

Hospice

*...it's about
living.*

*"We were blessed
to have received
your care.
We could not have
coped without you."*





"We will forever be grateful for the care you gave Dad. You helped him by keeping him comfortable. You also helped us so our hearts weren't so heavy and we were at peace when he gave his last breath. Thank you with love and gratitude."

The Family of Eddie C.

Hospice Care

Hospice is a home-based program offering a support system to patients and families who are dealing with a life-limiting illness. Hospice support enables families to share their remaining time together with dignity and with the patient as free from pain as possible. Our team-based approach includes expert pain and symptom management along with sensitive emotional and spiritual support. The Partners In Home Care Hospice team will help you and your family focus on living. We tailor your care plan to your unique needs and those of your loved ones and caregivers.

Common Questions

If I enter hospice will I still receive medical care?

Yes. The focus changes from curative treatment to palliative and symptom management care. We work to optimize your comfort by using our team's expertise.

Can I keep my personal doctor?

Yes. Our staff will coordinate your care with your physician. Our Medical Director is available to support you and your physician.

Where will my hospice care be provided?

Your care will be provided wherever you call home. This could include nursing homes, assisted living facilities, hospitals, hospice houses, and other long-term care facilities.

Does hospice provide 24-hour in-home care?

No, but hospice does provide a skilled care provider for you and your family to whom you can speak 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You can request a visit whenever the need for physical, spiritual or emotional support arises by calling 728-8848. During business hours one of your Hospice team members will return your call. If your call is after hours, the on-call nurse will contact you and make a visit as needed.



*"The caregivers
could not have
been better."*





Can I still go to the hospital under hospice care?

One of the many benefits of hospice care is that symptoms that would have sent you to the hospital can be successfully managed at your residence with the assistance of your Hospice Team. On rare occasions, you might go to the hospital for a short stay to manage a symptom but it is important for you and your family to discuss this with your hospice nurse (or the on-call nurse if it is after hours) prior to going to the hospital.

If I choose hospice, am I giving up hope?

No. Choosing hospice is an expression of hope that the end-of-life can be a meaningful experience for you and your family. Hospice care focuses on comfort, peace of mind, and the achievement of your goals and dreams.

When should I consider calling Partners In Home Care?

Whenever you have questions about end-of-life care. Hospice care is appropriate for you when your physician believes that you have six months or less to live if your disease follows its normal progression. Even if you are not ready to be admitted we welcome the opportunity to review your goals on how you want to be cared for. Our focus is on your quality of life. When your care needs are being met, you and your family are better able to focus on the things that matter most to you.

What if I live longer than six months or improve?

Determining how long a person will live is extremely difficult. As long as hospice care remains appropriate for your needs, you will remain on our hospice program. If your condition improves, the Hospice team will talk with you and your family about other alternatives. We will help you with the transition well in advance of discharging you from hospice services.

Is there help for my family and loved ones after my death?

Partners Hospice offers bereavement services for your family members and loved ones. Some of the team members who had the privilege of serving you will call to offer support. A trained grief counselor will make additional contacts and visits if this is desired by your family. We welcome families and caregivers to participate in grief groups and workshops. A monthly newsletter about grief will be mailed to family and loved ones for a year after your death. Our trained staff can make referrals to other grief professionals when appropriate.

Families will also be invited to our Tree of Life service in December. It is a remembrance and celebration to honor the memory of loved ones.

Who pays for hospice care?

Medicare and Medicaid offer hospice coverage that takes care of the expenses associated with your plan of care. This includes medications, home medical equipment, and visits from our staff. If you have private insurance, there may also be benefits for hospice care. Our staff will explore your coverage and review information with you at no charge. Concern about costs should not prevent you from utilizing hospice care.



"Having Partners Hospice in our home was wonderful. They had everything we needed, medical equipment and pharmacy support to resolve pain issues. Working with one company made everything easy. Thank you all for your time and being there when I needed you all the most."

