

# Hospice Care

*Hospice is a special type of palliative care that focuses on quality of life, comfort, and dignity in the final stage of life.*



## Hospice Philosophy

Hospice believes you have the right to:

- Be informed about your options and choose what's best for you.
- Experience your final days as fully and pain-free as possible.
- Find peace knowing your family will have support after your passing.

## Qualifying for Hospice

To qualify for hospice, a person must generally have a **life expectancy of six months or less**. Hospice care is typically covered by Medicare, Medicaid, and most private insurance plans.

## Services for Patients

Hospice care helps patients **maximize their remaining time** by providing services, including symptom and pain relief, nursing care, homemaker services, medical equipment, counseling, and occupational, physical, and speech therapies.

## Services for Caregivers

Hospice services help caregivers enjoy the time they have left with their loved ones. After their loved one's passing, hospice may provide caregivers with **grief and loss counseling**, and other **bereavement support** for a year or more.

## Levels of Hospice Care

There are four levels of hospice care:

- **Routine home care** provides standard hospice services at the patient's home.
- **Continuous home care** gives patients extended, 24/7 support during medical crises.
- **Inpatient care** is best for managing severe symptoms that require a hospitalization.
- **Respite care** gives caregivers a short break by temporarily placing the patient in a facility.