

In 2000, The Valley Hospice Foundation incorporated as a registered charity in response to a community need to offer dying Valley residents - who for any reason are unable to die at home - and their loved ones a welcoming, quiet and comfortable alternative to hospital-based palliative care. The Foundation is a volunteer-lead organization.

Statistically, the death of one individual directly and adversely affects the health of five other people. Providing patients and families with a positive end-of-life experience helps meet the mental, spiritual, emotional and physical health needs of all. A hospice is more than a building – it is a philosophy. The Hospice is a community of care for the dying and the living.

The Hospice is a significant part of a larger capital fundraising campaign that also supported the redevelopment of Valley Regional Hospital.

Since launching a joint capital campaign – Our Community Our Health – in 2009, the Foundation and the Valley Regional Hospital Foundation raised more than \$8 million to build the Hospice and fund projects at Valley Regional Hospital. An estimated \$3.3 million will be spent to construct, equip, and furnish the Hospice. The Hospice will offer 8-10 private bedrooms and shared kitchen, common rooms and other amenities.

The Valley Hospice Foundation's work will continue as an integral part of the Hospice development and operation to ensure the Valley community receives the Hospice it generously supported.

Valley Hospice Foundation will be represented on a *Hospice Project Advisory Committee* to plan and implement the Hospice. Once the Hospice is operational, an *Integrated Hospice Palliative Care Advisory Committee* will be formed with significant membership from Valley Hospice Foundation.

The Foundation will continue to operate as a fundraising vehicle to help the Hospice provide the best support and care for patients and their families. The Foundation also supports volunteer development, education and grief and bereavement programs.