

Hospice and Palliative Care Month

In times of need, families can count on quality care for everyday activities from their Hospice professionals. Celebrate local caregivers and National Hospice and Palliative Care month in November.

What is Hospice?

Hospice is a service provided for the care and comfort of individuals who have six months or less to live. Caregivers ensure that patients have the least amount of pain; medications are taken correctly; equipment is working properly and that any immediate physical needs are addressed. Along with physical needs, Hospice also assists with spiritual and emotional needs with spiritual and bereavement counselors. Nurses and health aides provide assistance for daily living activities as well.

What is Palliative Care?

Palliative care involves treating pain and symptoms so that a patient doesn't suffer. This care is typically given when a patient is terminally ill. The goal of this type of care is to remove unnecessary pain and stress from the patient and his or her family.

Why is Hospice important?

Services provided by Hospice give family members piece of mind. A Hospice professional also has the ability to address any immediate physical needs that may arise. Caregivers keep families informed about the current condition of their loved ones as well as instruct them on what is yet to come. With Hospice, patients receive the highest level of physical comfort and dignity at the end of their life.

Why is Palliative Care important?

Palliative care lessens pain and promotes comfort during the end of a patient's life. The care helps to allow patients to have the most comfort for the end of their life.

How can I celebrate if I'm not associated with Hospice?

There are a lot of ways to celebrate Hospice and Palliative Care month. Some ways to get involved include:

- Running a race to benefit Hospice locally or nationally.
- Being a Hospice advocate in your community.
- Shopping online with a portion of proceeds going to support Hospice.
- Filling out an advance directive and give copies to your family and doctor.

How can I help?

Volunteers are needed at to keep terminally ill patients company and run errands for them. To apply, call IU Health Ball Memorial Hospice at 765.747.4273.

For more information about Hospice, call IU Health Ball Memorial Hospice at 765.747.4273 or visit iuhealth.org/ball-memorial.

