

Mission and Vision Statements

Mission:

The Old Colony Hospice team compassionately cares for individuals and their loved ones coping with complex illnesses and end of life needs while preserving dignity and quality of life.



Vision:

To make the end of life care experience better for the people we serve.

Old Colony Hospice &
Palliative Care

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Pet Therapy Program



There's nothing like a visit from a four-legged creature to brighten the day. Old Colony Hospice's Pet Therapy program has the right pet therapy team to help provide support to our patients and families!

Old
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& Palliative Care

A stylized purple graphic element consisting of several vertical, slightly curved lines of varying heights, resembling a stylized 'H' or a cluster of vertical bars.

Our Pet Therapy Program:

There's nothing like a visit from a four-legged creature to brighten the day. Old Colony Hospice's Pet Therapy program has the right pet therapy team to help provide support to our patients and families.

Registered pet therapy teams visit with patients wherever they reside – at home or in professional care settings. For some patients, contact with these gentle animals evokes memories of pets in their lives, past or present.

Benefits of Pet Therapy:

- releases endorphins that have a calming effect
- act of petting produces an automatic relaxation response
- lifts spirits and lessens depression
- encourages communication
- provides comfort
- increases socialization
- reduces boredom
- lowers anxiety
- reduces loneliness
- provides motivation to move

Source: Paws for People
<http://www.pawsforpeople.org/who-we-are/benefits-of-pet-therapy/>

Meet a Pet Therapist

My Name: Izzy

Breed: Soft Coated Wheaton Terrier

My Human Partner: Linda

My Interests: Visiting with patients and sharing smiles



"The animals help provide socialization and supportive listening for the patients and, in some cases, assistance with symptom management."

*- Maureen Horgan, LICSW, ACSW
Providence Hospital of Seattle*

Source: *Social Work Today* 01/02 – 2010 Issue



Izzy, OCH Pet Therapy Dog and her owner, Linda

Interested in joining our pet therapy team?

Our pet therapy volunteers say they get as much joy from the experience as our patients. If you have an interest in becoming a pet therapy team with your pet, call us or visit our volunteer page on our website for more information!