

## What is the Hospice Veteran Partnership?

HVP is a coalition of people from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), veterans homes, and community organizations working together to ensure that excellent end-of-life care is available for our nation's veterans and their families. The HVP of Maine is part of a national network.

## Why were we formed?

The mission of the HVP is to establish an enduring network of hospice and VA professionals, veterans, volunteers and other interested organizations working together to provide quality end-of-life services. The HVP was formed to provide leadership, technical assistance, and program development recommendations in the following areas:

- Improving veterans' access to hospice and palliative care across practice settings, so they can receive care at the time and place of need.
- Strengthening relationships between state hospice organizations, USOs, VA organizations and veterans homes.
- Creating a comprehensive community engagement plan designed to reach veterans.



## Who are our members?

Maine's HVP includes representatives from the Maine Hospice Council, the Maine Veterans' Homes, Togus VA Medical Center, Veterans Service Organizations, end-of-life coalitions, community hospice agencies, as well as other organizations and individuals interested in improving end-of-life care for veterans.

## How can you get involved?

Contact the Maine Hospice Council at **(800) 438-5963**.

## Contact Information

For information on enrollment, a VA provider, or home hospice:

Community Health Nurse Coordinator  
(207) 623-8411 ext. 5264 or  
(877) 421-8263 ext. 5264

For inpatient or outpatient services:

Togus VA Medical Center  
Palliative Care Consult Team Coordinator  
(207) 623-8411 ext. 5029

For information on the Maine Veterans' Homes:

Augusta	(888) 684-4664
Bangor	(888) 684-4665
Caribou	(888) 684-4667
Machias	(877) 866-4669
Scarborough	(888) 684-4666
South Paris	(888) 684-4668

For information on hospice services statewide:

Maine Hospice Council (800) 438-5963

## Web Resources

Maine Hospice Council

[www.mainehospicecouncil.org](http://www.mainehospicecouncil.org)

Department of Veterans Affairs

[www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)

National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization

[www.nhpco.org](http://www.nhpco.org)



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# HOSPICE/VETERANS PARTNERSHIP OF MAINE



WORKING TO ENSURE QUALITY  
HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE CARE  
FOR ALL MAINE VETERANS

## Home Hospice Care

All enrolled veterans are entitled to home hospice care provided they meet hospice guidelines. These services are covered by Medicare and/or the VA. VA Hospice must be ordered by a VA provider. Hospice benefit guidelines require that the goal be palliative and not curative.

### Hospice care includes:

- skilled nursing
- physical therapy
- social worker
- medications
- bereavement services
- aides
- occupational therapy
- Chaplain services
- medical equipment
- volunteers

Enrollment for veterans can be expedited in the case of a terminal diagnosis.

Hospice patients may also be eligible for the Home Maker Health Aide Program to assist with homemaking services, personal care and respite.

If you need to be enrolled (in order to receive hospice care), have questions regarding home hospice, or need a VA provider to receive hospice care, please contact the Community Health Nurse Coordinator at Togus VA Medical Center.



## Maine Veterans' Homes “Caring for those who served.”

The Maine Veterans' Homes provide long-term care to veterans, their spouses, widowed spouses and Gold Star parents. MVH are not part of Togus or the Veterans Administration. Homes are located in Augusta, Bangor, Caribou, Machias, Scarborough, and South Paris.

### Eligibility

To qualify for admission, the applicant must:

- be an honorably discharged veteran who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces for at least 180 days;
- be a resident of Maine at the time of application, or have resided in Maine at the time of enlistment;
- be a spouse, widow or widower of an eligible veteran; or
- be a Gold Star parent of a veteran killed in the line of duty.



### End-of-Life Care

The dedicated staff and volunteers at the Maine Veterans' Homes provide compassionate and supportive end-of-life care to our terminally-ill residents and their families. Pain and symptom control, psychological, social and spiritual concerns are addressed through an interdisciplinary approach. Community based hospice services will provide additional end-of-life services and resources for the resident and their family.

At Maine Veterans' Homes, we recognize and celebrate the individual and maintain their dignity in life and in the dying process.

## Togus VA Medical Center

Togus VA Medical Center provides both inpatient and outpatient end-of-life services.

### Inpatient services:

- hospice and palliative care
- respite care

### Outpatient services:

- hospice support calls to veterans and their families
- after-hours calls for veterans through local hospice agencies
- VA personnel may be available for home visitation on a case-by-case basis

Our goal is to “Honor veteran’s preferences at the end of life” by providing the care they deserve in return for service to our country.

## Maine Hospice Council

The Maine Hospice Council and Center for End-of-Life Care is the only statewide non-profit organization solely dedicated to improving end-of-life care for the many individuals and families in Maine who are facing terminal illnesses. We provide education, advocacy and research on end-of-life issues for both consumers and health care providers. The Council’s programs address consumer protection, pain management, access to care, long-term care, bereavement, volunteer support, and many other issues.

