

BEGIN AGAIN LIVING MINISTRIES

Understanding the Hospice Care Team

Who may support your loved one and how each discipline contributes

A COMPLIMENTARY GUIDE FOR HOSPICE FAMILIES

Compassionate guidance for caregiving, grief, and end-of-life transitions.

From Diagnosis to Goodbye™

Understanding the Hospice Care Team

Hospice care is provided through an interdisciplinary team. Each member sees a different part of the person's needs, and families benefit most when they know whom to contact and what support they can request.

Use this guide as a starting point for conversation. Individual needs and care plans may differ.

1. The patient and family

The person receiving care remains at the center of the plan. Family members and chosen caregivers contribute observations, questions, values, and goals that help the team provide individualized support.

2. Hospice physician and medical providers

The hospice physician and other medical providers help guide comfort-focused treatment and coordinate with the person's attending clinician when applicable.

3. Registered nurse

The nurse assesses symptoms, teaches caregivers, coordinates medications and supplies related to the hospice plan, and explains when to call for additional help.

Practical Guidance

1. Social worker

The social worker can help with emotional concerns, family communication, practical needs, community resources, advance-care planning, and caregiver strain.

2. Chaplain or spiritual-care provider

Spiritual care is offered according to the person's beliefs and preferences. Support may include listening, prayer when welcomed, meaning-making, life review, rituals, or connection with a faith community.

3. Aides, volunteers, and bereavement staff

Aides may assist with personal care included in the plan. Trained volunteers may offer companionship or practical support. Bereavement staff provide grief support before and after the death according to the program.

My Next Steps

- ☐ I know the main number to call day or night.
- ☐ I know which team member addresses each concern.
- ☐ I have shared our family's goals, customs, and spiritual preferences.
- ☐ I understand the current visit schedule and plan of care.
- ☐ I know how to request additional guidance when needs change.

You do not have to carry this journey alone. Support is available, and asking for help is an act of care.

About Begin Again Living Ministries

Begin Again Living Ministries offers compassionate education and support for individuals, families, caregivers, churches, and organizations navigating grief, caregiving, stress, and end-of-life transitions.

Visit: balministries.org

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