

Community Hospice Volunteer Programs



Presented by:

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Referral

Anyone can refer to a Hospice:

- **Professionals in the health care sector**
 - **Caregivers, family or friends**
 - **Individuals (self)**
 - **Community Support Agencies**
- **Other Community Volunteers or Supporters**

Eligibility

Who is Eligible for services?

- **Those living with a life-limiting illness in our service area(s)**
- **Caregivers**
- **Community Care Teams of Families and Friends**

Note: Health Card not required

Supporting Quality of Life

Typical Goals often are to:

- **Offer support and allow choices of support programs to those who are ill or those affected by an illness**
- **Allow individuals to remain at home during their care**
- **Support End of Life care needs in order for clients to remain at home until the end (if they wish)**

"If you cannot add days to life, add life to days"

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Cancer and Beyond

- **Service provided to clients that are newly diagnosed or living with illness for a prolonged period of time**

Common illnesses include:

All types of Cancer including advanced stages (metastasized)

Alzheimer's Disease/Dementia

Multiple Sclerosis

Muscular Dystrophy

Progressive Heart Disease

Cerebral Palsy

ALS

Lung Diseases

HIV/AIDS

End Stage Organ Failure

Parkinson's Disease

How is Volunteer Support Provided?

- **Trained Volunteers may provide non-medical support that is integrated into the care team plan**

Supports may include:

- **Compassionate care and understanding**
- **Practical assistance around the home**
- **Spiritual support**
- **Some physical care**
- **Respite for caregivers**
- **Life review and legacy work**
- **Accompanying clients to appointments or running errands out in the community**

Additional Volunteer Services

Additional Volunteer support roles may include:

- **Childrens' Support Program**
 - **Complementary Therapy**
 - **Bereavement Support**
 - **Expressive Arts Therapy**
 - **Group Support**
 - **Day Program**
 - **Residential Hospice**
- **Non-client roles in administrative duties, committees, board and special events**

Volunteers - Make a Difference!

- **Volunteers are the heart of Hospice, providing thousands of hours of care to clients each year**
- **Volunteers are a diverse group of young adults, adults and seniors that bring a wealth of experience and compassion**
- **Many Volunteers speak multiple languages**
- **Volunteers are client centered in their care to individuals who are ill and their caregivers**

Scenario

- **A young father has Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma and is in treatment. He is married and has two small children, ages 3 and 5. He and his wife would like some help in the mornings and some support in knowing how to talk to their children about his illness and the changes they are facing.**

Hospice can help by...

Scenario

- **An 84 year old woman with progressive, Congestive Heart Failure has moved to Toronto to be cared for by her daughter. Her daughter works full time.**

Hospice can help by...

Volunteer Reflections

"It is an honour to share in someone's last journey in a meaningful way, a feeling of being part of a circle of life.

"My own life experiences being used to help others"

"I feel like I get so much more from my clients than I think I am giving"

"Getting to know my client has enriched my life and helped me appreciate each day"

"In my family, we were encouraged from a young age to be charitable and grateful towards our neighbours and our community-I see in my retirement years, volunteering is a way to honour and respect others."

Quotes from Hospice Volunteers

How to locate a Hospice

- **To find a local Hospice:**
Hospice Association of Ontario
www.hospice.on.ca
- **Contact any Hospice – they will gladly re-direct you**

Questions/Comments?