



**Hospice of the South Shore Volunteer Application** (continued)

Please list volunteer experiences you have had in the past as well as any relevant training.

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Have you ever experienced a serious or debilitating illness? \_\_\_\_\_

If so, explain: \_\_\_\_\_

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Have you ever cared for a dying person? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe any personal experiences you have had with family members or persons close to you who were dying. \_\_\_\_\_

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What were some of your thoughts and emotions while someone close to you was very ill and dying?

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What emotional support systems do you bring to your volunteer experience?

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Does your spouse and/or family support your being a direct service volunteer for a hospice?

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What personal qualities do you have that would contribute to a hospice program?

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**Hospice of the South Shore Volunteer Application (continued)****REFERENCES**

Please include two people whom we may contact for a reference. One should know you in a professional way (e.g., clergy person, teacher, physician, or employer).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Hospice Volunteer – Home Visitor

### **Purpose of Role:**

To collaborate with other members of the Hospice team to provide support to hospice patients and their caregivers, particularly companionship and respite.

### **Duties:**

- Is able to verbalize hospice goals, philosophy and mission
- Interacts appropriately with patients/caregivers and hospice team, respecting values of others and maintaining professional boundaries
- Maintains confidentiality in accordance with HIPAA and South Shore Health System policies
- Demonstrates an understanding of Standard Precautions and use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Participates in ongoing educational and support meetings; fulfills annual mandatory education requirements
- Tracks time spent with his/her patients and completes, signs and dates all documentation in a timely manner
- Notifies Volunteer Coordinator regarding what geographical area s/he is able to travel to, and what 'extra' duties s/he is comfortable with, such as doing errands and driving or feeding patients
- Interacts and communicates status of patients and caregivers, including any observed changes, with appropriate Hospice Team members and/or Volunteer Coordinator
- Returns phone calls or emails from the Volunteer Coordinator within 24 hours, and keeps her informed of availability; notifies Volunteer Coordinator when unable to fulfill assignment(s)
- Contacts patients/caregivers as soon as possible after assignment
- Demonstrates effective time management and recognizes his/her limitations
- Possesses ability to engage both patients and caregivers, using active listening skills and developing respectful, empathetic relationships
- Provides companionship to patients and respite for caregivers
- Is able to be fully present with patients when verbal communication is not helpful
- Exhibits creativity in engaging patients with verbal or cognitive challenges
- Demonstrates both an understanding of the grief process and a compassionate willingness to 'sit' with both patients and caregivers in their grief

### **Qualifications:**

- Candidates must have excellent interpersonal skills and not be actively engaged in the grieving process
- Candidates must successfully complete a CORI and a Nurse's Aide Registry review
- Candidates must have successfully completed the Hospice Volunteer training course, receive clearance through Employee Health, and attend a General Hospital Orientation
- Candidates must be able to commit to 3-4 hours of volunteer work per week
- Candidate agrees to have a flu shot annually
- Candidate must be 18 years of age or older

**I have read and accept the Hospice Volunteer Job Description**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Please return this application to:*  
**Lora Wooster, Volunteer Coordinator**  
**Hospice of the South Shore**  
**30 Reservoir Park Dr.**  
**Rockland, MA 02370**