

Comparative Study of Hospice Facilities

Project Proposal

Prepared for Mary Sackmann

Prepared by Wendy Spear

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INTRODUCTION

Hospice facilities rely on volunteers to do the majority of the services needed to families who are facing the death of a loved one. You have a special place in your heart for these families and their needs. After serving for just over one year at Evergreen Hospice in Kirkland, Washington, you desire to become more involved in hospice, especially bereavement counseling – and want a comparison study of the hospice facilities in the greater Seattle area.

Since you are employed full-time, play with a bluegrass band on the side and volunteer at Evergreen Hospice, there is very little personal time to do the research needed to compare facilities. You want to ensure your time and talents are being shared in the place best suited to meet your needs, and the needs of the hospice facility you serve.

I am happy to assist you in finding a hospice facility where you can best use your gifts. Since travel time, re-training issues and number of cases in your local area are important to you; I have chosen four hospice facilities to compare. Your request to include Group Health Hospice in Bellevue, Washington will not be a part of the research study as there are currently no opportunities available, and the future of services available there remain unknown at this time. Also you are not sure that it is best to move from Evergreen Hospice, so I have included that facility as well.

- ♥ Swedish Medical Center/Hospice (Seattle, WA)
- ♥ Evergreen Hospice Services (Kirkland, WA)
- ♥ Providence Hospice of Seattle (Seattle, WA)
- ♥ Christian Community Hospice (Renton, WA)

All hospice facilities will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- ♥ Number of Cases per Year on Eastside
- ♥ Commute Area and Time
- ♥ Volunteer Time/Health Requirements
- ♥ Volunteer Training (re-training?)
- ♥ Bereavement Volunteer Opportunities
- ♥ Pet Care Program
- ♥ Healing Touch Program
- ♥ Value System
- ♥ Hospice Team Make-Up

Included in this proposal are Project Procedures, my personal Qualifications and Experience factors, a Budget as well as an Initial Bibliography for you to review. After your review of the material presented, please contact me as to any questions or comments you may have. I look forward to talking with you again soon.

PROJECT PROCEDURES

Significance of Problem

Last year was a hard year for you with the death of two grandparents within a week of one another. For many this would be a difficult tragedy; but with your strong faith and belief in Jesus Christ, you are comforted with the assurance that death is not an end, but a new beginning.

Being raised in a Christian home, you have always had the desire to share with others the comfort that you know when death looms at the door. You feel an obligation to your belief system to give back to others in the same manner friends and family have offered support to you. This is why you feel compelled to give more time to hospice and the services they provide.

Bereavement volunteer work is a special area of hospice care that is important to you. With your outgoing personality, good listening ear, and the genuine way you care about others, you already fulfill some of the requirements for that field of work.

I know your time is valuable to you, so I am pleased to be able to find the top two options, per your request, that will best meet your requirements with special focus on: **number of cases per year on Eastside, commute area and time, volunteer time requirements, bereavement volunteer opportunities, and value system.**

I look forward to the project ahead and being able to help you fulfill a special purpose you feel that is very important in your life, and the lives of others.

Project Methods

To date, research information will be collected from the following sources:

1. Websites
2. Interviews
3. Newsletters
4. Online Database
5. Volunteer Packets

Below are the resources I will be using to gather information for you. This list is only a partial list; as I ensure you that I will be discovering more information as I continue my research.

1. Websites

The websites I will use are primarily from the hospice facilities themselves. The options and the criteria used to evaluate each hospice are noted in parenthesis.

Please note the options will be noted in this manner: Swedish Medical Center (SMC); Evergreen Hospice Services (EHS); Providence Hospice of Seattle (PHS) and Christian Community Hospice (CCH).

"Christian Community Hospice." Christian Community Hospice. 1 Feb 2005.
(CCH; Hospice Team Make-Up, Volunteer Training)

"Frequently Asked Questions." Providence Hospice of Seattle. 1 Feb 2005.
(PHS; Volunteer Training, Commute Area)

"Group Health Hospice Volunteer Program." Group Health Hospice. 9 Feb 2005.
(Group Health Hospice; Volunteer Training)

"Hospice Programs." Swedish Medical Center. 2 Feb 2005.
(SMC; Volunteer Training)

"Interdisciplinary Team Approach." Providence Hospice of Seattle. 1 Feb 2005.
(PHS; Hospice Team Make-Up)

Mapquest. 14 Feb 2005. (Commute Time)

"New Hospice Volunteer Orientation Public Information Session." Providence Hospice of Seattle. 1 Feb 2005. (PHS; Volunteer Training, Volunteer Time/Health Requirements, Bereavement Volunteer Opportunities)

"Volunteers are the Heart of Hospice." Providence Hospice of Seattle. 1 Feb 2005. (PHS; Volunteer Training)

"Volunteer Match." Swedish Medical Center. 2 Feb 2005 (SMC; Volunteer Training, Volunteer Time Requirements)

"Volunteer Opportunities." Evergreen Healthcare. 2 Feb 2005. (EHS; Volunteer Training, Bereavement Volunteer Opportunities, Hospice Team Make-Up, Commute Area)

2. Interviews

I have two interviews planned with one other interview in the planning stages.

