



## **Visiting Home Hospice**

*"We cannot change the outcome, but we can affect the journey"*

Roger Neilson House 'Visiting Home Hospice' service offers additional respite to families in their own home. This program supports families and children referred to CHEO's Palliative Care Team and Roger Neilson House. It is administered by the Manager of Community Engagement and Volunteer Relations ('Manager'), supported by a Recreation Therapist.

### **What Can You Expect?**

- At your request, a telephone or in-person meeting with the Manager and/or a Recreation Therapist will take place to discuss the program and establish needs and to determine if the Visiting Home Hospice is right for you, your child and family.
- A potential volunteer match for your child and family will be carefully identified. The volunteer assigned to you will be fully trained and will have a minimum of one year experience at RNH. Volunteers with other relevant experience and training may also be considered.
- An initial introductory visit will take place at a mutually convenient time with your child, family, and volunteer, Manager and/or Recreation Therapist. During this visit, a care plan will be developed.
- You, or a responsible adult you assign, must remain in the home for the entire duration of the volunteer's visit.
- A suitable schedule will be agreed upon between yourself and the volunteer.

### **What can a visiting volunteer do?**

Volunteers provide companionship, comfort, fun and play to children and youth who require additional respite care. For example, they can:

- Read, play, bake or do crafts with the child and siblings
- Spend quality time with the child while caregivers get some rest or do other activities around the house
- Help with light practical tasks around the house (when time permits)
- Help caregivers with outings to the park or playground
- Provide companionship and a reassuring presence for the children
- Volunteers have the responsibility to document each visit.

### **What are the limitations of the visiting home hospice service?**

- Volunteers are not permitted to do personal care tasks, lift or transfer children or to provide medical care
- The child's principal caregiver, or a responsible adult they assign, must be on the premises or present during outings for the entire duration of the volunteer's visit
- Volunteers strictly adhere to RNH policies and procedures.

***How can you participate in the visiting home hospice service?***

Speak with a member of your child's CHEO and Roger Neilson House care team or contact the Manager of Community Engagement and Volunteer Relations: 613-523-6300, extension 4605.