HOMELAND at Home
HOSPICE

VOLUNTEER INFORMATIONAL PACKET

HOMELAND at Home HOSPICE

VOLUNTEER APPLICAITON

Name

Address

Home Phone Mobile Phone

Email Address

Occupation Are you retired? Yes No Year

Are you a student? Yes No If yes, location and major

Are you a veteran? Yes No If yes, Branch/War/Years

Have you been convicted of a criminal offense? Yes No

If Yes Year/Reason

Briefly share why you are interested in becoming a Homeland Hospice volunteer.

Describe any personal losses or experiences with death and/or dying, and include year(s).

Please list name, relationship, phone and email addresses for two (not family) references.

1.

2.

I understand that becoming a Homeland Hospice volunteer is contingent on application, interviews, training, required background checks, TB clearance (paid by Homeland Hospice) and demonstration of quality expected by all Homeland Hospice staff and volunteers.

Signature *Date*

Please return to: Homeland Hospice, 2300 Vartan Way, Harrisburg PA 17110 - - (717) 221-7890, ext. 8114

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HOMELAND HOSPICE VOLUNTEER PROFILE & INTERESTS

Homeland Hospice is so excited to have you as part of our team! We love to get to know our team members, and so before you begin your volunteer experience, please spend some time thinking about and answering the questions listed below. My primary goal as Volunteer Coordinator is to match your interests, skills and experiences with the proper volunteer role, provide the support and training that you need, allow for the interaction with other volunteers that you would like, communicate with you in the manner that is most convenient and thank you in the manner(s) in which you are most comfortable. Thank you for taking the time to share a little about yourself with me!

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Role(s) Preferences: 1._____ 2. _____

Gifts to Share:

Veteran/Branch/Conflict/Years _____

Foreign Language _____

Computer Skills _____

Work Background _____

Education _____

Hobbies _____

Skills _____
(What makes you unique?)

Other _____

Willing to serve in the following environments:

____Smoking	____Rural	____Facility/nursing home
____Dogs in home	____Urban/City	____Patient's personal home
____Cats in home	____Extreme clutter	____Winter Travel (within reason)
____Other Pets	____Oxygen in home	____Other: _____

Availability:

____ Weekdays ____Evenings ____Weekends

Preferences:

Traveling distance (miles):_____

Planned number of visits per month: _____

Will make phone calls (if applicable) between visits: _____

Willing to:

____Transport patients ____Phone Patient ____Light Housekeeping ____Respite
____Run errands for patient ____Do yard work ____Grocery Shopping ____Vigil

Do you want to expand certain skills and/or learn new ones? _____ Please share what those are:

What kind of experiences are you hoping for:

Do you prefer to:

____Work Alone ____Work with Others ____Have a mix of working alone and gathering with others

How do you find it helpful to receive support and communication? (Check all that apply)

____Written ____Telephone Calls ____Emails ____Texts
____Groups (IE: meeting with other volunteers) ____Meeting one-on-one with Volunteer Coordinator
____Other

In what ways do you like to receive training? (Check all that apply)

____Written/self-study ____Books ____Movies ____Speakers ____Group Gatherings
____Electronic/Computer ____Other:_____

Reviewed & Revised: 8/2018, 8/2019, 8/2020, 11/2021

VOLUNTEER ROLES

HOMELAND HOSPICE

Patient/Family Support

Volunteers may choose to be involved in one or all of the following support activities:

- Visit patients to provide companionship and support.
- Help with simple household tasks.
- Support family by offering respite while they are away from home for brief periods.
- Assist with yard work—mowing, flowers.
- Transport to appointments or run an errand.

End of Life Vigil

- Support a patient by being quiet presence.
- Provide valuable respite for the family
- Needs can be during the day, evenings and weekends to

Administrative

- Assist with mailings, making labels, and filing
- Data entry
- Scanning of documents

Special Events/Development

- Help with planning of special events.
- Serve as support on "day of" event.
- Assist with data entry, and writing "thank you" notes

Pet Visits

Involve your four-legged best friend and provide visits to patients at home or in Nursing facilities. Pets may be dogs, cats, rabbits, miniature ponies, and more. Certification from approved pet therapy program required.

Bereavement Support

- Send letters to bereaved family members.
- Help host support groups; must have had loss in life.
- Make phone calls to bereaved individuals who are assessed "low risk" in their grieving processes.
- Visit with bereaved persons assessed "low risk" in their grieving process to provide comfort, companionship, and listening.

Phone Calls

- **Follow-Up Calls**—Call patients who were admitted to Homeland Hospice service within the past few weeks to ask how the admission process has gone, whether all needed supplies have been delivered, and if there are any issues or concerns that the patient/family would like to share.
- **Live Alone Calls**—check in on patients who reside alone in their home to ask how they are and to learn if there are any concerns or additional services that can be offered.

-TURN OVER-

For more information: contact Ory Bower at 221-7890, ext. 8114 or obower@homelandhospice.org

VOLUNTEER ROLES

HOMELAND HOSPICE

Music

Volunteers can share comforting music in a number of ways:

- Individually meet with hospice patients in their home, nursing home or hospital to share vocal or instrumental music.
- As a group, meet with hospice patients in nursing homes to share vocal or instrumental music. Services can also be provided as part of a Vigil program, offering comfort to a patient (and their family) who is actively dying.
- Down load music for patients to enjoy. This would involve talking with family members and/or the patient regarding their music preferences (IE: religious hymns, jazz, music from the 1950's, and etc...), then finding, selecting, and down loading the music from Spotify. Music will be specific to each patient's interests.

(This program is currently in the infancy stage of development, so interested volunteers could assist with forming and creating the program.)

"Veteran to Veteran"

- Veteran Volunteers provide companionship and opportunities for reminiscing to Veteran patients.
- Assist in recognizing our Veterans for their military service through "Pinning" or other ceremonies.

- Speak a language other than English?
- Able to cut hair, or provide manicures? (PA license required)
- Good with photography?
- Enjoy baking and making cupcakes?
- Have a talent or skill that you would like share?

Ancillary Services

The end-of-life journey is a difficult time when extra comfort and support is needed as families are fatigued physically, emotionally and spiritually.

- **Quilting and Knitting**—homemade quilts and prayer shawls offer not only warmth, but comfort, for patients and/or family members.
- **Sewing** - Make small bags for essential oils, or Fidget Mats, a lap-size quilt that provides sensory and tactile stimulation for the restless hands of someone with Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia.
- **Casseroles/Soups**—a hot and homemade dinner can be a luxury item when ill or caring for a loved one. Soups or easy to bake casseroles not only fil the belly but the soul.
- **Casserole Courier**—Deliver meals to families.
- **Care Cards**—homemade cards with encouraging messages provide a "paper hug" and smile to our patients.
- **The heART Program**—photography, paintings, drawings, wood burning, and etc... become part of Homeland's art collection that is shared with patients in facilities who have boring white walls.
- **My Life, My Legacy**—interview patients and record their life story. Information is provided to patient/family as a spiral bound booklet.

Contact the Volunteer Coordinator and we'll discuss how we may be able to incorporate your talents and interests into the volunteer program!

-TURN OVER-

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