



HOSPICE
OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
Compassionate Care Since 1978

Volunteer Visitor Training

Begins March 15, 2012

Thursday, March 15th - 5:30pm – 9:00pm

Saturday, March 17th – 9:30am – 4:00pm

Thursday, March 22nd 5:30pm -9:00pm

Saturday, March 24th – 9:30am –4:00pm

Thursday, March 29th – 5:30pm – 9:00pm

Saturday, March 31st – 9:30am – 4:00pm

Thursday, April 5th – 5:30pm - 9:00pm

Saturday, April 7th – 9:30am - 4:00pm

Application deadline:
March 5, 2012

Interviews begin:
February 2012

**For more information and
Application contact:**

Radha Mallery
Director of Volunteer Services
Hospice of Santa Cruz County
831- 430-3006

Spring 2012 Hospice Volunteer Visitor Training

The service of a Volunteer is at the heart of what Hospice offers to families who are caring for a loved one who is dying. Volunteer Visitors are understanding listeners, the ones who extend a hand to hold, providing companionship and emotional support. Like a friendly neighbor they also take care of practical tasks: provide transportation, run errands, prepare a meal, or do light massage and personal care. Sometimes their presence makes it possible for a caregiver to get away for a few needed hours of respite.

Hospice of Santa Cruz County is currently looking for friendly, compassionate men and women who have four or more hours each week to share with families. We welcome anyone who is interested in working on an intimate basis in a helping situation and are willing to assist clients anywhere in Santa Cruz County. We have special needs for Volunteers who are **Bi-lingual and/or Bi-cultural** and a need for **Certified Massage Therapists**. We ask that individuals be able to make a one-year commitment.

The 36-hour training is especially designed to prepare Volunteers to perform this vital service. The fee for the training is \$125 and is used to defray actual training expenses. Scholarships are available if needed. Topics covered in the training include:

- Philosophy of Hospice
- Spiritual dimensions of death and dying
- Exploration of personal experiences of death
- Grief processes and bereavement experiences
- Communication and emotional support
- Basics of physical care
- Pain and symptom control
- Legal and ethical issues
- Family dynamics
- Self-care and personal/professional boundaries

Volunteers will receive on-going support and continuing education by Hospice staff and other volunteers.

Hospice of Santa Cruz County Philosophy

HSCC is a non-profit organization consisting of both Health Professionals and Volunteers —trained to help terminally ill patients and their families accept the process of dying and death, and live their limited time together as fully and as comfortably as possible.