What is it like to Volunteer?

As a hospice volunteer, you have the privilege of serving families at a tender time when they are saying, “I love you,” “I forgive you,” “thank you,” and good-bye.” It is a period of closure and a time of reflection. Many patients find it helpful to talk about their lives with an objective listener. They feel free to discuss events and issues with a volunteer that may be difficult to share with their relatives or healthcare provider. Hospice volunteers consistently describe the experience as one that is surprisingly rewarding.

In addition to visiting with patients, your presences as a volunteer also gives family members the opportunity for a much needed break.

Please know that many assignments are short term and a volunteer will never be asked to do something they do not want to do.

Orientation and Training

Volunteers provide a variety of services depending on desires, abilities and interests. All volunteers receive extensive training and support, and there is a Volunteer Coordinator to help if you have questions or concerns.

Patient-care is not the only way to contribute

If you are interested in volunteering but do not see yourself working directly with patients, hospice will gladly find ways to use your unique talents. Other volunteer opportunities include:

• Clerical tasks (mailings, special projects)
• Flower arranging
• Staffing a table at a health fair
• Fundraising/Community Education
• Assisting at a memorial event
• Greeting or receptionist
• Helping with data entry
• Serving on committees or task forces

Available Volunteer Positions

Direct Service Volunteers

These are volunteers who visit with patients in their homes or nursing facilities. They are generally warm, caring persons with non-judgmental attitudes and a willingness to help others in ways such as offering companionship, reading, delivering flowers, telephoning or giving caregivers an opportunity to rest, shop or other needs.

Non-Direct Volunteers

These are people who do not give direct service to patients, but help in other ways such as: assist with fundraising, committees, flower arranging, quilting, cutting grass and some office work.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Hospice:
3419 Wathens Crossing
Owensboro, KY 42301
270-926-7565 or 1-800-466-5348
Hospice of Western Kentucky is looking for dedicated, compassionate volunteers to provide emotional and practical support to patients at the end of life and their families in Daviess, Hancock, Hopkins and Muhlenberg counties.

Over 400,000 people volunteer at hospices around the country. In fact, volunteers are an integral part of the hospice team.

Websites:
www.hospicevolunteer.com
www.hospicefoundation.org

Resources for Hospice Volunteers

Karen Cavin-Brown
Volunteer Coordinator
E-mail: k.cavinbrown@hospiceofwky.org
Web Address: www.hospiceofwky.org

The Heartford House
2914 Old Hartford Road
Owensboro, Kentucky 42303

Hospice of Western Kentucky
3419 Wathens Crossing
Owensboro, KY 42301

If interested in volunteering, please contact

Serving Daviess, Hancock, Hopkins and Muhlenberg
270-926-7565
or
1-800-466-5348