

Our volunteer program is dedicated to providing quality care to our patients and families. This includes special programs, unique gifts and helpful tools to provide comfort to those under Heartland's care.

Types of Volunteers

Companion Volunteers

Companion volunteers bring the gift of friendship to our clients. They enhance quality of life through regular visits by offering support, companionship and assistance with non-medical tasks to ensure that patients spend their final days in dignity and comfort.

Vigil Volunteers

The role of the Vigil Volunteer is to be with patients, in their last hours of living, who would otherwise be alone. While they do not assist with direct patient care or transport family members, they provide support to the family at the patient's bedside.

Vets for Vets Volunteers

Similar to the Companion Volunteer role, our Veteran Volunteers are matched with a Veteran patient who may have a similar background. These Volunteers receive specific training focused on a veteran's needs.

Animal-Assisted Therapy Volunteers

Health Healers therapy teams (registered volunteer handlers & their therapy animals) is part of Heartland's Complimentary Therapy Program. They are dedicated to improving people's well-being through positive interactions with animals.

Telephone Check-in Support Volunteers

Some people are very private and don't want the intrusion of additional visitors. Our Telephone Check-in Program offers those, who live alone or are left alone during the day, the reassurance that someone cares.

Special Programs

Heart's Desire

Be part of the Heart's Desire program which grants wishes to patients who are terminally ill. Many of the requests are to relive simple pleasures—a meal with their family or a trip to their favorite fishing spot. Other requests are a bit more glamorous—a night out on the town to see Jersey Boys. Heartland recognizes that these simple but meaningful activities can make a true difference in someone's life.

Legacy Program

A legacy, by definition, is something handed down or received from an ancestor or predecessor. Heartland Hospice offers several options for people to tell their stories.

♥ **The Story of a Lifetime Booklet**

More than a journal, this booklet uses topics & transitions to guide patients and their families as they write their life story.

♥ **Video Legacy**

This program allows patients and their families to record their stories & messages on film.

Handmade Gifts of Comfort

Gifts for our patients made by our talented group of Craft Volunteers include:

♥ **Crocheted/Knitted Prayer, Blankets, and Slippers**

♥ **Comfort Hearts**

These small heart pillows have a pocket in which to place a poem or picture.

If you would like more information about Hospice or the Heartland Hospice Volunteer Program, please call 414.944.2000.