



*Your not-for-profit hospice since 1977*

# Chaplaincy Services

*Companions in the Search for Meaning*

## Chaplaincy Services

The mission of Hospice of the Valley is to bring comfort and dignity to individuals and their loved ones as life nears its end. This includes medical care for comfort, emotional and practical support, counseling and chaplaincy services.

*Chaplaincy services round out the holistic approach to patient care that hospice represents: body, mind and spirit.*

While it is a biological event, serious illness is often frightening to patients and isolates them from their support communities when they need them most. Chaplains address these issues through spiritual care that explores meaning and fulfillment.

### Chaplains are

- Members of the hospice care team—available to all Hospice of the Valley patients and families.
- Theologically and clinically-trained professionals.
- Sensitive to multi-cultural and multi-faith issues.
- Respectful of patients' spiritual or religious preferences.
- Understanding about the impact illness has on individuals and their caregivers.

## What is the Scope of Spiritual Care?

- To help people cope with their own mortality or the mortality of someone they love.
- To help people accept and recognize the potential value negative feelings, such as fear, anger and resentment.
- To help people identify and acknowledge the meaning and significance of living and dying.
- To help people in their anticipatory grieving.
- To help bring relief to a home environment charged with grief
- To contact an appropriate faith community— upon a family's request—for specific religious support.
- To officiate religious rituals for patients and their families.

*Chaplains are available any day of the week, any hour of the day, to assist patients and their families in coping with spiritual aspects of dying and death.*



## When Should Chaplains be Called?

The essence of spiritual care offered by Hospice of the Valley chaplains is to provide a supportive, nurturing presence to those who are dealing with a terminal illness or the loss of a loved one.

*A chaplain can be helpful when people*

- Experience loneliness, anxiety, fear, discouragement, sadness, anger, loss, or conflict.
- Search for meaning about end-of-life experiences, or seek inner peace.
- Endeavor to initiate a life or faith review, or seek to establish a sustaining faith or belief system.
- Experience conflict about beliefs, values and life choices.
- Struggle with ethical, philosophical, spiritual, or religious issues.
- Want to talk through feelings of guilt, resentment, or forgiveness.

*Spiritual care aims  
at harmonizing,  
building up, gathering together.  
It intends to reconcile,  
unify and transform.  
The goal of spiritual care is to  
promote healing and individual peace,  
to instill a sense that  
one is part of a greater reality,  
giving individuals a feeling of belonging,  
permanence and power.*



To learn more about Hospice of the Valley services,  
call us anytime at 602.530.6900