



IOWA CITY HOSPICE VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

NAME _____ TODAY'S DATE ____/____/____

ADDRESS _____

HOME PHONE _____ CELL PHONE _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ EMAIL _____

PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT _____ WORK PHONE _____

REFERENCES

NAME _____ RELATIONSHIP _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

NAME _____ RELATIONSHIP _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

VOLUNTEER SKILLS AND INTERESTS

Which days are you available? (Please circle.) M Tu W Th F Sa Su

Which hours are you available? (Please circle.) Morning Afternoon Evening Late Night

How far are you willing to drive for an assignment? (Iowa City Hospice covers seven counties—Johnson, Cedar, Iowa, Linn, Louisa, Muscatine and Washington) _____ miles/minutes (Please circle.)

Hobbies, skills, special interests? _____

Previous volunteer experience? _____

Has someone close to you died recently? If so, please explain. _____

Why are you interested in becoming an Iowa City Hospice volunteer? _____

To the best of my knowledge, the above information is accurate and complete.

Signed _____

Please return to:
Volunteer Coordinator
Iowa City Hospice
1025 Wade St., Iowa City, IA 52240
Or call:
319.688.4216 or 800.897.3052
Volunteer@IowaCityHospice.org

THE HEART OF IOWA CITY HOSPICE:

VOLUNTEERS

Do you believe that no one should die alone, unless it is their wish? Are you interested in helping patients and families make the most of the final months, weeks and days of life? Then becoming an Iowa City Hospice volunteer may be a great fit for you.

Volunteers provide companionship and support to terminally ill patients and their loved ones. Iowa City Hospice serves a seven-county area that includes Cedar, Iowa, Johnson, Linn, Louisa, Muscatine and Washington counties. Volunteers are especially needed in areas outside Iowa City.

Volunteers provide many forms of assistance, at all levels of skill. Many are relatives and friends of former Iowa City Hospice patients. They have seen first-hand how hospice care impacts quality of life and they want to help others experience its unique benefits.

To be qualified to assist patients and families, volunteers must undergo a training program that consists of 14 hours of instruction and education. The training program is approved by Medicare and the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization. Contact The Iowa City Hospice volunteer program coordinator at 319-688-4216, 800-897-3052 or volunteer@iowacityhospice.org for training opportunities.

WHAT DOES AN IOWA CITY HOSPICE VOLUNTEER DO?

The assistance provided by volunteers is as varied as the patients and families we serve. Some of the more common tasks:

- Provide respite for family or caregiver
- Provide companionship for the patient
- Do light housework
- Do laundry
- Provide transportation
- Assist with shopping and/or errands
- Provide childcare
- Prepare meals
- Do massage
- Walk the dog
- Do gardening or yard work
- Read to the patient
- Do activities with the patient (bowling, fishing, movies, etc.)
- Provide music for the patient/family to listen to
- Care for the patient and offer support to the family at the end of life (*Eleventh Hour Volunteers* specifically provide companionship and support during a patient's final days or hours)

We welcome volunteers with specialized skills (hair stylist, licensed massage therapist, pet therapist, plumber, etc.). Tell us what you enjoy doing; you might be surprised how valuable your fun hobby can be to a patient.

We recently began offering additional training for volunteers who want to work with patients with dementia, or who volunteer primarily at a long-term care facility in their area.

I'M NOT SURE I CAN WORK WITH A DYING PATIENT

Many people are not comfortable with direct patient involvement. That's perfectly ok. The Iowa City Hospice *Friends* are another important group of volunteers who help with fundraising, community awareness and other more administrative tasks. Contact Maggie Elliott, Executive Director, at 319-688-4212, 800-897-3052 or Maggie.Elliott@iowacityhospice.org for more information.

SUPPORT FOR VOLUNTEERS

Even volunteers who are trained and ready to work with patients feel nervous on their first assignments. Iowa City Hospice has a mentoring program that pairs experienced volunteers with new ones. A mentor can accompany you on your first visits, answer questions, give tips, and serve as a sounding board as you gain the experience to become an outstanding volunteer.

Being a volunteer to dying individuals is not easy. However, volunteers often say that, because it is such a rewarding and meaningful experience, they feel they receive more than they give.

HOW DO I START?

Complete the application on the reverse side of this flyer and contact the Iowa City Hospice volunteer program coordinator.