

**THE COMMUNITY HOSPICE BEREAVEMENT SERVICES**



**The Community Hospice Bereavement Services**

**Our Locations:**

The Community Hospice  
445 New Karner Road  
Albany, NY 12205  
Phone: 518-724-0200  
Fax: 518-724-0299

The Community Hospice  
47 Liberty Street  
Catskill, NY 12414  
Phone: 518-943-5402  
Fax: 518-943-0776

The Community Hospice  
295 Valley View Blvd.  
Rensselaer, NY 12144  
Phone: 518-285-8100  
Fax: 518-285-8145

The Community Hospice  
179 Lawrence Street  
Saratoga, NY 12866  
Phone: 518-581-0800  
Fax: 518-581-9460

Please visit our website :  
[HospiceGriefServices.com](http://HospiceGriefServices.com)



Updated: 1/29/19

Grief is a natural human response to loss. There are many signs of grief. They may include intense feelings of sadness, fear, and anger; physical symptoms such as headaches, stomach aches, fatigue, changes in eating, and sleeping patterns; and behavioral changes such as withdrawal and absent-mindedness. Although they are expected responses to grief, they can be overwhelming and confusing. The professional counselors at The Community Hospice are here to listen with compassion and help you navigate through the process of normal grieving. Bereavement chaplains are available to address spiritual concerns during the grieving process, for those who choose to integrate their spiritual beliefs and practices into their short-term grief counseling. Although it can be very intense, grief is not a mental illness.

**STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING**

By signing below, I certify that I have read, understand and agree to comply with all of the following for myself and any children listed below:

1. I understand that The Community Hospice provides education, assessment and short term counseling related to acute grief. Acute grief typically occurs within the first two years following a loss. The Community Hospice does not provide counseling beyond the immediate grief issue or medical services of any kind. If I am assessed as needing additional mental health counseling or medical services, I will be assisted in obtaining a referral to a community provider. My continued involvement with the Bereavement Services Department is contingent upon compliance with treatment recommendations.
2. Bereavement services may include:
  - Referral to a support group, Wave Riders and/or Camp Erin.
  - Referral to appropriate practitioners in the community.
  - Individual and/or family sessions
  - Individual and/or family spiritual care sessions addressing the grieving process
  - Individual pediatric sessions. Our pediatric clients typically need between 4-6 sessions.
3. If I am currently receiving mental health services, I understand that I should continue to receive such services despite my participation in the programs and services offered by The Community Hospice. I agree to sign a release form that allows The Community Hospice and my mental health practitioner/ medical provider to share information in order to coordinate my treatment services.
4. My privacy and confidentiality will be protected according to New York State and Federal laws, including but not limited to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 ("HIPAA"). I have received a copy of The Community Hospice's Notice of Privacy practices. I understand that this document provides an explanation of the ways in which my personal information may be used or disclosed by The Community Hospice and of my rights with respect to that information. Group facilitators will encourage participants to safeguard the privacy of other group members, but cannot guarantee that participants will uphold the confidentiality of the group.
5. I understand that I may contact The Community Hospice via phone regarding scheduling and rescheduling appointments. In case of emergency, I will call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room. I understand that email and text messages should not be utilized in order to correspond with The Community Hospice in an emergency or with regard to the content the services I am participating in. I also understand that The Community Hospice staff cannot interact with current or former clients via social media or in personal relationship.
6. The Community Hospice provides services to adults, youth and children throughout an eight county area, funded exclusively by grants and contributions. Donations in support may be made to The Community Hospice. There is no charge for Bereavement Services.

Adult's Full Name:		Date of Birth:	
Signature:		Today's Date:	
1 - Child's Full Name:		Date of Birth:	
2 - Child's Full Name:		Date of Birth:	