

UC Davis Hospice - Volunteer Programs

Volunteers



UC Davis Hospice volunteers donate their time to support Hospice families in meeting their various needs. They can assist with a number of helpful and meaningful activities. They donate up to 4 hours per week (as scheduled by you and your loved ones). They can provide patient companionship assisting with things like- reading, music, art, movies and a wide variety of other activities. They can provide breaks and respite for caregivers, keeping an eye on the patient, if needed. Some volunteers are able to assist with errands and chores. All volunteers go through extensive training and security checks.

We Honor Veterans Ceremonies



We honor and thank our UC Davis Home Care Veterans for their sacrifices and their distinguished service to their Nation. A fellow veteran, who is a volunteer, sits down with you to learn the story of your service in our Armed Forces. You share with our volunteer whatever information about your service in the military that you are comfortable sharing. Our volunteer prepares a narrative of your time in the Armed Forces. Our volunteer returns on a day and time of your choice to conduct an informal (pinning) ceremony to thank and honor you for your service. You are encouraged to invite anyone you'd like to attend this ceremony, which is conducted at your residence. Most veterans invite their family members and any close friends.

Special Projects



UC Davis Hospice patients have the opportunity to collaborate with a volunteer on a special project of their own. This can involve working on the following.

Legacy Leaving - activities such as- writing stories, letters, poems, art, photos, gardening, cooking/cook books, music... whatever would be most meaningful to you and/or your loved ones.

Life Celebrations - are held in your home on a day you choose. The central activity of the ceremony would involve either sharing your legacy leaving activity or reading excerpts from your life for which you are particularly proud. You and your loved ones would invite whoever you want present at your celebration. All other arrangements (food, beverages, or other special accommodations) are the responsibility of the family. Your volunteer will assist and guide you through your project and assist in coordinating the day.

Perfect Day- What kind of day would make you really happy? This becomes the question behind planning your perfect day with the help of a volunteer. Cont. Page 2

UC Davis Hospice - Volunteer Programs

Perfect Day Continued: Activities include things like...



- Time with animals or being outside
- Going to the movies
- Sports games & events
- Picnics or outings
- Celebrations with family, friends and loved ones
- Painting/art, music, theater, shows, museums...

Your volunteer would assist with planning and preparation as well as provide you with support throughout the process. If you have ideas for a special project of your own or you have questions, please call the volunteer coordinator.

Vigil Volunteers

Vigil Volunteers are a group of on-call, experienced volunteers, who play an important role on the Hospice team. During the final moments of a patient's journey they are available to provide additional support in the following ways:



- Being a calm presence
 - Sitting with the patient and loved ones
 - Talking and listening
 - Shared silence
 - Reading of inspirational text or scripture
 - Requested rituals
 - Playing inspirational music
 - Lighting candles
-

It is an honor to assist in your care. If you or your family is interested in working with volunteers on any of the above, please call:
The Volunteer Coordinator at 916-734-5753

UCDAVIS
HEALTH