Hospice is a philosophy of care that supports terminally ill patients and their loved ones through the final stages of life’s journey. This type of care emphasizes comfort rather than cure and focuses on quality rather than duration of life.

Visiting Nurse Hospice accepted its first patient in 1992. Today, our program provides end-of-life care to nearly 1,000 patients in Rochester and Monroe County each year. Our team of physicians, nurses, home health aides, counselors, and volunteers go above and beyond to make this difficult time as comfortable and dignified as possible for every patient, regardless of their ability to pay. This means not only providing pain and symptom management, but also social services, pastoral care, respite for caregivers, and bereavement support to families. We also serve patients and their families at the Leo Center for Caring, a hospice partnership between Visiting Nurse Service and St. Ann’s Community. There are room naming opportunities at the Leo Center to honor your gift of $30,000 or more. This includes the rooftop terrace, kitchen, dining room, parlor/hearth, and a number of patient rooms.

We need to ensure that hospice staff members receive special certification and training. This will allow us to continue to provide the highest quality and compassionate care to our patients. Your gift of $10,000 supports the annual cost of training and certification for hospice staff members, and gifts of $25,000 or more can endow a named fund.

We are looking for current-use gifts as well as endowed funds to support this important program.

Visiting Nurse Hospice has partnered with We Honor Veterans, a program of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization, to empower hospice professionals to meet the unique needs of dying veterans. Your support will help honor patients during a ceremony that publicly acknowledges their military service. Honorees also receive a certificate, pin, and an American flag blanket as tokens of appreciation and respect for all they have sacrificed.
“The incredible support my family received from Visiting Nurse Hospice will stay with me forever. My biggest frustration was feeling helpless to do anything to help my mother, but our hospice nurse completely understood the situation, made her feel comfortable and reduced the pain and suffering of my family. The nurse also helped communicate our questions and concerns to the physician.”

TOM RUSLING
Visiting Nurse Service Board Member