

About Us

Montgomery Hospice & Prince George's Hospice is part of a nonprofit that provides professional medical care to those living with a life-limiting illness. We serve residents of Montgomery and Prince George's counties, and we have been caring for patients and families for more than 40 years.

As a nonprofit, we are not part of the county government. We rely on community donations to fund charity care, grief support and education, complementary therapies, and Montgomery Kids, our pediatric hospice.

Our Mission

To gentle the journey through serious illness and loss with skill and compassion.

Our Vision

To bring comfort by providing the best care to our community's multicultural residents who are facing serious illness and loss. To be the best workplace for staff and volunteers.

Main Office:

1355 Piccard Drive, Suite 100
Rockville, MD 20850

Prince George's Office:

10450 Lottsford Road, Suite 262
Bowie, MD 20721

Gesher Shalom Bridge of Peace

The Gesher Shalom - Bridge of Peace program provides Jewish resources, services, comforting Jewish connection and support to individuals and their loved ones associated with Montgomery and Prince George's Hospice.

We recognize that people are at different places along the religious and cultural continuum, and we work to meet each individual's spiritual and practical needs. Gesher Shalom supports the religious and cultural needs of our diverse Jewish patients and their families during this time of transition. When we have the opportunity to share pain and joy and be heard, we can feel cared for, supported, and understood. Rabbis are available to visit and help families with end-of-life discussions. Volunteers are available to visit before Shabbat and holidays.

At Montgomery Hospice & Prince George's Hospice, we are guided by our mission to gentle the journey through serious illness and loss with skill and compassion.

For more information or to request a visit, contact our Gesher Shalom coordinator at:

Web: www.montgomeryhospice.org/geshershalom

Email: GesherShalom@montgomeryhospice.org

Phone: 301-921-4400

Gesher Shalom Bridge of Peace

Jewish Resource Program



Jewish View of Hospice Care

Judaism affirms the importance and sanctity of life. At the same time, the Biblical author of Ecclesiastes recognizes that “to everything there is a season... a time for being born, and a time for dying.” The end of life is seen as part of the natural cycle of life. Although preservation of life and health is a primary mitzvah (commandment) in Jewish law, we are *also* obligated to prevent or diminish suffering. Jewish tradition recognizes that there may come a time when death is inevitable...when the goal of care changes from aggressively fighting disease to battling suffering caused by the disease.

~Rabbi Gary S. Fink

*Former Senior VP of Counseling and Family Support
Montgomery Hospice, Inc.*

Gesher Shalom provides:

- Rabbinic Jewish Resource specialist
- Support for Jewish religious and cultural needs
- Comforting Jewish presence, counseling, education and support
- Jewish funeral/memorial resource information
- Culturally sensitive professional bereavement support and volunteers
- Shiva/memorial books available for loan
- Sensitivity training regarding the special needs of Jewish families including Holocaust survivors and their loved ones

Rabbis/Jewish Chaplains are available to:

- Provide individuals and families a comforting Jewish connection, presence, and support
- Offer Jewish prayers, psalms, music
- Answer questions and provide information about Jewish rituals and religious practices
- Discuss Jewish funeral and memorial options
- Address ethical dilemmas regarding treatment decisions such as Jewish approaches toward feeding tubes and hydration
- Discuss Jewish views on advance care planning and end-of-life decision-making

Gesher Shalom Volunteers

Volunteers are an essential part of the Gesher Shalom program, bringing light, Jewish connection, and meaning to our patients and families during what may be a difficult time. We offer visits before Shabbat for Casey House and home care patients with items to help bring the sweetness of the Sabbath; additionally we offer ongoing visits to patients living in a home or a private facility.

Contact our Gesher Shalom Coordinator at:
GesherShalom@montgomeryhospice.org

Reflections

The whole world is a very narrow bridge;
the important thing is not to be afraid.

כָּל הָעוֹלָם כֶּלִי גֶשֶׁר צָר מְאֹד
וְהַעֲיָקָר לֹא לִפְתֹּחַ כָּלֵל

Kol ha-o-lam kulo gesher tzar me'od;
V'ha-i-kar lo l'fached klal.

~Rabbi Nachman of Bratslav

From the standpoint of daily life, however, there is one thing we do know: that we are here for the sake of each other - above all for those upon whose smile and well-being our own happiness depends, and also for the countless unknown souls with whose fate we are connected....

~Albert Einstein

My God, may these things never end;
the sand and the sea,
the rush of the waters,
the crash of the heavens,
the prayer of the heart

~Hannah Senesh