C. Caton





Who will be on my Partners In Home Care Hospice Team?

Primary Physician

Your primary physician will provide our Hospice team with your medical history and help direct your medical care. Through collaboration with our Medical Director, an individualized care plan will be developed for you.

Hospice Medical Director

Partners In Home Care's Medical Director is Carla Davis, MD. Dr. Davis has a Certificate of Added Qualification (CAQ) in Hospice and Palliative Medicine. She has been the Medical Director at Partners In Home Care for the past thirteen years. Dr. Davis provides expertise in pain and symptom control at the end of life and works closely with the Hospice team and your primary physician to determine appropriate medical interventions. Dr. Davis also makes home visits on an as-needed basis. Dr. Davis oversees your plan of care and consults with the interdisciplinary team regarding disease progression and appropriate medical interventions.

Pharmacist

A Partners In Home Care Pharmacist consults with your physician and the Hospice Team regarding what medications are best to manage your pain and symptoms. The Pharmacist is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to help with any questions you may have, and to help the on-call nurse if needed.

Nurse

Your Partners In Home Care Hospice nurse will visit you and your family in your residence on a regular basis depending on your needs. Our nursing staff provides on-call services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Your nurse will discuss pain, symptoms, safety, psychosocial, and spiritual concerns with you. Your nurse will also educate you and your loved ones about end-of-life issues, medication use, daily care needs, and other aspects of your plan of care. Your nurse will also provide emotional and spiritual support to you and your family to help cope with functional limitations, caregiver stress, and grief.

Social Worker

A Partners In Home Care Social Worker will assist with making health care decisions based on personal goals of care. The Social Worker will also ensure that your end-of-life wishes are documented and known by assisting with advance directives, Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) orders, or POLST forms. Your Social Worker will contact local agencies and/or community resources that may be of help (i.e. Meals-on-Wheels and Life Alert). Social Workers will also help with insurance, Medicare and Medicaid paperwork, and funeral planning.

Your Social Worker will also assist your family in finding services to address financial needs and legal matters if appropriate. Social Workers provide counseling as needed to facilitate family communication and assess your and your loved ones' anxiety, depression, role changes, and caregiver stress if applicable. Your Social Worker will also provide general grief counseling.

Chaplain

The Partners In Home Care Hospice Chaplain can provide you and your family with spiritual counseling to address questions of hope, meaning, despair, fear of death, and forgiveness. They can assist you and your family in sustaining your religious practices and in drawing upon your religious/spiritual beliefs and traditions to cope with your illness, dying, and grief. They will ensure that your and your family's religious and spiritual beliefs and practices are respected by your Hospice Team. Your Chaplain can also serve as a liaison with your own faith community and clergy. The Hospice Chaplain is available to conduct funeral and memorial services if requested by your family.

Home Health Aide

Your needs are individually assessed and assistance is provided as outlined in your plan of care. Your Home Health Aide can provide such services as bathing, dressing, light housekeeping, and a variety of other care needs.

Volunteers

Volunteers are caring people who are available on a regular basis to assist you and your loved ones in many ways. Volunteers are specially trained to provide companionship and emotional support to you. The time they spend with you may allow family and other caregivers to have a brief 'break' from their responsibilities.

***For more information or further assistance
contact Partners In Home Care Hospice***

Missoula — 728-8848

Polson — 883-8412

Toll Free — 888-729-8848

www.partnersinhomecare.org





For over twenty-five years Partners In Home Care Hospice staff and volunteers have provided the highest level of physical, spiritual and emotional care to patients and their families.



- Home Health
- Hospice
- Infusion Therapy
- Home Medical Equipment
- Home & Community Based Services

406-728-8848
2687 Palmer Street, Suite B
Missoula, MT 59808

406-883-8412
Grandview Clinic, 1-14th Ave. West
Polson, MT 59860

www.partnersinhomecare.org

Co-founded by:



From day one.