



Castlegar Hospice Society

Volunteering with the Castlegar Hospice Society Overview and Application

Castlegar Hospice Society Mission Statement:

“The purpose of the Castlegar Hospice Society is to offer compassionate hospice/palliative care for those with a life-threatening illness, to provide the necessary physical, emotional and spiritual support in order to maintain the dignity and self worth of the individual throughout the dying process and to offer further support to family and friends.”

Castlegar Hospice Society Vision Statement:

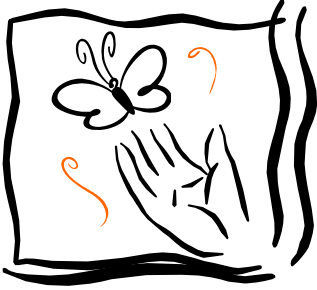
“To provide the best hospice/palliative care through expanding services and to be a powerful advocate for all hospice/palliative services.”

A Personal Inventory for Prospective Hospice Volunteers

Volunteer services are an integral component of the Hospice program. In considering whether Hospice volunteering is a service you want to give at this time, please consider the ideas expressed below.

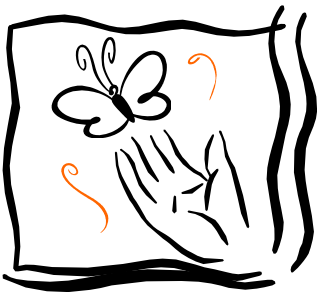
- **You have an interest in the Hospice concept, and have the desire to help others. You have some awareness of what is drawing you to Hospice work, and are willing to explore this in depth.**
- **You are sensitive to the special needs of dying patients and their families, and have chosen to work to support them.**
- **You are aware of the losses you have experienced and your way of grieving, and have a sense of perspective about life, death and loss.**
- **You are open to others who may have different values, beliefs and ways of living. You are able to listen well and to validate others where they are, rather than where you might believe they should be.**
- **As you may be called on to work in a variety of areas and perform many different tasks, self-reliance, flexibility and adaptability are assets. Realistic awareness of your own strengths and weaknesses and the ability to set limits are important.**
- **You will like working as part of a team, and be willing to explore ways of supporting and being supported by other team members. You are dedicated to your own growth and ongoing learning. Your personal strengths will likely include warmth, concern for people, sense of humour and approachability.**
- **You are willing to commit yourself to the training and volunteer responsibilities that follow, and to gaining an understanding of the standards and policies of the Hospice program.**
- **You will not bring personal agenda or “missions” to your Hospice work and understand that our work is not to change people, but to be with them where they are.**
- **If you have experienced a significant personal loss within the past year, one which you are still actively grieving, please consider carefully your present ability to take on a demanding training program. This work can intensify your own grief. We will review each applicant individually in this regard.**
- **As working at Hospice can be stressful at times, it is important that you have good supports and ways of taking care of yourself so you can meet change and the unexpected with ease**

VOLUNTEER COMMITMENT



The Castlegar Hospice Volunteer accepts the following responsibilities:

- **To work as a member of the Castlegar Hospice Team, accepting supervision from and communicating relevant information to the Coordinator**
- **To work with consideration, courtesy and dignity at all times**
- **To uphold the mission and vision statement of Castlegar Hospice**
- **To respect the confidentiality of information received through hospice work**
- **To continue the process of learning and personal growth by participating in ongoing education and support programs offered by the Castlegar Hospice**
- **After receiving volunteer training, to commit to a minimum six month period of volunteer services**



The Castlegar Hospice Society accepts the following responsibilities:

- **To provide volunteers with orientation, training, supervision and support**
- **To provide each volunteer with a mentor after completion of volunteer training**
- **To readily accept and consider volunteer's ideas, opinions and assessments of the program**
- **To provide volunteers with opportunities for growth and advancement through ongoing educational opportunities and support**

It is known that people get involved with volunteer work for four basic reasons:

Social – to be with others
Intellectual – to learn more

Emotional – to give to others
spiritual – to enhance & share with others

Please write a statement about how you first became interested in Hospice and why you wish to become a volunteer. How do you hope to personally grow and benefit from the experience?

Please describe your past volunteer work. _____

What are your special hobbies, skills, or interests? _____

Do you feel comfortable working with people with different ethnic, cultural, or religious backgrounds? _____

Have you experienced a personal bereavement in the past two years? _____

How you would provide comfort to a person with differing religious/spiritual views, or an agnostic.

What are your thoughts regarding: a) being in the home of a dying person b) having physical contact with a dying person c) being alone with a dying person: _____

What are your feelings about being in attendance at the moment of someone's death?

Thank you for your interest in the Castlegar Hospice Society.

Your signature below gives permission to the Castlegar Hospice Society to contact your references.

Please return your application either by mail or drop off at the Hospice office.

Signature

Date