

Supportive Care and Bereavement Services



Hospice Care is about hope, dignity and choice. We focus on life and living each day. Emotional and spiritual support is provided by compassionate volunteers who receive training in hospice palliative care education. Our supportive care services are free of charge and referrals can come from anyone – health team, family, self, etc at any stage in the illness journey. Our programs are available to anyone in Elgin County, regardless of where they live. Support is available in the community, hospital or long term care setting.

Hospice Visiting: Volunteers provide companionship and share activities which are important to the individual and their family. Volunteers are part of the health care team and often become part of the respite support for caregivers needing a break from their roles. A monthly wellness program is offered called “Support Through Your Journey” for individuals living with a chronic or life limiting illness.

Caregiver Support: Through regular visits, volunteers provide companionship, support and respite for caregivers. We offer a Caregiver Support Group called “Connecting Caregivers” once a month for caregivers who need support with their roles and the opportunity to meet with others who are supporting a loved one with a life threatening illness. We also offer Caregiver Education on a monthly basis.

Bereavement Support: We offer 1:1 volunteer support for individuals whom are grieving the death of someone close to them. We also offer a 10 week closed grief support group called “Healing Souls”. This program is offered in St Thomas as well as both West Elgin and East Elgin. Groups are set according to participants availability. A weekly bereavement walking group is also offered on Tuesday mornings and Thursday evenings at the beautiful Pinafore Park in St Thomas. “Our Mourning Walk” is a good fit for instrumental grievers or those who are more likely to deal with their death loss through reflection and action rather than through emotional disclosure. We also offer the following programs as part of our bereavement services; Gentle Yoga, Mindfulness Meditation, Music Care, Kids’ Circle and Teen Circle a bereavement support group for children aged 5-17 years.

VON Volunteers are the heart and soul of our Supportive Care services in Elgin County. Full training is available for interested individuals. If you have a passion for helping others, we want to hear from you!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:
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