

## Visitation: Hospice Houses and Care Centers

### Policy:

The Hospice House/Care Center does not restrict visitors at any time unless so requested by the patient or the patient's legal representative. The hospice may suspend in-person visitation of a specific visitor if the visitor violates the hospice's policy and procedure.

### Procedure:

1. Visitation is allowed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, at a minimum to include those designated as essential caregivers by the patient or legal representative. Accommodations will be made in the patient's room for the visitor who wishes to stay overnight.
2. Staff is consulted prior to allowing visitors to enter a patient's room when signage is posted on the patient's door for infection prevention purposes. Personal protective equipment and education will be provided to visitors as needed. Required personal protective equipment must be worn by visitors.
3. Hospice does not require social distancing between patients and visitors. Hospice does not require vaccination records of visitors for entry.
4. Visitors will be monitored for obvious signs of illness and screened per Center for Disease Control guidelines applicable to hospice inpatient units. Visitors who appear to be ill may be asked to return when illness has resolved.
5. Children may visit 24 hours/day accompanied by an adult. Family is encouraged to bring toys/activities for children while they visit. Children must be closely supervised at all times.
6. Staff's access to and care of the patient is of primary importance and cannot be restricted by visitors.
7. Visitors exhibiting inappropriate or threatening behavior may be asked to leave and may be prohibited from visiting.
8. Alcohol consumption by visitors is prohibited.
9. All Tidewell properties are smoke free.

Hospices that have general inpatient tenant agreements in the community will collaborate with those facilities to ensure visitation for hospice patients and adherence with the hospice's visitation policies.

Policy Updated: April 22, 2022