WHAT IS HOSPICE?

Hospice is a special kind of care provided when curing illnesses is not possible. The focus of care shifts from cure to comfort. It is a program of compassionate care that provides expert pain and symptom management to meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of patients and families. The Hospice is located on X-Pod in the Nursing Home Care Unit, Bldg. 133.

HOSPICE USES A TEAM APPROACH

Hospice care is delivered by a team of caring, professional staff and volunteers working to maintain the dignity and quality of life for those who are dying. The team includes the physician, nurse practitioner, nurses, aides, social worker, chaplain and volunteers.

Questions? Please contact our Nursing Home Social Worker at 562-826-8000, ext. 4850.

ADMISSION CRITERIA

- Veterans eligible for VA medical services
- Terminal illness with a prognosis of six months or less
- Patient and family desire to focus on comfort, i.e. acceptable pain relief and symptom management
- Patient and family decision that no extraordinary measures will be taken to prolong life, such as resuscitation or mechanical life support

REFERRALS

**Inpatients:** Contact your physician or social worker who will make a referral to the Hospice Screening Committee.

**Outpatients:** Contact your clinic physician or social worker who will make a referral to the Hospice Screening Committee.
The Hospice is located in the Nursing Home Care Unit on X-pod, Bldg. 133.

Parking available off Sam Johnson Road, Parking Lot U, located in the northeast corner of the VA grounds.