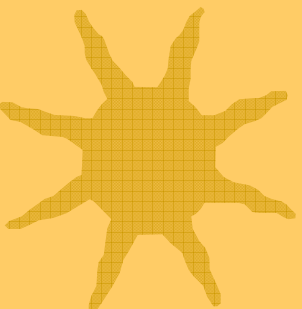
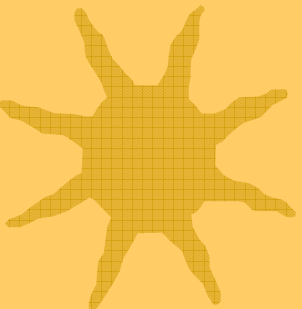
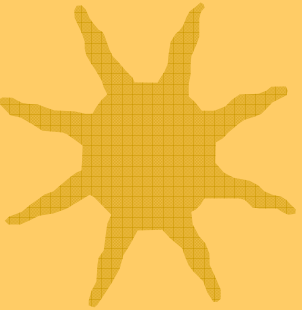


Hospice: Comfort and Support



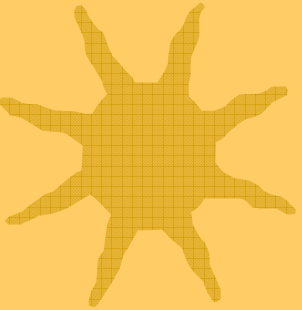
Purpose

- ★ The primary purpose of this project was to provide a succinct patient education brochure in conjunction with Hospice of Southern Illinois.

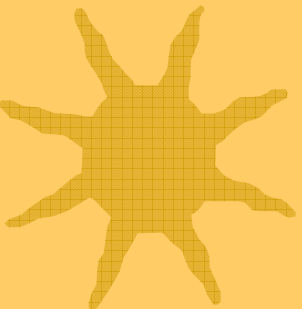




Methods

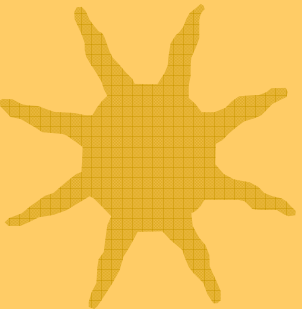


★ Attended multidisciplinary hospice staff meetings weekly



★ Participated in home visits weekly

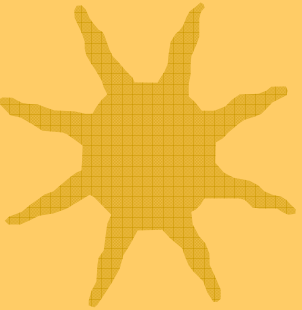
★ Designed a patient survey to be used by hospice staff



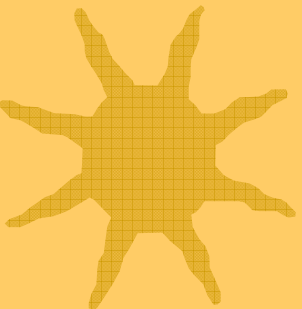
★ Met with hospice staff regarding creation of patient education brochure



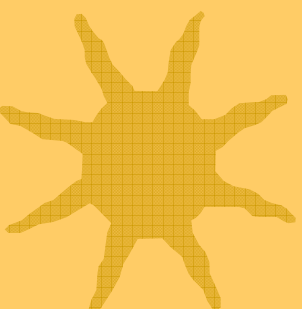
Results



★ The results of the patient survey are pending



★ The hospice educational brochure is scheduled to be revised by the hospice staff

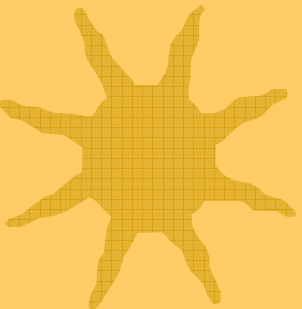
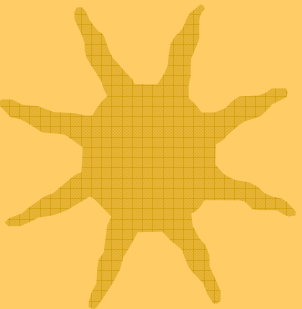
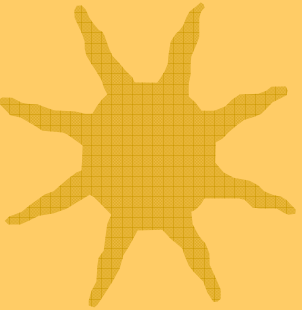


