



**AMERICAN**  
**HOSPICE**

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# HOSPICE

# VOLUNTEER & INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

**American Hospice patients are located throughout the city of Houston and its environs.** Patients reside in their own homes or in long term facilities. All of our patients are terminally ill with a life expectancy of six months or less. Our patients and their families benefit greatly from the love and compassion of our staff and dedicated interns.

**However, hospice work is not for everyone.**

In fact, it takes a very special kind of person to even express an interest in working with people so close to the end of their lives. By contacting us, you have taken the first step in determining for yourself if hospice work is for you. Our procedure for those applying for a practicum will help both you and American Hospice in deciding if our organization is a good fit for your particular needs, talents and aspirations as an intern. Then, we work hard to give you the training you need to effectively carry out the tasks that will be assigned to you.



*As an applicant for a practicum , you will need to complete these important steps:*

#### **APPLICATION AND CRIMINAL HISTORY CHECK:**

A signed Volunteer Application and Criminal History Check must be submitted prior to training.

#### **TRAINING:**

Intern training will provide you with an introduction to hospice and American Hospice in particular, medical information and the psychological aspects of death and dying, including grief and bereavement. This training is **MANDATORY**.

#### **TB TEST:**

It is required that all hospice volunteers be tested annually for tuberculosis. To that end, at hospice expense, the test will be administered by our staff and the follow-up visit, 48-72 hours later to view the test results, can be offered by our staff. The test may also be evaluated by another RN or your personal physician, but s/he must sign the form stating the test in negative and the form must be returned to our office. If you had a TB test in the past year or a chest x-ray, you may provide us with a doctor's statement that you do not have tuberculosis and you will not need to take the TB test. If you had a TB vaccine, not the test to see if you have tuberculosis, a chest x-ray is mandatory.

#### **EXIT INTERVIEW:**

After training, we will discuss your availability and particular duties.

*If you are interested in an internship or have any questions, please contact Rev. Debbie Leo, Volunteer & Bereavement Coordinator, 281.496.5666, volunteers @american-hospice.net*

