Hospice Volunteer Visitor Training-Fall 2020

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 18-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 2-4 hours per week for a year; attend the monthly support group during the year, and complete annual accreditation requirements.

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

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: September 23, 2020, by Zoom

Wednesday  Sept 23 .................6–9 pm
Wednesday  Sept 30 .................6–9 pm
Wednesday  Oct  14 .................6–9 pm
Wednesday  Oct 21 ..................6–9 pm
Wednesday  Oct 28 ..................6–9 pm
Wednesday  Nov  4 ..................6–9 pm

Application due by: September 21, 2020
*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
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Please note: This Fall training will be held by Zoom.

Apply to Volunteer Today!  fellis@hospicesantacruz.org  Forbes Ellis: 831-430-3045

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