

CEDAR VALLEY HOSPICE

## LINK Palliative Care

LISTEN . INFORM . NAVIGATE . KNOWLEDGE



### About us

Established in 1979, Cedar Valley Hospice is the expert provider of hospice care in Northeast Iowa. As a non-profit, we uphold the highest standards for our employees who help families manage advanced illnesses and symptoms 24 hours a day. We provide care for all – regardless of age, diagnosis or ability to pay. Our other services include: the area's only Hospice Home, palliative care, adult and children's grief programs, and case management for those with HIV or AIDS.

You can depend on Cedar Valley Hospice to provide the highest quality care for you and your loved ones, allowing you to focus on *Making Each Moment Matter!*

*Anyone can make a referral.*

*It's never too soon to call and find out what resources are available to you.*

**Call us at 800.626.2360.**

*"It was so nice to have them come to the house. It reduced doctors' visits and made mom more knowledgeable about her illness."*

LINK family member



### What is LINK?

LINK is the palliative care program of Cedar Valley Hospice. It provides supportive care and case management to individuals and families facing a serious illness, who may not be eligible for, or seeking, hospice services yet.

#### Goals of LINK:

- Listen to patients and families
- Inform patients and families of resources in their communities
- Navigate the health care system
- Knowledge / educate patients and families on health care choices and treatments



### What is palliative care?

Palliative care (pronounced PAH-LEE-UH-TIVE) means to make comfortable by treating a person's symptoms. Palliative care may be offered at any time during a person's illness, and can be provided along with curative treatment. Frequency of visits is determined by the patient and family's needs in conjunction with the LINK team.

**ELIGIBILITY** - Patients must be diagnosed with a chronic or life-limiting illness and have a physical and/or psychosocial need related to the illness.



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HOSPICE

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## When to consider LINK

It may be time to consider LINK if you or your loved one experience:

- Recurring hospital admissions or emergency department visits
- Challenges with symptom management
- Difficult decisions regarding treatment options
- Distress, anxiety or loss of hope
- A need for medication recommendations including monitoring/management
- Conflict among patient and family regarding the course of treatment

## Paying for services

A monthly fee will be determined based on household size, current income and medical expenses. If you have private insurance, we will attempt to bill your insurance company. However, you will be responsible for any remaining charges.

- For those meeting the income guidelines, the LINK team will discuss a sliding fee scale.
- You will not be denied services based on your inability to pay.

*Anyone can make a referral, including: health care professionals, family members, friends and clergy.*



## The LINK team

*The LINK team consists of:*

- *A registered nurse*
- *A social worker*
- *Patient and family*
- *Patient's physician*
- *Volunteers*

Together, the LINK team works to develop an individualized plan of care that meets the patient's physical, emotional and spiritual health needs. The plan of care may address pain or symptom management, education on diagnosis, treatment, anxiety or fear.

## Benefits of LINK

- Ongoing assessment of patient's wellness
- Expert pain and symptom control
- Emotional support
- Improved communication between the patient and health care providers
- Education regarding illness, treatment options
- Assistance coping with the illness
- Improved quality of life for the patient
- Support and education regarding the future, and/or hospice eligibility
- Assistance with completion of advance care plans



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### Central Office

P.O. Box 2880  
Waterloo, IA 50704  
319.272.2002  
800.626.2360

### Grundy Center Office

310 East G Ave.  
Grundy Center, IA 50638  
319.824.3868

### Independence Office

801 First St. East  
Independence, IA 50644  
319.334.6960

### Waverly Office

209 20th St. NW  
Waverly, IA 50677  
319.352.1274

### Hospice Home

2001 Kimball Ave.  
Waterloo, IA 50702  
319.272.1771

**ATTENTION:** Free language services are available at no charge to you. Call 800.626.2360.

**ATENCIÓN:** si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 800.626.2360.

**ACHTUNG:** Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung. Rufnummer 800.626.2360.

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