Prose Orthodontics, P.C.

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Svc., Inc.
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Allan Dahl
Alley 64 Bar and Grill
Amanda Bennett
Amanda Miller
Amanda Vanlue
Amy Brodeur
Amy Daeschler
Amy Klein
Amy Light
Amy Schroeder
Amy Seppelfrick
Andrea Ghanyaem
Andrea Vehe
Anita Dickerson
Ann and Ron Warner
Ann Arnold
Ann Burkard

Garden Party 2015

Ann C. Warner
Ann Collins
Ann Warner
Anna Morgese
Annette C. Hart
Annette Yoder
Arlene Halpenny
Arlene Petersen
Arlington Park
Baker Hill Pancake House
Barb Sodko
Barbara Bettis
Barbara Couch
Barbara E. Thurnau
Barbara Groshon
Barbara Wahl
Beata Isbell
Becky Zwitter
Beech Tree Studio
Bernadette Kemper
Bernadette Stoecker
Bernee Grezialeski
Bethany Lazzara
Betsy Combs
Betsy Little
Betsy Pfeiffer
Betsy Rychlewski
Betty Lou Jones
Betty Vargas
Bob Chinn's Crab House
Bobbi Jo Rittmann
Bonnie Caputo
Bonnie Dundee Golf Club
Bonnie Henn-Pritchard
Bonnie Hill
Bonnie Willemssen
Bowes Creek Country Club
Brenda and Michael Morrissy
Brian and Bonnie Pritchard
Brittain's Express Oil & Lube
Bronwyn Hurley
Brunswick
Buck Brothers
Cadence Fitness and Health Center
Cafe Roma
Caren Nickelsen
Cari Miller
Carla Mocaluso
Carol Balinski
Carol Bertoux
Carol Broeker
Carol Hardt
Carol Hunecke
Carol Irish
Carol Jasper
Carol Kopp
Carol Leitner
Carol Matison
Carol Napoleon
Carol Putnam
Carol Roncoli
Carol Schopp
Carol Smith
Carole Robeson
Carole Zeno
Carolyn Reynolds
Cathy Gage
Cathy Greene
Cathy Haggerty

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Cathy Schmitt
Cathy Vanbergen
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Charlene Childers
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Cheri Medus
Cheri Murphy
Cheri Novak
Cheryl and Michael Snook
Cheryl Balleto
Cheryl Bancroft
Cheryl Bast
Cheryl Crates
Cheryl Gordon
Cheryl Ilcken
Cheryl Monzingo
Cheryl O'Brien
Chez Moi Cafe and Catering
Chicago White Sox
Chicago Wolves
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Chris Robinson
Christie Slack
Christine Mueller
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Cindy Connor
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Cooper's Hawk Winery & Restaurant
Coral Reinert
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Cynthia Miller
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Darlene Wright
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Dawn Stoner
Deanna Young
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Debby Foote
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Deborah Smithhead
Deborah Wheeler
Debra Hodgett
Debra McQuaid
Debra Mock
Dee Dee Emmert
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Denise Ardelan
Denise Hayes
Denise Holtz
Denise Rogers
Dian Johnsen
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Digna Compano
Dining at Home
Dolores Haith
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Edie Foerster
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Edwina Jayne
Edwina Jayne Skincare
Edwina Rathbone-Little
Egg Harbor Cafe
Eileen Frey
Eileen Perdue
Eleanor Logman
Elgin Country Club
Elgin Symphony Orchestra
Elise Connor
Elizabeth Vaisvil
Ellen Kasner
Ellen Vogel
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Emelia Zucheri
Emily Loveland
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Florence Ostdick
Fox Fire Restaurant
Fox Valley Ophthalmology
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Funway
Gail Jennings
Gail Novosad
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Ginger Root Hair Salon
Gini Shahzada
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Helen Messer
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Jennifer Biddle
Jennifer Coyne
Jennifer Dodds
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Jennifer Fields
Jennifer Kelley
Jennifer Moore
Jennifer Ruggie
Jennifer Wulf
Jenny Anderson
Jeri Dawn Martel
Jewelee Tompulis
Jill and Craig Dohner
Jill Falls
Jill Mullins
Jill Sawyer
Jill Wieteska
Jim Miller
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Joan Courn
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Joan Nagler
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