

"At the end of life, for many people, home truly is where the heart is. It's a precious place of memory, connection, and peace."

- A Hospice of the Chesapeake chaplain

MAKE A RECURRING GIFT

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In this season of heartfelt wishes and joy, thank you for helping us honor our patients' and their families' wishes year-round! The wish our care teams hear every day is patients' desire to spend their final days of life at home. More than 80 percent of our patients are at home.

Our care teams feel privileged and humbled to be invited into the homes of people throughout the four counties we serve. Some of our patients live by the water or on farms; some live in condos or apartment buildings.

"Since he was a teenager, Clay had worked on the water, rising early to motor out into the Bay and check his crab lines. On my first visit after his admission to our hospice care, I found him grumpy in bed in a room crowded with crabbing gear. It was far from sanitary, but he wasn't in the mood for much rearranging! While I was diplomatically negotiating a 'clean zone,' the door burst open and in came three of his waterman buddies, right off the boat and still wet and muddy. They regaled Clay with the day's stories. When they left 15 minutes later, he was relaxed and smiling, and so was I. In the following weeks, I grew to look forward to their breeze-throughs as much as Clay. They were his best medicine!"

- Becky, one of our Certified Nursing Assistants

It is more challenging to provide care in settings that have no standardized layout, supplies, or routine. Our caregivers must be very flexible and adaptable. They tote the supplies and equipment they need. It takes a special commitment.

"I walk up to each door not knowing what I'll find happening on the other side. Some of those doors open onto complex and difficult family situations. I have learned how to focus on the patient and provide care even when people around me are arguing and trying to get me to take sides. I try to be an oasis of peace and calmness."

Janice, one of our hospice nurses



"Home" doesn't have to be perfect and rarely is, but it is the best place for most people to feel free and supported to live their remaining life on their own terms. That's why home-based care will always be at the heart of our skilled and compassionate care.

Home is where the heart is. So, it's where WE are, and where YOU make a difference every day with your support.

<u>Can we count on you for a generous year-end</u> gift to help make more moments of joy possible this holiday season? Thank you for caring and for your support!

Thank you so very, very much for your continued support.

Michael J. Brady

Chief Executive Officer

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