

When a family learns that their baby may be born with a life-threatening or chronic condition, they're faced with overwhelming uncertainty. They do not have to face this heartbreaking reality alone.

Hospice of the Western Reserve's perinatal care program renews hope by addressing each family's expectations and offering personalized support during the pregnancy, delivery and time following the baby's birth.

Specially trained professionals work closely with the obstetrician and/or midwife to formulate a care plan. The perinatal care team helps families identify community resources and support groups while navigating the healthcare system and maximizing social service support.

A referral to the perinatal care program can be made by anyone, including a family member, friend or healthcare professional, by calling 216.916.5520. A member of the team will return the call the same day.



Pediatric Team  
19201 Villaview Road  
Cleveland, OH 44119-3064  
Phone: 216.916.5520  
Fax: 216.481.4940

*Serving Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake,  
Lorain and Summit Counties with offices throughout.*

Hospice Resale Shop in Lyndhurst

800.707.8922

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

#### MISSION

Hospice of the Western Reserve provides palliative end-of-life care, caregiver support, and bereavement services throughout Northern Ohio. In celebration of the individual worth of each life, we strive to relieve suffering, enhance comfort, promote quality of life, foster choice in end-of-life care, and support effective grieving.

Certified Medicare/Medicaid Hospice, Licensed in Ohio  
Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations

*This perinatal palliative care brochure in memory of Michael James Pender, 1971-1991, is designed to provide information and support for families and those caring for children, and is made possible by a generous gift from the Michael Pender Memorial Fund of The Cleveland Foundation.*

# Perinatal Care Program



**HOSPICE  
OF THE  
WESTERN  
RESERVE**

## What We Do For Families

- Create a plan to determine the family's preferences at birth.
- Address emotional needs of the family, including siblings and grandparents.
- Coordinate hospitalization and discharge of the baby.
- Assist in creating special, memorable keepsakes prior to and after the baby's birth.
- Help with final arrangements, memorial services and good byes, as needed.

## Additional Services

- The baby may stay at Hospice House, our inpatient facility.
- Trained volunteers offer short-term rest and relief (referred to as respite), providing the caregiver a much needed break or time to participate in normal daily activities.
- On-call phone support is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- Medications and medical supplies are delivered to the family's home.

"It is very reassuring to know there is great resource for our prenatal patients facing a heartbreaking diagnosis. I know these families will receive the support and care they need (such as birth plans and counseling) from the professional and compassionate staff at Hospice of the Western Reserve."

—Bethany Berry, MSN, Certified Nurse Midwife and Perinatal Nurse Specialist

## The Pediatric Team

Each family in the perinatal care program is followed by a specialized hospice team.

### Team Members

**Consulting Pediatric Medical Director or Team Physician** provides guidance to the team on pain and symptom management, ethical dilemmas and decision making.

**Nurse Practitioner** supervises the team, providing consultation and clinical care.

**Pediatric Nurse** visits the baby and provides instruction to the family on ways to simplify feeding, medication and other care issues.

**Pediatric Social Worker** assists in choices during pregnancy and after the birth, and identifies legal and financial resources.

**Nursing Assistant** provides personal care for the baby.

**Spiritual Care Coordinator** offers support and guidance in the search for meaning, connection, spiritual strength and peace.

**Expressive Therapists** use art and music to help families express feelings.

**Massotherapist** uses touch and massage to comfort the baby.

**Pediatric Bereavement Coordinator** guides parents, siblings and other family members through feelings associated with grief and loss.

**Trained Volunteers** provide supportive visits and companionship, as well as respite for the family.

"I felt so lost and confused. The uncertainty of it all was paralyzing. The nurses helped me understand all the medical language and translated it into practical realities. I felt such relief in having the funeral plans done before my daughter's birth. Once she was born, I could focus on enjoying every day we had with her. My daughter died a peaceful death thanks to all your support and medical management."

—Mother

## Hospice and Palliative Care

Hospice and palliative care is a philosophy of care that includes pain management and symptom control for the patient, while focusing on emotional and spiritual support for families. Since 1978, Hospice of the Western Reserve has been dedicated to the belief that no one should die alone, afraid or in pain, and that dying people of all ages have a right to quality care.

## Financial Coverage

Hospice of the Western Reserve is a non profit organization, providing services regardless of an individual's ability to pay. Hospice and palliative care services are covered by many private health insurance plans, as well as Medicare and Medicaid.

In support of our conviction that no one shall be turned away, Hospice of the Western Reserve relies on memorial gifts and private donations from the community, as well as grants and United Way funding.