

## Our Mission

Hospice affirms life. Hospice exists to provide support and care for persons in the last phases of an incurable disease so they might live as fully and comfortably as possible at home. Hospice exists in the hope and belief that through appropriate care, patients and families may attain a satisfactory and comfortable degree of mental and spiritual preparation for death.

## The Hospice Concept

Hospice care affirms the belief that every life is meaningful, from the first to the last day of a life-limiting illness. Hospice validates quality rather than quantity of life and provides care to the patient and family - a living expression of love, warmth and compassion.

The Hospice team considers the patient and family as one unit of care. Physical, emotional and spiritual needs are addressed holistically. Emphasis is placed on pain control and symptom management delivered in the home or long term care facility. Hospice makes no attempt to hasten or postpone the natural process of dying. After the patient's death, Hospice continues to provide bereavement support to the family.

Individual choice, the cornerstone of Hospice care, is encouraged and respected. All information is confidential and strictly maintained.

*Hospice of the Rock River Valley will serve, to the best of our ability, any individual regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or any other characteristic protected by law. The offices of Hospice of the Rock River Valley are accessible to individuals regardless of disability.*



*Hospice of the Rock River Valley  
is a United Way agency.*

*Volunteers  
are the  
Heart of  
Hospice*

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**Hospice**  
of the  
**Rock River Valley**

*Give Hope. Give Hospice.*

264 IL Route 2  
Dixon, IL 61021  
815-288-3673

[www.hospicerockriver.org](http://www.hospicerockriver.org)

## Volunteer!

Become a member of our Hospice team.

Volunteering with Hospice of the Rock River Valley is a rewarding experience. Your contribution is deeply appreciated by our communities and organization.

For more information, contact Judy Jellerichs, Volunteer Coordinator.

815-288-3673  
judy@hospicerockriver.org

## The Hospice Volunteer

Volunteers at Hospice of the Rock River Valley form a dedicated group of loyal and sensitive individuals who help ensure the mission of Hospice care. Committed to excellence in care, Hospice volunteers have a profound respect for the specialized needs and comfort of terminally ill patients and their families.

Hospice Volunteers understand the complex challenges that patients and their families face when coping with a terminal illness. Volunteers provide ongoing support and reassurance as well as a broad spectrum of services. These include daily household tasks and activities that contribute to the comfort of the patient and family.

Many volunteers have had personal experiences with a family member or close friend who has had a life-limiting illness. This experience often enables the volunteer to be especially sensitive and supportive to both the patient's and family's needs. However, all volunteers receive comprehensive training regardless of experience.

Prospective volunteers are asked to wait one year following a death of a family member or friend before training.

## Who We Are

Sauk Valley Hospice and Whiteside County Hospice merged to establish Hospice of the Rock River Valley. The two organizations combined years of Hospice experience in a strengthened commitment to offer compassionate quality care to patients and their families. For more than 27 years Hospice of the Rock River Valley has served Lee, Whiteside, Bureau, Carroll and Ogle counties.

Our program is Medicare/Medicaid regulated and certified, and offers the best of high quality, compassionate, end of life care.

*By your side, our family  
caring for your family.*

## Opportunities

**Direct Care Volunteers** are welcomed as part of the Hospice team, providing companionship to the patient and respite for the caregiver. Volunteers make friendly visits, read to patients, write letters, and run errands. Often the most important task is listening and understanding.

**The Baking Brigade** supplies baked goods to the patients' families following a death and fulfills orders for special deliveries to patients and their families.

**Receptionist Volunteers** work in the Hospice office, answering the telephone each morning and assisting with some clerical duties.

**Special Project Volunteers** assist Hospice staff with typing, bulk mailings, thank you notes and other projects.

**Special Event Volunteers** lend time and talent to fundraisers and special programs. These events include the annual Festival of Trees, golf outing, and much more.