

Hospice Volunteer Visitor Training-Spring 2019

About Volunteering with Hospice

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, provide companionship and presence that comforts patients, and often makes it possible for a caregiver to have a few hours of respite.

Hospice of Santa Cruz County (HSCC) has particular needs for specialized volunteers who are:

- Certified Massage Therapists
- Bi-lingual in English & Spanish and/or bi-cultural
- Pet Companion Visitors (additional training session required)
- Veterans wanting to serve other veterans

The 26-hour training is especially designed to prepare Volunteers to perform this vital service. HSCC asks that candidates be able to make a volunteering commitment of 4 hours per week for a year; attend the monthly support group during the year, and attend 4 Inservices. All training is provided free of charge by HSCC. Volunteers are required to have a TB test (1 step test provided as part of the training, or proof that you have had one in the past year), and background checks which HSCC provides. Seasonal flu shots are also required (If opting out, Volunteers wear a mask during flu season).

Some topics covered in the training include the following:

- Philosophy of Hospice
- Spiritual dimensions of death and dying
- Grief processes and bereavement experiences
- Mindful Awareness practice as a path to service
- Basics of care and safety
- Family systems dynamics
- Self-care and personal/professional boundaries

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

Hospice of Santa Cruz County Mission

Hospice of Santa Cruz County honors the choices of individuals and families by providing exemplary end-of-life care and grief support to our community.

Training Schedule

Begins: April 10, 2019, Watsonville office

Wednesday, April 10 5:30–9:00 pm
Wednesday, April 17 6:00–9:00 pm
Wednesday, April 24 6:00–9:00 pm
Saturday, April 27 10 am–3:00 pm
Wednesday, May 1 6:00–9:00 pm
Wednesday, May 8 5:30–9:00 pm
Saturday, May 11 9:30 am–3:00 pm

Application due by:

April 1, 2019

*For those who have experienced significant personal loss, it is recommended to wait at least one year before applying.

Information and application

Forbes Ellis, MFT
Director of Volunteer Services
Hospice of Santa Cruz County
831-430-3045
Email: fellis@hospicesantacruz.org

Please note: This Spring training will be held in our Watsonville office, next to Watsonville Hospital off Airport Blvd. Address:

Hospice of Santa Cruz County
65 Neilsen Street, Suite 121
Watsonville, CA 95076



HOSPICE
OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
Your choice, your journey.

Apply to Volunteer Today!

✉ fellis@hospicesantacruz.org
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