

Hospice Cares.

Hospice is there for anyone with a life-limiting illness. In times of need, families can count on both medical and supportive services from hospice professionals.

What is Hospice?

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

Services offered by hospice help patients and families with:

- Treatment and relief of pain and symptoms (palliative care)
- Assistance in daily living activities
- Care for immediate physical needs
- Continuous information for the patient and his or her family
- Spiritual counselors
- Bereavement counselors

Why is Hospice important?

Knowing that their loved one is taken care of, family members have peace of mind. A hospice professional also has the ability to address any physical issue that may arise. Hospice professionals 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.

How can I help?

Volunteers are needed to assist terminally ill patients and their families. Some duties include running errands, office tasks and supporting families. For more information or to apply, call Indiana University Health Ball Memorial Hospice at 765.747.4273.

Be a part of the Season of Hope program, which gives you and your family the opportunity to honor and remember loved ones or to celebrate the birth of a child through a donation to the hospice program. With a minimum donation of \$15, your loved one's name will be displayed on the hospital's registry. A donation of \$200 or more places your loved one's name on a stone outside of the Hospice office on the IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital campus.

Join members of hospice for the 2014 Season of Hope campaign and Open House in the Indiana University Health Ball Memorial Cancer Center Conference Room C on May 7 from 3 pm to 6 pm.

Donation forms are available at the IU Health Ball Memorial Hospice offices or by calling 765.747.3420 and are due on April 18, 2014.

Courtney Sutliff, MSW, LCSW, is a licensed clinical social worker with Indiana University Health Ball Memorial Hospice. Courtney also serves as the bereavement coordinator for Indiana University Health Ball Memorial Hospice. For more information regarding hospice or grief/bereavement, please call 765.747.4273 or go to iuhealth.org/ball-memorial.

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