Anne Brant

Anne is a critical care home health care nurse who works along side the hospice medical team and volunteers. Anne follows in the footsteps of her mom and grandmother as they were nurses as well. Anne will be able to provide what type of training is needed, the hour requirements, hospice team make-up and give insight to the pet care program as well as the healing touch program. This will be a phone interview with the date pending.

Dorothy Sackmann

As you know, Dorothy has been a volunteer with hospice for many years. Dorothy can help shed light on the bereavement side of volunteer work, as well as the emotional toll, and give insight on the pet care program and the healing touch program as well. This too will be a phone interview with the date pending.

3. Newsletters

Your assistance in providing me with past newsletters from Evergreen Hospice has allowed me the insight to also seek newsletters from the other hospices currently in our study group. Other hospice facility newsletters are in process at this point in time and will be included in my final report.

"Volunteer Newsletter." Evergreen Hospice Services. Feb 2005.
(EHS; Bereavement Opportunities, Health Prerequisites, Volunteer Training)

4. Online Database

I will be using articles from the EBSCOhost Periodical Database program.

"Care Delivery Varies Widely Among Hospices." News Brief. 11 Feb 2005.
(Hospice Team Make-Up, Bereavement Counseling)

"The Stresses of Volunteering in a Hospice: A Qualitative Study." Palliative Medicine. 11 Feb 2005. (Volunteer Training)

5. Volunteer Packets

Each hospice facility is in the process of sending me (via mail) volunteer packets. Within these packets contain information that I will use for all criteria areas of study.

Christian Community Hospice (Renton, WA). Volunteer Packet. 7 Feb 2005.

Evergreen Hospice Services (Kirkland, WA). Volunteer Packet. 7 Feb 2005.

Providence Hospice of Seattle (Seattle, WA). Volunteer Packet. 7 Feb 2005.

Swedish Medical Center/Hospice (Seattle, WA). Volunteer Packet. 7 Feb 2005

Task Schedule

2005							
Task	February				March		
	2/2 through 2/7	2/8 through 2/15	2/15 through 2/23	2/23 through 2/24	2/25 through 3/3	3/3 through 3/7	3/7 through 3/21
Groundwork							
Project Proposal							
Interviews							
Progress Report							
Data Collection							
Data Report							
Final Project							

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

Like you, I have also lost several people close to me in the past 10 years. I worked along side hospice workers as we cared for my ailing step-father in 1996 and most recently with my dad in November of 2003. With my Dad, care was transferred from the hospital to hospice and back to the hospital again. I have interacted with hospice volunteers in low and high stress times, good and bad situations. Bereavement counselors have been there with me as long as 6 months after my dad’s passing.

Not only have I experienced the hospice side of things, I also have known you since the tender age of four. I understand your morals and ethics, knowing what to include and what areas to avoid in my research.

Currently I am completing my Paraprofessional Accounting, Associated Arts Degree at Bellevue Community College. In the past four years I have completed two research papers (for Ridge Crest Community Church) and have led our women's Bible studies. My organizational skills have been enhanced through my college English classes, where I am currently taking a technical writing course. Since leading Bible studies also requires research into the Word of God and exhaustive commentaries, I can assist you in discovery of a good value system and I understand the foundation of bereavement support.

Having all this behind me, I feel that I can prepare for you a research paper that will not only meet all your needs, but provide insightful information that you will need in making this life changing decision. I look forward to sharing this time together with you.

BUDGET

Items listed here are the costs that I expect to occur while preparing this study for you. If there are any questions concerning this budget, please call me.

Description		Total Cost
Research Fee @ \$18.00/hour	26 hours	\$ 468.00
Travel Expenses	138 miles @ \$ 0.40 mile	55.20
Photo Copy, Stationary Expenses		25.00
Communication Expenses		10.00
Sub-Total		\$ 558.20
Less: Professional Discount	25%	(139.55)
Total Expected Budget		\$418.65

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Anne Brant. Critical Care Nurse. Personal Interview. Date pending.

"Care Delivery Varies Widely Among Hospices." *Clinical Journal of Oncology Nursing News Brief*. 2004:8. 9 Feb 2005. EBSCOhost. Bellevue Community College Library Media Center, Bellevue, WA. 9 Feb 2005. <<http://ebSCOhost.com>>

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Dorothy Sackmann. Hospice Volunteer, Homemaker. Personal Interview. Date pending.

"Frequently Asked Questions." *Providence Hospice of Seattle*. 1 Feb 2005. <http://www.providence.org/Long_Term_Care/Hospice_of_Seattle/e20FAQ.html>

"Group Health Hospice Volunteer Program." *VolunteerMatch*. 2005. 9 Feb 2005. <<http://www.volunteermatch.org/orgs/org6853.html>>

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"Interdisciplinary Team Approach." *Providence Hospice of Seattle*. 1 Feb 2005. <http://www.providence.org/Long_Term_Care/Hospice_of_Seattle/e40Team.html>

Kummet, Carol. "Bereavement Telephone Support Volunteers Needed". *Volunteer Newsletter Evergreen Hospice Services*. Feb 2005: 4

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Volunteer Packet. Kirkland, WA. Evergreen Hospice Services. 2005.

Volunteer Packet. Renton, WA. Christian Community Hospice. 2005.

Volunteer Packet. Seattle, WA. Providence Hospice of Seattle. 2005.

Volunteer Packet. Seattle, WA. Swedish Medical Center. 2005.