VNA Children’s Haven Pediatric Hospice is committed to providing excellent care to pediatric patients and their families.

VNA Children’s Haven Pediatric Hospice provides clinical care to patients suffering from a terminal illness as well as support for their families from birth to 21 years of age. The VNA interdisciplinary team develops a plan of care along with the patient’s current team of physicians, home health, and any other care partners to best meet the goals of patients and families.

VNA’s pediatric team includes registered nurses, medical social workers, child life specialists, chaplains, personal care aides, therapists, and volunteers to help navigate this difficult time. We are here for you, wherever you are on your unique journey.

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To make a referral:
Phone (214) 689-2355
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Pediatric Hospice FAQs

Where is hospice provided for my child? Hospice is provided anywhere your child calls home. Often, this is in the family home, where children can be surrounded by their loved ones and community. Hospice can also be provided in the hospital if a patient is too sick to go home.

What types of services will my child and my family receive? Each VNA Children’s Haven patient has a team of experts ensuring all your child’s and family’s needs are met. The team includes the hospice physician, the RN case manager, 24/7 nursing support, a social worker for counseling and additional resources, spiritual support, and child life specialists, among others. Each member of your family is an important part of the care plan, and we strive to meet your individual needs.

How can I help my other kids through this process? VNA’s Certified Child Life Specialists (CCLS) will help both your child and their siblings develop age-appropriate coping skills during this complex time. Utilizing play as a therapeutic tool, the CCLS will answer questions, help provide a sense of normalcy, a safe space to ask questions and express emotions related to your child’s illness. The CCLS will also facilitate memory-making activities for families to treasure.

How long can my child be on hospice? Our physician works with your child’s current physician team to determine eligibility based on prognosis. A person is appropriate for hospice care when they have a life prognosis of six months or fewer if the disease follows its normal course. Many children live much longer than this due to the excellent care they receive. As long as the physician continues to certify the patient as appropriate for hospice, he or she can remain on hospice services.

Who will be caring for my child with hospice? While your family continues to serve as the primary caregiver, the hospice team makes intermittent visits to ensure your child’s needs are met, including symptom management, and emotional and spiritual support. Should your child need additional in-home care, our team can help with these resources.

Do we have to stop other treatments to participate in hospice? The Affordable Care Act mandated concurrent care availability for children receiving pediatric hospice services. This means that children on pediatric hospice no longer must choose between curative treatment and hospice care because they can have both at the same time.

Who covers the cost of hospice? Most insurance plans have a hospice benefit which covers much of the cost of hospice care. Patients with Medicaid benefits have their hospice care covered at 100%. VNA also provides charitable care for those with no means to pay for hospice care.

Established in 1934, Visiting Nurse Association is a nonprofit organization that helps people live with dignity and independence at home. Caring, listening and responding to our patients’ quality of life and comfort issues is what we have done for more than 88 years.

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