

**To Make a  
No Obligation  
No Cost Referral  
Contact our Admissions office at:**

Phone: 541-512-5049

Fax: 888-611-8233

### **Office Locations**

29984 Ellensburg Ave.  
Gold Beach, OR 97444  
541-247-7084

306 Wharf Street  
Brookings, OR 97415  
541-469-0405

1403 Oregon Street  
Port Orford, OR 97465  
541-332-0273



*Compliments of:*



## **Hospice Care**

**Hospice is a philosophy, not a place.**

## **Who is Coastal Home Health & Hospice?**

Coastal is a non-profit home health & hospice agency that provides home based healthcare services throughout Curry County and Southern Coos County. Coastal Home Health & Hospice continues the tradition started in 1967 by Curry County.

### **Our Mission**

To provide compassionate health care in the home and to enhance the quality of life in the communities we serve.

### **History of Hospice**

The name was first applied to specialized care for dying patients by physician Dame Cicely Saunders, who began her work with the terminally ill in 1948 and eventually went on to create the first modern hospice—St. Christopher’s Hospice—in a residential suburb of London.



### ***Care to Promote Education***

Teaching and training is provided to the patient and their families, empowering them to have control over a portion of the patient’s health protocols. This education improves patient comfort, functionality, and the ability to manage the particular health needs, all the while keeping the family strong and working together.

### ***Care for Your Financial Health***

One of the major advantages of home health care or hospice is that it is less expensive than keeping a patient in the hospital. Our health care professionals provide a full range of services for patients discharged from the hospital who still need certain medical services.

### ***Care from Physicians and Health Care Professionals***

You do not sacrifice high quality patient care when signing up for hospice. Primary care physicians remain a vital part of your loved one’s care. You can be confident we provide the highest quality skilled care services, equipment, and support. Our physicians continue to treat their patients for all diagnoses, not just the diagnosis resulting in our care.

***Care...It’s what we do best!***

## **Our Philosophy**

### ***Care for our Patients***

Our patients are not choosing to give up; rather they are choosing to make their life richer and fuller. Hospice improves quality of life so our patients can enjoy time with family and friends and, when needed, experience a natural, pain-free passing. In some cases, our hospice care extends life beyond expectations giving the family the gift of extra time.

### ***Care for Families***

Caring for a loved one can be stressful, disrupting work, affecting relationships, and undermining your ability to truly care for your loved one. Hospice care can be the answer. You will have a team helping you understand what's happening and prepare you for what's ahead spiritually, emotionally, and physically.

### ***Care to Ensure Comfort***

Our caregivers deliver reliable, state-of-the-art, and patient centered services. Our caregivers' personal touch allows you to feel confident that we are as dedicated to the happiness, safety, and well-being of your loved one as you are.

## **What is Hospice?**

Hospice care is a philosophy or approach to care rather than a place. Care may be provided in a patient's home, nursing home, hospital, assisted living facility, or independent facility devoted to end-of-life care.

## **What is Hospice Care?**

Care that is palliative (not curative) and is meant to control pain and symptoms associated with the terminal illness.

## **The Goal of Hospice**

The primary goal of hospice care is to provide comfort, relieve physical, emotional, and spiritual suffering, and to promote the dignity of terminally ill patients.

## **Basic Principles of Hospice Care**

- **Affirms life.**
- **Regards dying as a normal process.**
- **Neither prolongs life nor hastens death.**
- **Relieves pain and other symptoms.**
- **Offers a support system to patients and their families.**
- **Integrates medical, psychological, social, and spiritual aspects of care.**



## Who is Eligible for Hospice?

Any person who has been diagnosed with a life-limiting illness of 6 months or less and is no longer responding to or seeking life sustaining treatment.

This is not to say that a patient cannot be on hospice for longer than 6 months. The patient is re-evaluated at regular intervals by the Hospice physician and Hospice team to determine if they continue to qualify for hospice based on their current prognosis.

As long as a patient has a prognosis of 6 months or less, the patient remains eligible to receive hospice care. If a patient no longer meets criteria for hospice care (is no longer terminally ill), they may be discharged and re-admitted at a later date.

