



# Learn the Facts About Hospice Care

## THE TRUTH BEHIND MYTHS AND MISCONCEPTIONS

- 1** *Myth: Hospice means giving up hope.*  
**REALITY:** Tabitha Hospice provides hope through pain management and support, so individuals can live their final months in comfort and according to their wishes.
- 2** *Myth: A physician must bring up the option of hospice.*  
**REALITY:** Clients and family are encouraged to discuss hospice care freely with family, doctors and care providers at any time.
- 3** *Myth: Hospice is only for individuals with cancer.*  
**REALITY:** Tabitha Hospice care can be provided for many life-limiting conditions including cancer, Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), dementia and Parkinson's disease.
- 4** *Myth: It is best to involve hospice when the client is imminently dying.*  
**REALITY:** In order to receive the full benefit of hospice care, it is imperative to utilize the service as close to the six-month prognosis as possible, although care is not limited to just six months.
- 5** *Myth: Hospice care is delivered only in the home.*  
**REALITY:** Tabitha Hospice services are provided **WHEREVER** the client calls home, including independent, assisted or long-term care living communities or a dedicated hospice house.
- 6** *Myth: Hospice care is only available for those who have Medicare.*  
**REALITY:** Medicare Part A benefits, Medicaid (based on income requirements), private insurance and private pay are all payment options for this service.
- 7** *Myth: Someone must be with a hospice client at all times.*  
**REALITY:** Alternatives to a constant caregiver may be telephone calls or increased visits by Tabitha Hospice team members and volunteers.
- 8** *Myth: In order to reduce pain levels in a hospice client, the individual will be lethargic and confused.*  
**REALITY:** When correctly administered, most pain medicines do not produce unacceptable mental clouding or sedation.
- 9** *Myth: Hospice clients must have a "do not resuscitate" (DNR) order.*  
**REALITY:** Clients are not required to sign DNR papers to receive Tabitha Hospice.
- 10** *Myth: Hospice care ends at time of death.*  
**REALITY:** Tabitha Hospice provides bereavement services for all loved ones for 18 months following hospice care.



TABITHA

**Tabitha Hospice puts people first with purpose in mind, informing them of the available care options and answering questions.**

*Our team approach combining expert medical care and emotional and spiritual support gives families peace of mind knowing their loved one will receive exceptional care.*

**Tabitha provides a comprehensive hospice program including:**

- 24/7 availability for consultation and urgent visits
- Coordination of medication, medical equipment and supplies
- Personal care needs and companionship provided by hospice aides and volunteers
- Personalized Veteran services
- Emotional and spiritual support from a team of social workers and chaplains
- Full continuum of care for ease of transition between services
- Bereavement services for all loved ones during and after hospice care, including supportive grief groups and reference materials

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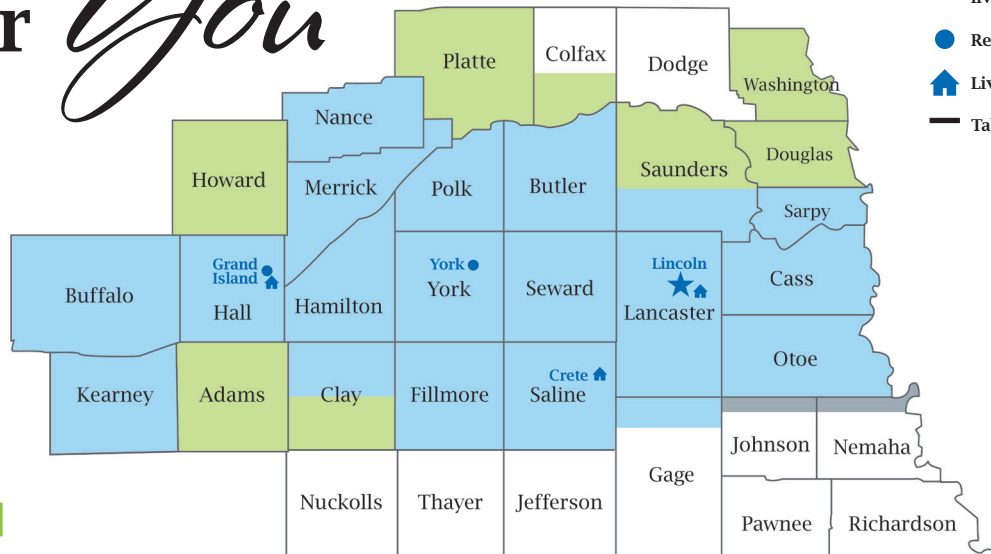
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**Since 1979, families have entrusted us with the care of their loved ones because we focus on client and family needs, values and beliefs.**

TABITHA.ORG/HOSPICE