

# Hospice Volunteer Visitor Training—Fall 2022

## About Volunteering with Hospice

The service of a Volunteer is at the heart of what Hospice of Santa Cruz County offers families who are caring for a loved one who is dying. Volunteer visitors are understanding listeners and caring companions who extend a hand to hold, comfort patients with their presence, and often make it possible for a caregiver to have a few hours of respite.

The 18-hour training prepares volunteers to perform this vital service. HSCC asks that candidates be able to make a volunteering commitment of 2-4 hours per week for at least one year, attend support groups, and complete the mandatory annual education requirement that we provide. All training is free of charge. Volunteers are currently required to have a covid vaccine and booster; TB test (2-step test paid for as part of the training), and background checks which HSCC provides.

## Hospice of Santa Cruz County (HSCC) needs specialized volunteers who are:

- Certified massage therapists
- Bi-lingual in English & Spanish and/or bi-cultural
- Pet companion visitors
- Veterans wanting to serve other veterans

## 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.



[hospicesantacruz.org](http://hospicesantacruz.org)  
Hospice of Santa Cruz County

## Training Schedule

*All sessions required*

### Begins Thursday October 6, 2022 by Zoom

Thursday, October 6 ..... 6-9 PM  
Thursday, October 13 ..... 6-9 PM  
Thursday, October 20 ..... 6-9 PM  
Thursday, October 27 ..... 6-9 PM  
Thursday, November 3 ..... 6-9 PM  
Thursday, November 10 .... 6-9 PM

### Application due by September 26, 2022

*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](mailto:fellis@hospicesantacruz.org)

### Mailing Address:

Hospice of Santa Cruz County  
940 Disc Drive  
Scotts Valley, CA 95066

✉ [fellis@hospicesantacruz.org](mailto:fellis@hospicesantacruz.org)

☎ Forbes Ellis: (831) 430-3045

Apply to  
Volunteer  
Today!