Palliative /′pæləˈædiv/ care is given to improve the quality of life of patients who have a serious or life-threatening disease. The goal of palliative care is to prevent or treat the symptoms and side effects of the disease and its treatment.

23.2 million Americans will be 75 or older by 2020.

By 2030, 1 in 4 Minnesotans will be over 65.

70% of Americans die from chronic illnesses.

Hospice /′hæspes/ care is designed to provide a caring environment for meeting the physical and emotional needs of the terminally ill.
Give the Gift of Dignity

Campaign Overview

Philanthropy has the power to change lives by providing greater access to health care throughout our community, improve the patient and family experience, and support innovation and research that will build a better future for us all. Park Nicollet Foundation has more than 40 years of experience in transforming the love and care of a community into programs that grow into legacies that will impact generations.

Our Love and Legacy Campaign to support Park Nicollet Methodist Hospital Hospice and Palliative Care is an opportunity to honor life and the human experience by creating a legacy that will give the gift of care and dignity to those in our community who need it most. We are fortunate to serve a community dedicated to making a difference across diverse issues, and Park Nicollet Foundation gives donors and patients the space to channel their giving spirit to the causes closest to their hearts.

The enclosed information outlines opportunities for your involvement and highlights key areas in which philanthropic support will be used to impact the lives of Park Nicollet Methodist Hospital Hospice and Palliative Care patients and families. With your help, we can transform our love into a lasting legacy that will give peace and dignity to patients and families as they face their final farewell. Every one of us has something to give to make the end of life comfortable for the most vulnerable in our community. Turn your legacy into love and respect for the end of life.

All gifts and five-year pledges, of any size, will make a tremendous impact on the lives of patients and families facing their final days.
“For patients facing end-of-life, hospice care is an important part of a family’s journey. Balancing financial pressures with honoring the wishes of patients and their families can be a serious challenge. However, this creates a great opportunity for our generous donors to step in and have a powerful impact.”

Patti Betlach and Tom Klemond, MD, director and chair of Park Nicollet Methodist Hospital Hospice and Palliative Care
Creating a Legacy of Love

A Focus on End-of-Life Care

We will all face end of life. The quality of care, empathy and dignity provided during that time will have a profound impact on our loved ones and our final days with them. Patients and families can face physical frailty, transitions in care settings and critical decisions that will impact quality of life, all while coping with the emotional struggles that come at the end of life.

Park Nicollet Methodist Hospital Hospice and Palliative Care go above and beyond to ensure the highest quality care. However, our team—and every palliative and hospice care team across the country—struggles with gaps in the health care system that can lead to fragmentation of care, communication barriers and multiple transitions across care settings. The stress on patients and their families impacts wellbeing and can increase risk of additional complications.

With the help of philanthropy, we plan to take on the challenges in the health care system with innovative new solutions that have the potential to influence change. Our vision for palliative and hospice care is two-fold. We want to pilot and measure the impact of a new role: The Transition Guide Role, who will walk with patients and families and help them navigate complex care decisions during transitions in care. The second piece is the development of a new program: The Comfort Care Bed Program, which will allow for seamless end-of-life care for the most fragile patients currently in the hospital and nearing end of life.

With your help, we can build a lasting legacy that will influence changes in our health care system and continue to improve and give dignity during all of our final days.

$300,000 Transition Guide Role
$700,000 Comfort Care Bed Program
$1 million total goal
The Transition Guide Role

Every gift will provide patients and families with the support they need to navigate and coordinate the health care system at end of life.

Park Nicollet Methodist Hospital Hospice and Palliative Care teams focus on helping patients live until they die. This philosophy lives in the DNA of every palliative and hospice caregiver, and they dedicate their lives to ensuring patients and families get the most out of life during their final days. A significant challenge in our current health care environment is that coverage by health insurance programs may require changes in the location where patients receive end-of-life care. During these periods, patients may be transitioned from the hospital to care at home, rehabilitation facilities or other residential services. Throughout these transitions, patients and families are confronted with new surroundings and unfamiliar care teams that may not fully understand the patient’s history. As a result, patients and families can experience an incredible sense of anxiety and abandonment.

Park Nicollet Methodist Hospital Hospice and Palliative Care physicians and team members are working to reduce unnecessary patient and family anxiety and reduce the cost of care for chronically ill patients. With your help, we seek to add a Transition Guide Role three-year pilot to assist our palliative and hospice teams. This will provide patients and families with the support they need to navigate and coordinate the health care system at the end of life and help our team measure the impact of this new role.

