



6 Myths about Hospice

Myth: Hospice is a place.

Truth: Hospice is a philosophy of care, not always provided in the form of a residential setting. Hospice Georgina is a visiting hospice where clients can receive hospice care in the comfort of their own home.

Myth: Hospice is for people who have no hope.

Truth: With hospice, the miracle isn't in the cure... it's in the caring. Clients get substantial relief from pain and other symptoms their family members and friends get relief and support from hospice care givers. Hospice care allows clients to choose how to spend their final weeks or months of life. Ensuring this kind of control allows our clients to spend quality time with loved ones, and have a meaningful, dignified and peaceful end of life.

Myth: Hospice is only for people with Cancer.

Truth: Hospice serves people of all ages, with all types of life-threatening diseases. These illnesses include, but are not limited to: AIDS, ALS, Cancer, MS and vascular and neurological diseases.

Myth: Hospice is for people who have only a few days to live.

Truth: Hospice care can be provided when a cure is no longer possible and it is believed the client has up to 12 months to live. Unfortunately, many people become engaged in hospice care too late to fully benefit from the many services available to them and their families.

Myth: Hospice requires family members and friends to be available to provide care.

Truth: While family and friends are usually trained to care for loved ones at home with the support of a trained Hospice team, not everyone has access to the support of family and friends. Clients who live alone or don't have family available to assist them **can** receive hospice care.

Myth: Hospice can't talk to or assist someone without a referral from a physician.

Truth: Friends or family members of those with a life threatening illness can contact hospice at anytime *without* a referral from a doctor. Hospice recognizes that end of life care is diverse, stressful and frightening. We encourage clients and their families to consult with us shortly after diagnosis, so as to ensure the client and their family are aware of the variety of options available to them.