

CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION FOR HOME CARE & HOSPICE

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Program Title: Rural Veteran Hospice Volunteer Training Curriculum

Program Description:

The training program for rural Veterans to become hospice volunteers for other Veterans will consist of a total of 24 hours. The training will occur over eight weeks with each training session lasting 3 hours. The training will consist of three components that will be intermeshed. First the standard Medicare hospice volunteer training program will be offered to Veterans followed by sessions on the topic of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and the Vet to Vet program.

Goal:

To train and prepare rural Veterans as hospice volunteers who will provide volunteer hospice services to other Veterans.

Objectives:

By the end of the Veteran Hospice Volunteer training program, the volunteer will be able to:

1. Discuss Hospice philosophy and concept, and Hospice development in the United States.
2. Formulate and discuss thoughts and attitudes on dying and his or her own death.
3. Identify interdisciplinary members and roles of the Hospice team.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of inpatient home care collaboration and team work.
5. Identify support systems to families.
6. Identify effects of stress, crisis, and terminal illness on the patient, family and caregivers.
7. Demonstrate insight into the grief reaction of caregivers, patient and survivors.
8. Recognize when the patient and/or family are raising question related to their spiritual needs (fear of death, what happens after someone dies)
9. Demonstrate an understanding of the normal grief process the bereaved may experience.
10. Communicate patient/family needs to the appropriate team member.
11. Demonstrate a basic understanding of Post Traumatic Distress Disorder (PTSD.)
12. Recognize signs and symptoms of PTSD.
13. Identify PTSD resources available to patients, families and caregivers
14. Demonstrate an understanding of the Vet to Vet Program

Topics of Presentation and Discussion

- Introduction to Hospice,
- Process of Death and Dying
- Advanced Directives

- Communication Techniques/Family Interaction
- Spiritual Care of the Dying Patient
- Overview of Serious Illness
- Funeral Planning
- Grief and Bereavement
- You, The Volunteer
- The Interdisciplinary Team Approach
- Universal Precautions
- MDA and Corporate Compliance
- Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
- Veteran Support Programs and Services