





# HOSPICE OF ST. MARY'S

## Statement of Purpose

Hospice of St. Mary's has provided a special kind of caring to terminally ill patients, their families and our community since 1982. Hospice patients are cared for at home or wherever they reside (a nursing home or an assisted living facility) by an interdisciplinary team made up of doctors, nurses, counselors, social workers, family members and community volunteers. Medical treatment continues, but it focuses on controlling pain and relieving symptoms. Working together with the family, the team is able to assure each patient the maximum quality of life. Patients qualify for Hospice of St. Mary's services regardless of age, race, gender, religion, creed, sexual orientation, national origin or ability to pay.

Every effort is made to meet the spiritual, emotional, social and physical needs of each patient and his or her family, as well as the needs of the community at large. During the past two years, Hospice of St. Mary's has been honored to serve over 400 patients.

Hospice of St. Mary's operating funds are generated through insurance reimbursements and through financial contributions from individuals and community organizations. Community funding is integral to our operation, covering costs not met by insurance reimbursements.

Our local funding is met through various means. A fundraising Board of Directors, along with numerous volunteers, executes several mail solicitations and special events during the year to raise funds. In addition, Hospice of St. Mary's is a United Way Agency and participates in the Maryland State Charity Campaign.

A large portion of our funding is received from individual donations as well as community based organizations. Hospice of St. Mary's is respected and beloved within our community, and we strive to fulfill our mission to provide care and comfort to terminally ill patients and their families, and bereavement support to those families and to the community.

We believe that the same care and concern for the personal comfort and well-being of the patient, and his or her loved ones that is shown at the beginning of life should also be present at its ending.