

Find Peace at Home with Hospice

The primary goal of our PeaceHealth Hospice caregivers is to ensure that patients are comfortable and cared for with dignity and respect in their last months of life. They work to promote comfort and quality of life, so that patients can focus on what is most important and meaningful to them. PeaceHealth Hospice values honoring patient's wishes and will tailor care plans based on individual patient goals.

What to expect during the first PeaceHealth Hospice home visit

PeaceHealth Hospice serves patients wherever they call home. During the first Hospice home visit, you can expect the following:

- The provider will ask questions about the patient's medical history, treatments, and current concerns to gain a better understanding of the goals of care and wishes.
- Provide education to the patient and family about PeaceHealth Hospice's philosophy, services included in the benefit, and the hospice care team.
- Review current medications and any hospice physician recommendations.
- Discuss symptom management and recommendations regarding comfort management.
- Review available durable medical equipment, supplies, and any current needs.

When to consider referring your patient or loved one to PeaceHealth Hospice

It might be the right time to consider contacting PeaceHealth Hospice if any of the following signs of decline occur:

- The patient's doctor has voiced concern around decline or disease progression
- Palliative treatments to manage the condition are no longer effective or well-tolerated
- The patient is increasingly unable to perform essential daily living activities (eating, hygiene, memory for home safety tasks, managing medications, etc.)
- Over the last 4-6 months, the patient has experienced:
 - Significant loss in body weight
 - Frequent hospitalizations or emergency visits
 - Declining mental alertness
 - Progression of a serious medical condition
 - The patient and/or their loved ones have concerns about dying alone, in a hospital, or any other setting that is not aligned with their end-of-life wishes

Why choose hospice for end-of-life care

Hospice is a holistic approach to end-of-life care, providing physical, social, emotional, and spiritual care to the patient and their family. This care is provided based on the needs and priorities that are identified by the patient and their family.

According to experts and reputable research findings, hospice care is a “gold standard” for end-of-life care:

- **Hospice serves patients where they are most comfortable** – Most Americans choose to die at home or in a home-like setting, according to [a New England Journal of Medicine report](#). PeaceHealth is fully equipped to deliver this care where our patients call home.
- **Hospice enhances quality of life** – [A report by the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization](#) found that hospice patients are more likely to avoid the risks of over-treatment and more likely to increase their desire to continue living due to hospice’s constant attention to their emotional and physical well-being.
- **Hospice care doesn’t hasten death, and in some instances leads to living longer** – Hospice patients who have certain terminal diseases, such as heart failure and cancer, live up to 29 days longer than non-hospice patients who have these illnesses, according to [a study published by the National Library of Medicine](#).
- **Hospice addresses the common problems in today’s end-of-life care delivery in the U.S.** – In particular, [a study reported by Hospice News](#) found that hospice excels in helping patients with non-medical concerns, prioritizing quality of life, and aligning care with patients’ wishes/goals. .

How to get started

To inquire about PeaceHealth Hospice services or to refer a patient, please call us. Our in-home hospice care services are available throughout the Pacific Northwest communities served by PeaceHealth. In select communities, PeaceHealth-affiliated hospice houses are available to provide this care in our special home-like settings.

- **PeaceHealth Hospice**
Vancouver, WA/Longview, WA
☎ 360-696-5100
- **The Ray Hickey Hospice House**
Vancouver, WA
☎ 360-514-4350
- **PeaceHealth Whatcom Hospice & Hospice House**
Bellingham, WA
☎ 360-733-5877
- **PeaceHealth Sacred Heart Hospice**
Eugene, OR
☎ 458-205-7400
- **PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Hospice**
Florence, OR
☎ 541-997-3418
- **PeaceHealth Hospice**
Ketchikan, AK
*Coming soon