★ Subsequently, the brochure will be distributed at the Marsh Family Clinic and in Heartland Regional Medical Center waiting rooms



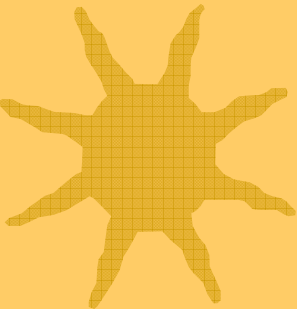
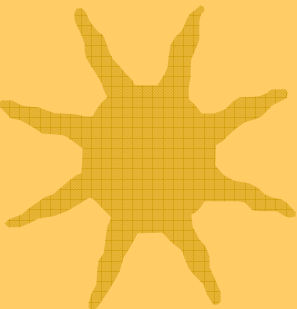
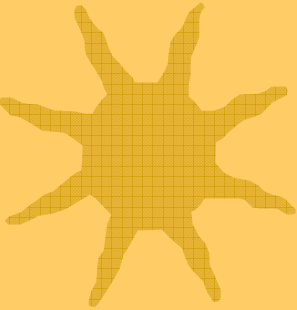
What is hospice?

- ★ The word hospice comes from the Latin word *hospitum* meaning guesthouse. It was used to describe a place to rest for weary travelers returning from religious pilgrimages. Today the word hospice is used for a number of organizations whose primary goal is to provide comfort and support to patients facing a terminal illness as well as their families.





When to consider hospice

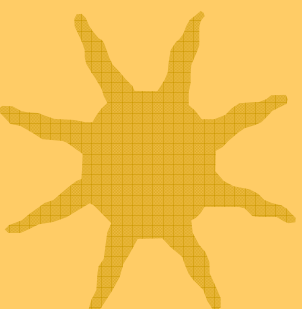
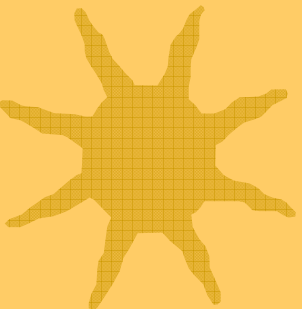
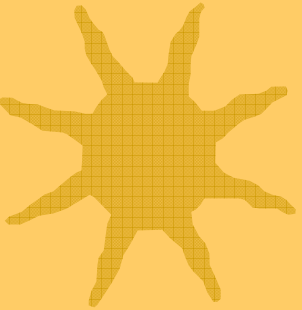


- ★ Any patient with a life-limiting illness may be referred for hospice care. The patient is initially evaluated by their physician to determine their eligibility for hospice admission.
- ★ Admission criteria include:
 - ★ The patient is terminally ill and has a life expectancy of less than six months.
 - ★ Comfort care is the patient's primary goal.
 - ★ The patient is no longer seeking curative treatment.



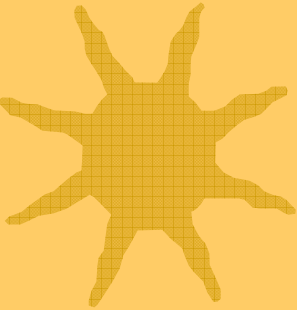
Who makes the referral

- ★ Anyone may make a referral to hospice. This includes physicians, family members, friends, and clergy. It is important to remember that the patient makes the final decision on entering hospice.

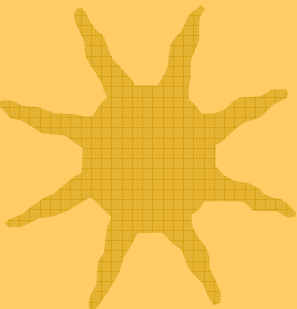




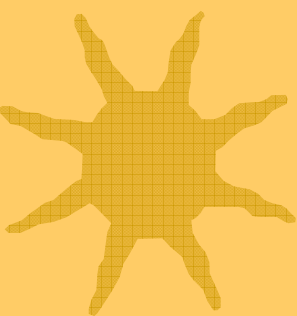
Services provided



★ Many hospice organizations provide a wide range of services to the patient as well as family and friends.



