Hospice of Holland provides end-of-life care for individuals who have been diagnosed with six or less months to live. Most people have never **experienced** all Hospice of Holland does for the patient and their family members during this difficult time. When they do, they are deeply **grateful**. More than medical care, Hospice offers strength, compassion and peace of mind, as we have since 1981.

hospice of holland

hollandhospice.org



## **Keystone Medical Services**

focuses on palliative care, addressing the medical, nutritional, emotional, and spiritual needs of a patient in the advanced stages of a **serious illness**. Patients often experience difficulties caused by symptoms of their disease or side effects of treatment and require special care. **Keystone Medical Services** is here to provide support, treatment, and comfort to patients facing these health challenges. Palliative care patients may still pursue curative treatments while also receiving **palliative care** for improved quality of life.

keystonemedical.org

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## "It was like seeing the sun for the first time in a month. Their help was remarkable."



"Watching a loved one consumed by Alzheimer's should be the hard part, right? Not even close. Seeing dad, the person who had always taken care of our family, feeling abandoned, frightened, deeply depressed, asking me 'to end it all' for him each time I visited – and me, unable to change any of it – was the hardest thing.

"The care that both Keystone Medical Services and Hospice of Holland provided a level of dignity to his final days he so deserved.

"My message to anyone reading this is: don't wait like we did. Our own ignorance resulted in so much needless suffering. Sleepless nights and desperation can be replaced with options and hope. Keystone Medical Services and Hospice of Holland provided much needed support for my dad and our family. What a special group they are. God bless the amazing work they do."

## Help And Guidance

"I remember a time his breathing was really rapid. He had oxygen on and his breathing wasn't slowing down. I didn't know what to do. I called Hospice and within a few hours someone was there and told me exactly what was going on and stayed until he calmed down and the breathing was regular again. And they explained what I could do if it happened again. That was incredible. Every time I didn't know what to I could call (Hospice of Holland) and a nurse would come or they'd walk me through it. They just made me feel very comfortable with what was going on and what to expect."

The relief and respite that hospice provided allowed her and her family to spend his last days beside him "just being a family," as she phrased it. "Going into it, I thought the processes was going to be more sterile," she revealed. "I thought it'd be like 'here's your nurse who's assigned to you, this is what we will do.' But it was more than that. It was a total relationship; we didn't have to worry about anything."

## A Doctor's Candid Advice: "Call Hospice Right Away."

"Too many people wait because they think hospice is for the last few weeks. He said 'your journey is about six months. Hospice is so professional and will help you right at the very beginning of your journey.' So we went home and called (Hospice of Holland) on Monday and someone came out on Tuesday to assess him and get us signed up.

"My husband passed away peacefully in early spring, after six months of being on hospice care. Although losing someone you love is never easy, I am grateful for the support I had because of my decision to call Hospice of Holland. The greatest benefit of hospice was helping me see the joy in my husbands' last days, if I can put it that way. Hospice helped us walk from his prognosis to when he took his last breath. (Hospice of Holland) has the experience and a passion to make this journey a pleasant one, to make end-of-life a good experience; not only for the person who is dying but for the people by their side. Why would you not want them? Hospice has an image of being the last part, when it could be the beginning. Why wouldn't you pick them to walk with you? I couldn't imagine doing it alone."



**Give Today.** hollandhospice.org/give-today



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