

Providing Palliative Care to People Suffering with Advance Cancer and other Life limiting Illnesses

URL : <http://www.palliativecarepartners.in/what we do.html>

Project Summary

Pain Relief and Palliative Care Society is a registered charitable society working in the field of palliative and end of life care in Hyderabad. We provide palliative care to people suffering from advance cancer, dementia and other life limiting illnesses working with MNJ Government Cancer Hospital and through our home-based care program called 'Life at Your Door Step', Hospice and Rural Outreach Program.

More than 50 patients with advance cancer are being supported everyday with holistic care in MNJ Cancer hospital. 'Life at Your Doorstep', a very popular home care service has 3 vans, each staffed with a doctor, a nurse, and a counselor. Most patients in their last stages cannot travel to hospital to access care. We visit the houses of such patients and deliver medical and psychosocial support in their homes. More than 6500 patients have been covered under this program since its inception in 2008.

A full-fledged 26 bed in-patient hospice facility called Kumudini Devi Hospice provides round the clock medical care to terminally ill patients with the help of highly skilled team of doctors, nurses, counselors, physiotherapist and volunteers. A facility for transportation of dead bodies to their respective homes is also available.

All our above services which include treatment, medicines and food are provided free of cost. We raise funds through donations to finance our activities.

Requested Funding Amount

1. A home care van to take care of 60 patients in a month (to support a doctor, a nurse, a counselor, a driver, fuel & medication) - \$ 1200 a month.
2. To support one patient bed in a 24 bedded hospice for a year (medical care, food, medicines and transportation) -\$ 1500.

Donation Options

Partner with us in making a difference in their lives

- \$ 35 is the cost of taking care of one patient/ month in the home care program.
- \$ 40 is the cost of providing free food 3 times in a day for 30 patients in Hospice.
- \$ 25 is the cost of medications to run the program per month per patient.
- \$ 45 for “Food for survival” for one patient in home care or community program/month.
(Supporting basic needs like food, clothing etc for people in need)
- \$ 40 is the cost of a visit by a palliative care expert team(doctor, nurse & counselor) to see 4 patients per day
- \$ 1500 to support one patient bed at the Hospice/year which includes free medical care, medicines, food and transportation.

What is the issue, problem, or challenge?

Palliative Care seeks to improve the quality of life of people with advanced life threatening or debilitating illness. It involves physical and psychosocial support to the patient and the affected family to cope with the illness and even bereavement. Every year, about 200,000 people in Telangana & Andhra Pradesh are diagnosed to have cancer. About 70% are diagnosed as having advanced cancer and need pain relief and palliative care. Less than 1% has access to any palliative care or a pain relief program. We are here to make a difference – to relieve suffering, restore dignity and comfort people living with a life-limiting disease.

How will this solve the problem?

In this section, explain the activities the project will undertake in order to reach the expected outcomes or goals. 250 or less

We hope to improve the access to palliative care with following activities:

1. Home Care- Strengthening the existing home care program and improving access by expansion of the current program with more number of vans to cover the population of 7 million and area about 50 kilometers in the city of Hyderabad & Secunderabad.
2. Hospice Care –To increase the bed strength to 50 to meet the need
3. Rural outreach- Strengthening the existing program in 12 villages and expansion to 30 villages.

Potential Long-Term Impact

Explain the potential long-term impact of your project as opposed to the more short and medium-term, concrete desired outcomes. Answer the following questions:

How many people will your project serve?

In home care program we see around 2000 patient visits in a year. In hospice program we admit about 500 patients for end of life care in one year. In the community outreach program 65 patients are seen in a month.

What problem will the project solve?

Improve the care for patients living with terminal illnesses, access to pain relief, and better access to end of life care.

Why is your solution important?

Increase in number of people living with non-communicable diseases is increasing every year and we are trying to strengthen our activities to provide better quality of care for people who are suffering.

Key Words

Advance cancer, severe pain, pain relief, palliative care, Hyderabad, homecare, hospice

One Care giver feedback

“The palliative care team was sensitive to the concerns of my mom and the entire family. They provided counseling and answered all the questions very patiently. They used to mention the various choices such as hospice etc and make the decisions. We were very comfortable in discussing various aspects of palliative care and end of care. Although it was very difficult to prepare for the death of a loved one, the palliative team did their best in preparing us for the inevitable event. Their emphasis was always on making my mother as comfortable as possible. On behalf of our family, I sincerely thank the palliative care team's efforts and greatly appreciate their help”.

Project Message

Access to pain relief and living and dying with dignity is a basic human right”