

Pediatric Palliative Care Coalition of Minnesota

*Dedicated to addressing palliative care needs of Minnesota's children
and giving them hope!*

Who We Are?

Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota, Fairview Health Systems, Gillette Specialty Health Care, University of Minnesota School of Nursing, St. Mary's Hospice (Duluth), and concerned parents and community members. We work with community networks throughout Minnesota including the Twin Cities, Duluth, Rochester, Alexandria, and St. Cloud.

Who We Serve?

1,400 Minnesota children are estimated to be living with conditions that will prevent them from reaching adulthood. These children would likely benefit from pediatric palliative care services. About 250 of these children die annually in our state. Medical Assistance is the primary insurance for half of these children.

What Is Pediatric Palliative Care?

Palliative care is an innovative and comprehensive medical management model of care for children with terminal conditions at home or in the hospital. This special kind of care is specifically intended to decrease the pain and suffering of children with terminal conditions. It starts from the time of diagnosis, with the hope for cure, through bereavement if needed.

Pediatric palliative care includes treatment and support services to provide comfort and quality of life for children whose condition will not allow them to reach adulthood. A child and their family need both physical and emotional care during this difficult time to confront the daily challenges of living with life-threatening conditions. Our trained providers serve palliative care patients and families across the state. Services include: assistance with navigating the medical system, expertise in comfort care including medications and therapies to relieve pain and symptoms; twenty-four hour support in the form of on-call services; coordination of help and services needed in the home, including volunteer services; and necessary durable medical equipment.

What is Our 2008 Policy Agenda?

Passage of the Compassion & Hospice Care For Minnesota's Children Act of 2008
Authors: Representative Erin Murphy & Senator Sharon Erickson-Ropes. Coauthors: Chairwoman Linda Berglin, Senator John Marty, Senator Julie Rosen, Senator Patricia Torrey-Ray, Representative Jim Abeler, and Representative Laura Brod.

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