



The Bangalore Hospice Trust - Karunashraya

Bangalore Hospice Trust (Karunashraya) provides **care to advanced stage cancer patients**, who have been pronounced to be in the last stages of life. This care is provided **free of charge**.

This is the most crucial stage in a patient's life, when he or she has suddenly lost the security and comfort of a hospital, since no further treatment is possible. The trauma of losing medical support, added to the fear of death, cannot be easily described. The entire burden of care now rests with the families who are, more often than not, ill equipped financially and emotionally to deal with the situation. We have even come across cases where a house has been mortgaged or the family jewels have been pledged or sold to pay for the treatment.

It is at this stage that all human beings, rich or poor, deserve the peace and dignity that are so essential before the inevitable end comes. Our aim at Karunashraya is to give this much-needed solace and dignity to terminally ill cancer patients.

To this end, we have a **50-bed 'In-Patient' facility**, where patients are admitted entirely free of cost, irrespective of caste, creed, religion, or economic backgrounds. Our in-patient facility has now entered its thirteenth year of operation and up to July 1st, 2011 we have admitted over **7,700 patients**.

In addition to the above, we have a Home Care Service, which has completed fifteen years of work. A dedicated team visits the homes of terminally ill patients, cares for them, guides the families on patient care, and provides emotional support to them. If the team feels that the patient needs the care of the in-patient facility, the same is recommended. Up to July 1st, 2011 we have helped over **2,500 patients in their own homes**.

Out of the over **10,200 patients** we have cared for both as In-patients and at their own homes almost 7,300 have breathed their last – all of them in peace and with dignity.

More than 80% of our patients are from very poor economic background.

The combination of Home Care and In-Patient Care offered at Karunashraya offers a lot of flexibility to the patients, allowing them to alternate freely between their homes and Karunashraya.

In addition to the above, we have 3 qualified Family Counselors to help the patients and their relatives deal with the trauma of the disease. We also have an experienced physiotherapist for helping the patients.

Our effort is **"To Improve the Quality of Life for Terminally ill Cancer Patients and Their Families"** and we invite you to be a part of this initiative.