



Your Hospice Care Team Includes:

Doctors. Both your loved one's primary care doctor and the hospice's medical director oversee the care. The primary care doctor remains the main doctor, but the hospice medical director often has added expertise in symptom management and end-of-life care that can supplement the care provided by the primary doctor.

Nurses. Nurses come to your home or other care setting for regular evaluations and report back to doctors. Nurses also provide help and support for family members and friends. They can address any concerns you have about end-of-life issues and symptom management. How often nurses visit depends on how much care your loved one needs. Nurses are available at all times, day and night, for emergency visits in case a change or crisis develops. They can also offer support and guidance at the time of death.

Home Health Aides. Home health aides and homemaker services can assist in caring for the person in hospice care. Home health aides provide extra support for routine care, such as dressing, bathing and eating.

Spiritual Care. At Hospice we don't just focus on physical care; we also know the importance of offering spiritual care for patients and their families. It is the patient's choice whether or not they wish to receive spiritual care. If the patient chooses not to receive it, spiritual care is still available to the family. Spiritual care can take many different forms depending on the patient's needs and desires. We respect all faith traditions and the chaplains at Albany Community Hospice work in close cooperation with pastors, priests and other spiritual caregivers throughout the community. Our chaplains has gone through specific training which gives them the education and resources they need to better provide spiritual care in the home-care setting.

Social Workers. Social workers provide counseling and support. They can also help you sort out insurance and other financial concerns.

Volunteers. Trained hospice volunteers provide a variety of services, such as staying with the person in hospice while loved ones or family run errands, providing transportation assistance or just participating in activities that provide meaning and enjoyment, such as playing cards or reading to the person in hospice care.

Bereavement Counselors. Our trained bereavement counselors offer support and guidance for family members before and after the death of the person in hospice. They have experience working with adults, teens and children to help them through the bereavement process. Because children and teens require different services from adults, Albany Community Hospice has specialized staff members dedicated to work with them, both before and after their loved one's death. We also have camps available to children and teens that have experienced the death of a loved one. Bereavement counselors continue to provide support for the family for 13 months after the loved one's death.