About Our Organisation

Hospice Volunteers is a non-faith based, not-for-profit organisation providing volunteer support to people approaching end of life. The support we offer is both emotional and practical and takes into account the needs of family members and care-givers also.

Hospice Volunteers serves the southern region of Tasmania by:

• providing a free and reliable service to people with terminal illness
• working closely with health services to help maximise care to clients
• providing bereavement support to those whose loved ones have died as a result of terminal illness
• offering education and talks on hospice care to organisations and the general public

We receive state government funding but also rely on fundraising efforts, bequests and donations to help maintain, improve and expand our services.

Hospice Volunteers believes that people with a terminal illness should be supported to live their remaining life as they wish and that everyone affected by terminal illness should receive compassionate care and understanding.

For any enquiries about Hospice Volunteers please phone 6224 3808.
About Our Volunteers

What do hospice volunteers do?

Volunteers undergo training to learn how to support you and the people close to you. They know that your needs may vary from visit to visit and are skilled at ‘tuning in’ and assisting you in whatever ways are useful. No matter what you are experiencing, volunteers will provide compassion and understanding.

Volunteers may support you in a variety of ways including:

- providing companionship and emotional support
- staying with you while your primary carer goes out
- helping with tasks that you find difficult
- helping you enjoy activities that are important to you

What don’t volunteers do?

Our volunteers are not permitted to perform domestic duties or nursing tasks.

How can I get a volunteer or find out more?

Community, district or palliative nurses or other health professionals involved in your care may suggest hospice support to you, or you may hear about us during a hospital admission. If you are referred to us by a health professional, our support staff will contact you to arrange a time to come and visit.

If you haven’t been referred to us but would like to know more about our service, you or a family member or friend can make contact with us on 6224 3808 to have a chat about your needs.

How often can I be supported by a volunteer?

Volunteers usually visit once a week for approximately three hours. The days and times are negotiated when you first meet with support staff. We recognise that your needs may change over time and we try to respond as flexibly as our resources allow.

Is there any cost?

No. Any person with a terminal illness is eligible to be assessed for free volunteer support. Our volunteers are reimbursed for travel expenses and are not permitted to receive payment from clients.

What if I no longer want a volunteer to visit?

If you decide you no longer want a volunteer, you simply have to let us know by calling our office and speaking with support staff.

How is my private information protected?

We treat all client information as confidential and securely store it at all times. Support staff will thoroughly explain privacy and information sharing before a volunteer is assigned to you.

What if I wish to make a complaint?

If you have any concerns about our service, we encourage you or an advocate of your choice to make contact with us. We will act promptly and fairly to resolve matters.