

With help from our local communities, Marianhill has been providing palliative care for over 20 years in Pembroke. Last year, Marianhill received on-going funding from the province of Ontario to support a three-bed hospice palliative care unit. This funding will ensure the services can continue to be provided in our region.

What Is Palliative Care?

Palliative care is also known as end of life care. It is a special form of health care that is available to people who are living with a life-limiting illness, and their families. Palliative care is usually the direction when a cure for the illness is no longer possible. Palliative care services help people who are dying live out their remaining time in comfort and dignity. Quality hospice palliative care neither hastens death or prolongs life.

An Important Impact

The goal of palliative care is to provide the best possible quality of life for the person with the illness and for their family. Often a family includes not only



Caring At The End Of Life

By: Linda Tracey
Executive Director

relatives, but also close friends and partners. Palliative care helps with the physical, social, cultural, emotional, spiritual and psychological needs of each person. It helps to relieve suffering and supports people and families during the dying phase, as well as through grief and bereavement.

Palliative At Home

Working with community partners, Marianhill is expanding its hospice palliative services. This expansion will include community support as well as the provision of information sessions and grief support.

Marianhill is currently involved in a pilot project for tele-palliative care with the Regional Palliative Program and Ontario Telemedicine. Through this program, people at home are connecting to a Marianhill nurse via a tablet. This tablet allows the nurse to provide support, education and assistance with pain and symptom management. The goal of this program is to have more people being cared for in the setting they prefer at their end of life, whether that be in their own home, at hospice or in long-term care. Supports will be available for every choice.

Volunteer Component

Volunteers are an integral part of the support provided to the residents in the hospice palliative care unit. Volunteers join this program from all walks of life. They vary in age, faith and professional backgrounds, which provides a great matching opportunity for individuals in the palliative program. Volunteers offer various kinds of support such as saying prayers, helping loved ones connect via phone or Skype, helping with legacy gifts, baking, or just simply holding a hand. It's the essence of our community: people helping people.

ASK THE EXPERT:

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Palliative care that comes to you

Marianhill's hospice care now reaches to you. Whether you are staying with us, in long-term care or at you own home, we offer support for you and your family.

We welcome individuals who could join our palliative visiting program. We provide training and support. Please inquire with Wendy.

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