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The History of Hospice Care

<http://www.bereavement-resources.org/>

Give Thanks:

<http://www.scholastic.com/thanksgiving>

Palliative Care vs. Hospice Care

What is the difference between palliative care and hospice care? Although the term "palliative care" is closely associated with hospice care, this type of care is not just for the dying. Palliative care is sometimes confused with hospice care since one of the main goals of hospice care is comfort and most hospice patients are dying. Here are the differences between palliative and hospice care:

Palliative Care

- Focus is on pain and symptom management
- Patient does not have to be terminal
- May still be seeking aggressive treatment

Hospice

- Focus is on pain and symptom management
- Patient has a terminal diagnosis with life expectancy of less than six months
- Not seeking curative treatment

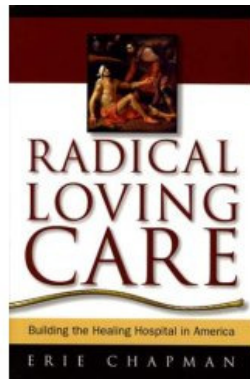
In both hospice and palliative care, the focus is on quality of life of the patient. The goal for both types of care is to address any adjustment to illness or end-of-life issues.

What Do Volunteers Want?

Dale Carnegie the author of *How to Win Friends and Influence People*, said, "The only way to get someone to do something is if he wants to." The most effective volunteers are those who earnestly accept your organization, have a vested interest in its success, and see themselves as connected to the organization.

Volunteers want to know what the mission is; they want adequate training to carry out that mission. The hospice volunteer that serves in an organization for years is the person who is prepared and feels he/she can make a positive difference in the lives of those they serve. Volunteers want to give their best.

Radical Loving Care- Is it?



RADICAL: "One who advocates fundamental or revolutionary changes in current practices, conditions, or institutions"

What is radical about providing loving care? The radical concept is that each caregiver in healthcare should be providing loving care to their patients and to each other.

A dear friend once told me his desire in life was to become an outrageous giver! His main goal was to make good money, and then give it away to those in need. That you may say is "RADICAL."

Iowa Hospice team members have established the Radical Loving Care philosophy, by asking the question, "Is there something more we can do? Our Radical Loving Care program is an extension of the care that we currently provide both to our patients and to one another, we are becoming outrageous and radical in our care, the way I see it, "Radical is a good thing."

"We need to be a blessing to give a blessing."
Deadre Hall, R.N

The Value in Humor




According to the College of Nursing at Kent State University, over the past few decades, increasing evidence has shown the beneficial effects of humor. The use of caregiver-initiated humor as an intervention in healthcare settings has both physiological and emotional benefits.

Just over a year ago, Randy Pausch, 46, a computer science professor at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh PA, was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. And, although it was spreading, it did not reach his sense of humor.

September 18, 2007 Randy gave his last lecture before a packed audience at McConomy Auditorium. In his moving talk, "Really Achieving Your Childhood Dreams," Pausch talked about his lessons learned and gave advice to students on how to achieve their own career and personal goals.

Randy used one of the greatest tools, his humor. He talked about his aspirations, Captain Kirk, virtual reality and a host of other interesting



anecdotes in his presentation dedicated to kids. He clearly showed that humor does not have to die just because he was. "I don't know how to not have fun," said Pausch, "I'm dying and I'm having fun. And I'm going to keep having fun every day of my life because there's no other way to play it." "Experience is what you get when you didn't get what you wanted. Laugh and the world laughs with you..." Randy's last lecture can be viewed at:

http://www.etc.cmu.edu/global_news/?q=node/42

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