## Who Receives Services?

Hospice treats the whole person, not just the disease.

Hospice focuses on the needs of both the patient and the family.

Hospice addresses patient and family needs such as:

- Pain and symptom management
- Emotional, psychosocial, and spiritual support
- Help with funeral planning and arrangements
- Bereavement for family/caregivers after the patient's death

## Common Myth

**Hospice is only for the last few days or weeks of a person's life.**

*False*-Hospice care is for people who have been diagnosed with less than a 6 month life expectancy, not in their last stages of life, and not just for people who are days from death. It is much better to begin Hospice services as early as possible.



**Hospice hastens death.**

*False*-Patients receiving Hospice services do not die any sooner than they would without Hospice. A recent study of cancer and heart disease patients found that Hospice patients actually lived longer than those not receiving Hospice care.



**Only a doctor can make a referral to Hospice.**

*False*-Anyone can request an informational visit from Hospice, at no-cost and no-obligation. Prior to a formal admission to Hospice, a physician will need to evaluate the patient and make the final referral.



**We encourage you to call our office anytime you have questions, concerns, or just don't understand our services or how Hospice works. Our contact information is on the back of this pamphlet, and we invite you to call us anytime.**



## How Care is Provided



Hospice care is provided by a team of skilled professionals who aim to manage the patient's illness and pain, but who do not treat the underlying terminal illness.

All the members of the Interdisciplinary Team meet on a regular bases to review each patient's plan of care. This is a team member's opportunity to talk about each patient in a group setting, to raise concerns, reevaluate, and inform each other of changes.

**The team consists of: Patient's primary physician, Hospice physician, Hospice RN Case Manager, medical social worker, spiritual counselor, Hospice aide, Bereavement Counselor, and volunteer**

## Payment

Medicare • Medicaid • Private Insurance • No Coverage  
Coastal Home Health & Hospice actively holds fundraisers in order to provide Hospice services to those less fortunate.

## What's Included

Oxygen, Medications, Durable Medical Equipment such as an electric bed, wheelchair or walker, the Interdisciplinary Team Members and 24/7 days a week availability.



## Hospice Care Diagnoses

Hospice care is not just for cancer patients. Other hospice diagnoses include but not limited to:

- End Stage Heart Disease
- End Stage Pulmonary Disease
- End Stage Renal Disease
- End Stage Liver Disease
- Dementia due to Alzheimer's Disease and related disorders
- AIDS/HIV Disease
- Stroke & Coma



## When is it Time for Hospice?

When the patient and family have opted for palliative treatment for a life-limiting or "terminal" illness.



Medicare guidelines require that the physician has determined that life expectancy is six months or less if the disease follows its normal course.

## **Signs to watch for. Has The Person:**

- Been hospitalized or taken to the emergency room several times during the past 6 months?
  - Been unable to sit up without support?
- Been speaking in 6 words or less with no meaningful communication?
- Been incontinent of bowels and or their bladder?
- Been taking medication to lessen physical pain?
- Been spending most of the day in a chair or bed?
  - Fallen several times over the past 6 months?
    - Needs help from others for:  
bathing, cooking, eating, dressing,  
getting out of bed or walking
  - Experienced noticeable weight loss?
  - Started feeling weaker or more tired?
- Noticed shortness of breath, even while resting?

**A yes to four or more of these questions demonstrates the likelihood the patient qualifies medically for hospice services.**

Often times the need for hospice care goes unnoticed, especially by caregivers who are too close to the patient to effectively observe and evaluate small symptoms such as those listed above. When these symptoms or signs are combined with one another, they demonstrate an overall decline in health, and the patient should be evaluated by a professional immediately.

## **Making a Referral**

Anyone can refer someone to Hospice:  
Physician, Spouse, Parent, Child, Family Member, Neighbor or a Friend



A referral is made by contacting Coastal Home Health & Hospice phone 541-512-5049 fax 888-611-8233, or a telephone call to the person's primary physician.

Every referral made to Coastal is followed up on within 24 hours and every effort is made to meet with the patient to determine eligibility. Once eligibility is determined, a physician will need to be involved with the final admission.