$300,000 goal

Transition Guide Role:
• Helps care transitions go smoothly
• Accompanies patients and families as they move to their next place of care
• Attend care conferences with patients, family and medical teams
• Point of contact for patients and families in outpatient settings
• Identify care improvement opportunities
• Develop community resource connections
• Decrease cost of care for advanced illness patients
• Reduce hospital readmissions
“It is wonderful if patients and families have someone guiding them through transitions and changes. It is an enormous comfort to them to have someone who knows the resources, knows the patient and family, and knows all of the care providers. But this person does not always exist.”

Ann, 30-year Hospice volunteer
Comfort Care Bed Program

*Your gift will provide fragile patients facing end of life, and their families, the support they need to live out their final days in peace.*

Once hospital staff and services reach the point where it is clear that a patient may choose to go into hospice care, the work for the family begins. Many times, the family is unprepared for the decisions and transitions that need to take place. When a loved one is especially fragile, the family’s anxiety is multiplied by concerns over the quality of his/her final moments.

Not all patients qualify for hospice care in the hospital. Patients whose medical symptoms have stabilized will need to be discharged, and we will work with them to find a suitable place to live out life. When a patient is fragile, we follow the same protocol, and we often know that his/her final few days might be spent in transition. This can cause trauma to the patient, family and our staff. Moving fragile patients during final days focuses valuable time and energy away from the patient. Our current health care environment at times does not allow for the level of dignity we would like to provide at end of life.

With our Comfort Care Bed Program, fragile patients may be able to stay in the hospital, with no disruption in care. For patients with very limited time, they will be able to spend their final days in comfort and dignity, surrounded by caring staff and a loving family. Family will be able to focus on their loved one’s final days without worrying about distractions.

$700,000 goal

More than 100 patients will benefit from the Comfort Care Bed Program each year.

Program and services will include:

- Fragile patients will receive care from nurses and nursing assistants specially trained in end of life care
- Continuity of care
- Financial assistance for uncovered hospital costs during final days
- Support for patients without financial resources
- Ensuring a comfortable place for patients and families to spend final days
- Measure impact and inform future programs

How will Comfort Care Bed Program pay for care?

- 25% Hospice Insurance*
- 75% Philanthropy

*Patients without hospice insurance will be fully covered by philanthropy.
Shortly after her husband passed away in the care of Park Nicollet Methodist Hospital Hospice, Beverly watched as her brother, in the process of being transitioned from the hospital to his home, also passed away.

“The emotional shift that needs to take place to accept that a loved one is going to die is like stepping through a door into a completely different life. It was very painful to watch my sister-in-law and her children suffer through this. Trying to figure out how to move my brother when he was so fragile and in so much pain was incredibly traumatic for their family. They knew he was dying, and they had no idea how they were going to move him without causing him additional pain and harm.”
“WHEN WE CAST OUR BREAD UPON THE WATERS, WE CAN PRESUME THAT SOMEONE DOWNSTREAM WHOSE FACE WE MAY NEVER SEE WILL BENEFIT FROM OUR ACTION, EVEN AS WE ENJOY THE GIFTS SENT TO US FROM A DONOR UPSTREAM.”

- Maya Angelou
THANK YOU for building your legacy with PARK NICOLLET FOUNDATION.

To make your gift or see plans and updates about the Love and Legacy Campaign, contact Park Nicollet Foundation, 6500 Excelsior Blvd., St. Louis Park, MN 55426 or call 952-993-5023.
Park Nicollet Palliative Care
At Park Nicollet, our interdisciplinary team of experts is dedicated to relieving suffering and providing the best possible quality of life for patients who are chronically ill. Palliative care is designed to care for the body, mind and spirit. It can be provided with ongoing medical care, dialysis, chemotherapy, blood transfusions or any other life-prolonging therapy. The goal is to help patients tolerate medical treatments and minimize stress to ensure the best possible quality of life. For more information about our services, contact the Palliative Care team at 952-993-9184.

Park Nicollet Methodist Hospital Hospice
Park Nicollet Methodist Hospital Hospice is committed to providing compassionate and meaningful care. Our goal is to provide you and your family with peace, comfort and dignity at this important time in your life. Regardless of where you’re receiving your hospice care—at home, in a long-term care facility, or a residential hospice—or the type of illness you’re facing, we’re here to support you. We focus on what we can do to help you live as comfortable as possible, and make the most of your time with friends and family. For more information about services, contact the Home Care/Hospice office at 952-993-6087 and ask to be directed to someone to assist you.

Park Nicollet Foundation
For more information about how you can donate to Park Nicollet Foundation’s Love and Legacy Campaign and give dignity to patients facing end of life, contact Beth Warner at 952-993-5171 or elizabeth.warner@parknicollet.com.