Since 1978, Hospice of the Bluegrass has provided quality end of life care to terminally ill patients and their families using a comprehensive spectrum of care — from palliative outpatient services to in-home medical services to family and community support. Grief and bereavement services extend to family members, caregivers and anyone in grief including those whose loved ones were not hospice patients.

Interdisciplinary team members work in 32 northern, central and southeastern Kentucky counties. To show commitment to quality service, Hospice of the Bluegrass has earned the Joint Commission’s Gold Seal of Approval and certification by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid.

and on the web at:  
www.hospicebg.org
What is Hospice?
Hospice focuses on quality of life when quantity is limited. Hospice provides the most effective medical care to control symptoms and pain, offering emotional and spiritual support to patients and those who love them. Patients are treated with dignity; their pain is brought under control and then they can focus on living each day to the fullest.

Hospice care includes:
- Collaboration with the patient’s personal physician
- Hospice physician services
- Regular home visits by nurses
- Assistance from home care aids for dressing and bathing
- Counseling services
- Medical equipment and supplies
- Pain management and symptom control
- Spiritual care and support
- Volunteer support
- Bereavement programs (individual and group programs)

Hospice of the Bluegrass is committed to providing the highest quality care to our nation’s veterans. Our team of professionals uses a Military History Checklist to understand the scope and duration of a veteran’s service in order to provide better care to the patient and better support to the patient’s family. Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression, exposure to Agent Orange, psychological and spiritual issues as well as other complicating factors can be addressed by the expert interdisciplinary hospice team as we work to honor each veteran’s preferences for care at the end of life.

When is the Right Time for Hospice
Hospice is not just for the last days of life; it is for the last phase of life. That often begins when a person receives a prognosis that his or her life expectancy is six months or less.

A patient, family member, physician or spiritual care provider may begin the process with a simple phone call. To find the Hospice of the Bluegrass office in your area, see the back of this brochure. Once a patient is admitted to Hospice, he or she will be assigned to a team. These specially trained, caring individuals will visit the patient’s home or current place of residence and assess the patient’s needs.

Paying For Hospice Care
Medicare, Medicaid and most private insurers have a Hospice benefit. All veterans enrolled in the VA’s healthcare system are eligible for hospice and palliative care. Hospice of the Bluegrass will work directly with a patient’s insurance company to arrange payment for services. Hospice also cares for people who do not have insurance or whose insurance does not cover comfort care. Donations from generous individuals, corporations, foundations and organizations help pay these costs. No one is turned away from Hospice of the Bluegrass for financial reasons.

Where is Hospice Care Provided?
Veterans receive hospice care wherever they reside. This may include a personal residence, long-term care facility, hospital, assisted living facility, group home or homeless shelter.