

Hospice Bloemfontein

Hospice Bloemfontein provides home-based palliative care for patients with life limiting, progressive and incurable conditions. This care is provided in the the patient's home by a team of experienced professionals and trained volunteers. The aim is to relieve the patient's suffering and to improve their quality of life.

What is Hospice Bloemfontein?

Hospice Bloemfontein consists of a Management team and a Patient Care team that includes a clinical coordinator, professional nurses, trained volunteers and carers to provide palliative care services to patients and their families. Experienced palliative care physicians work in an advisory capacity.

How does Hospice Bloemfontein work?

Patients who are referred to Hospice are assessed holistically to identify their physical, emotional, social and spiritual needs. A Care Plan and Advanced Care Plan is then developed to suit the patient and family's specific needs. That plan is implemented as follows:

- The patient's professional nurse works closely with the family's GP or treating doctor to manage pain and symptoms.
- Regular visits by the appointed nurse and volunteer "Companion" ensure regular and proper monitoring of the patient's condition and changing needs.
- A Bereavement team follows up each family to provide bereavement support.
- If necessary, special care, advice, counselling or special equipment

can be organised, like special beds, wheelchairs, commodes, etc.
- Training is available on various aspects of palliative care

Where does Hospice Bloemfontein work?

As the name indicates, Hospice Bloemfontein focuses mainly on providing home-based care in the area *within* the city's parameters, including Heidedal. With limited resources and staff members we are limited to this area, but hope to eventually expand our services to areas further away.

Who are referred to Hospice Bloemfontein?

As there are at present two hospices (Naledi Hospice and Lesedi Hospice) caring for people with HIV and TB, Hospice Bloemfontein will focus primarily on those with non-communicable conditions such as cancer, heart and other organ disease or failure, motor-neurone disease and other life-limiting conditions.

Referrals at present have come from CANSA, the Academic Oncology Department, other academic departments and private oncologists.

For more information or referrals please contact:

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