


## Care & Support Through the Stages of Serious Illness

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## More comfort, less stress. It's possible for patients and families—with help from Agrace.

*Facing a serious illness is a difficult challenge in so many ways. But you can live better during any stage of an illness if you and your family have specialized, compassionate care and support.*

Agrace is a nonprofit, community-based health care agency founded by volunteers in 1978. We help people with serious or life-limiting illnesses cope with their physical symptoms, as well as with the emotional, spiritual, social and financial matters that cause extra worry. Family support is offered, too, during the illness and beyond.

Agrace cares for people of all ages, including children. We serve people of diverse ethnicities and strive to honor the distinctive cultural and spiritual practices of all people.



[agrace.org](http://agrace.org)

## Palliative Care:

*Finding the Relief You Need*

**Feeling better and coping better are essential when you are being treated for a chronic or serious illness. Palliative (*pal-lee-uh-tive*) care is specialized medical care that focuses on improving your comfort and addressing whatever is causing stress. It can be provided even while you are receiving curative treatment.**

*Here are two ways Agrace Palliative Care can help:*

### ■ Palliative Care Consultation:

An Agrace nurse practitioner can make a one-time home consultation visit that includes a physical exam and an open discussion about your symptoms, how medications and other treatments are working and your goals for care. Afterward, Agrace will share recommendations with you and your health care provider about changes that may help ease troubling symptoms and relieve your worries.

### ■ Care Navigation:

This personalized “coaching” service helps you manage your illness more confidently at home with ongoing guidance and education from an Agrace registered nurse. The service includes a customized care plan and phone support from a nurse any time of day or night, plus medication management, coordination of doctor visits and more—all for a reasonable monthly fee. Agrace Care Navigation can improve your overall health, reducing the likelihood of expensive emergency room visits and hospitalizations.

## Hospice Care:

*When Quality of Life Matters Most*

**When a person's health condition becomes life-limiting, the quality of each day is exceptionally important. At this stage of an illness, compassionate end-of-life care from Agrace can help both the patient and their family.**

Hospice care is specialized comfort care. It's for people who have any life-limiting condition, a life expectancy of six months or less and a goal of comfort, rather than cure. For 35 years, Agrace has been a trusted, innovative and highly experienced hospice provider.

When you choose Agrace for hospice, your care team includes our professional staff, trained volunteers and your physician, who work together to address your unique physical, emotional and spiritual needs, and help you and your family meet your end-of-life goals. Most hospice services are provided in patients' homes, because people often prefer to remain in familiar surroundings, close to those who matter most.



Reflecting our commitment to a higher standard of quality care, Agrace has been awarded Community Health Accreditation Program, Inc. (CHAP) accreditation under the CHAP Hospice Standards of Excellence.



## ■ Inpatient hospice care:

When symptoms cannot be managed at home, Agrace can meet patients' short-term, acute medical needs at our state-of-the-art inpatient hospice facility in Madison. Agrace's Inpatient Unit and Residence provide complex medical management in a beautiful, homelike setting.

## ■ Residential care:

Hospice patients who would like to live on the Agrace campus can choose the Agrace Residence, where caregivers are available to assist patients with their personal and medical needs. Agrace also provides respite care here, allowing family caregivers to take a short break from caregiving.

**For a virtual tour and more details on inpatient or residential care, visit [www.agrace.org/agracecampus](http://www.agrace.org/agracecampus).**



*The spacious, comfortable patient rooms at Agrace enable visitors to stay overnight with their loved ones and offer views of the peaceful woods, gardens and wildlife.*



## Grief Support

The illness and death of a loved one is difficult—and healing takes time. Agrace provides grief support that continues after a death, to help family and friends adjust to life without their loved one. We also host a variety of specialized grief support groups for children and adults. Thanks to generous community donations, these groups are provided without charge and are open to everyone in the community who is grieving a loss.

## Opportunities to Learn

Agrace is committed to educating patients, families, community members and health care providers about compassionate care during serious illness. As more people learn what's possible with palliative care, hospice and grief support, these vital services will become a more routine part of everyone's health care experience.

**To learn about upcoming educational discussions and grief support groups, please visit the events calendar and the Educational Institute section on our website, [agrace.org](http://www.agrace.org).**



*Children, teens and adults can benefit from Agrace's specialized grief support when they need help coping with the death of a loved one.*

## Ways to Support Our Mission


■ **Volunteering with Agrace** is a highly rewarding way to support our mission and meet others who share your commitment. Each year, our trained volunteers donate more than 70,000 hours, serving as caring companions to patients or helping our staff with clerical tasks, hospitality, gardening, fundraising events and the Agrace thrift stores. Volunteer support truly sets Agrace apart, enabling us to provide much more robust services than we could offer with staff alone. To learn more, visit [www.agrace.org/volunteer](http://www.agrace.org/volunteer).




■ **Generous community donations** help Agrace fund several essential services, such as charity care, respite care, grief services, volunteer training and clinical education. Donations of any size are appreciated; they ensure that Agrace can offer services to *everyone* in our area, including patients who are not covered by Medicare, Medicaid or private insurance and cannot afford to pay for the care they need.

The Agrace Foundation coordinates community donations, memorial and planned gifts, and fundraising activities.

**To learn more about ways to give to Agrace, call Donor Services at (608) 327-7209 or visit [www.agrace.org/donate](http://www.agrace.org/donate).**



*Founded in 1978, Agrace is a nonprofit, community-based hospice and palliative care agency that provides care and support to patients and their families through the stages of a serious illness.*



**Call Today:**  
**Toll-free patient referral line: (800) 930-2770**

**General information:**  
**Madison office (608) 276-4660**  
**Janesville office (608) 755-1871**

**agrace.org**  



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