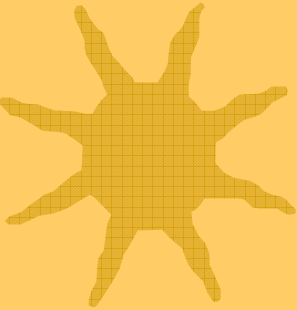
★ Hospice physicians may manage the patient's pain control as well as take "call" for the patient's own doctor.



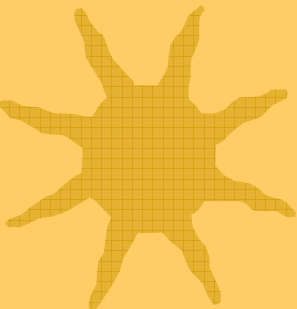
★ The hospice nursing staff may make regular home visits. At this time the nurses assess the quality of pain control and determine what the patient needs to remain comfortable.



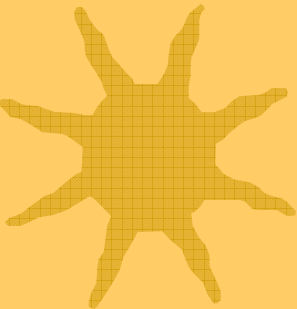
Services provided



★ Counselors are available to talk the patient and family members through difficult end-of-life issues.



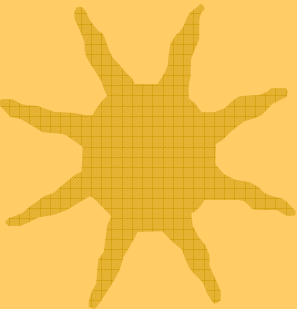
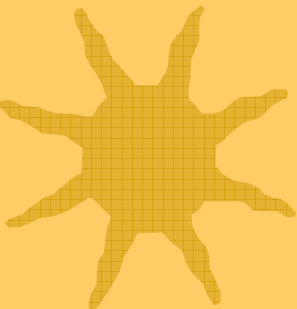
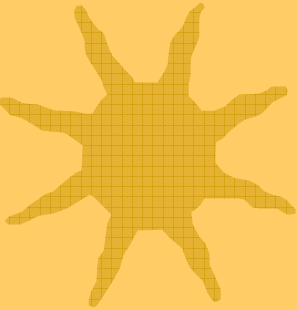
★ Spiritual advisors are also available for patients that desire guidance



★ Volunteers make up an integral part of the team. They sit with the patients when caregivers need rest. They may even run errands for families if necessary.



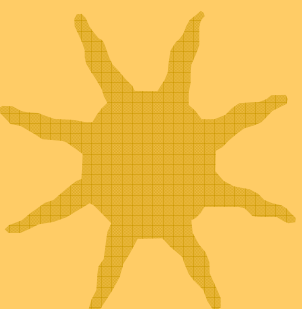
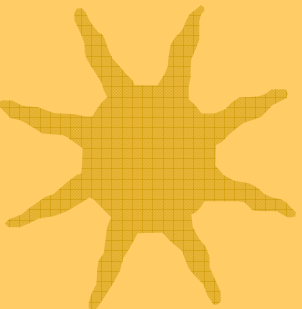
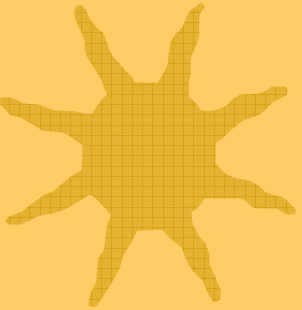
Where are services provided ?



- ★ Ninety percent of hospice patients are cared for in the home. The hospice staff will make an initial evaluation to determine the equipment needed to care for the patient at home. This may include a hospital bed or home oxygen to improve comfort. Patients with more advanced needs may be cared for in a nursing home. Patients with acute care needs may be cared for in a hospital setting for illnesses other than their life limiting illness.



Coverage



★ Hospice care is covered under Medicare Part A and the Illinois Medicaid benefit. Most insurance companies provide a hospice care benefit. Hospice is provided by some organizations regardless of ability to pay. Memorials and donations from members of the community, family, and friends provide the means to cover hospice for all patients.



Summary

- ★ Hospice care is not about giving up. Hospice care can help a person make the most of the time remaining. The focus becomes comfort care and pain management returning the person's dignity in their final days.

