

## Our History

Hospice of Ukiah began as the first Hospice in Mendocino and Lake Counties in 1980.

Over the years, in addition to Hospice services, we have added Palliative Care for non-terminal patients.

Volunteerism started our work and continues to nourish our growth. Our service has been a privilege and a pleasure to all of us. We get more than we give.



If you need our help, or would like to help us, please contact:

## Hospice of Ukiah

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Hospice of Ukiah

## PALLIATIVE CARE PROGRAM



**Comfort and well-being  
for those with chronic  
debilitating illness**

## What is Palliative Care? How does it differ from Hospice Care?

Palliative comes from the verb palliate, which means to alleviate without curing. In everyday terms, it is comfort care and applies equally to “Hospice” and “Palliative Care” clients.

We define Hospice Care as “end of life” support. It is a team approach to comfort and support patients and families of those who are “actively” dying. While we don’t require an “end game” prognosis, there is a reasonable assumption that the patient is terminal and the family in need of assistance to face the inevitable crisis.

Our Palliative Care is Team Support for clients who are not terminally ill but have a serious chronic illness. We assist the attending physician with our



Nurse Coordinators, Medical Social Worker, Chaplain, Personal Care Assistant, and Respite Volunteer. This supports the client and their care giver(s)

through the long term course of their illness.

## Why does Hospice of Ukiah offer Palliative Care?

Because it is needed. With the advances of modern medicine many chronic illnesses can now be controlled. People can live a reasonably satisfying life for many years. Palliative Care is a fairly new specialty which offers support and comfort care for those living with long term illness.



## Who is Eligible?

Anyone with a serious long term medical disorder. We care for patients and their caregivers from infancy to old age, and have done so for many years. We do not require Medicare, Medi-Cal or private insurance as we receive no funding from these agencies. We have made this choice to operate as a community funded hospice so that government rules cannot limit the people we can help.

## What does it Cost?

As a Community Supported agency, all our services are free. For almost 40 years our services have been supported completely by donations, grants, and the proceeds from our Thrift & Gift Store. You contribute by donating, shopping, and Volunteering.

## Referrals

A family member or friend can call our office when a loved one is struggling with a long term debilitating illness. But we need the medical referral from their primary care doctor.

A visit is then scheduled by one of our nurse coordinators to evaluate the client’s condition and determine the care needed then set up a schedule of visits to monitor the client’s continued comfort and quality of life.

A Respite Volunteer can be assigned to visit also if you wish. The volunteer can give your caregiver a much needed break, or just be a friendly presence with whom you can talk and share interests.

