

EXPANDING PALLIATIVE MEDICINE AND SUPPORTIVE CARE AT NORTHWESTERN MEDICINE LAKE FOREST HOSPITAL

With your help we can expand critical services for patients who are seriously ill

Palliative care aims to shift the medical approach for people with serious illnesses from crisis intervention to crisis prevention. Palliative care professionals work closely with patients to manage the side effects of medical and curative treatments. They also consult with patients and their families to develop personalized care plans and address emotional and psychosocial symptoms. Early engagement with palliative care has been shown to reduce the likelihood of emergency department visits and hospitalizations – addressing issues before they become medical emergencies.*

The Palliative Medicine and Supportive Care team at Lake Forest Hospital aims to bring comprehensive, personalized care to patients. The team is led by Martha Twaddle, MD, FACP, FAAHPM, HDMC. Dr. Twaddle is the Waud Family Medical Director of Palliative Medicine and Supportive Care at Northwestern Medicine Lake Forest Hospital. She has dedicated her career to palliative medicine, helping it become a formally recognized medical specialty in the U.S. in 2006. Dr. Twaddle has played a pivotal role in improving the clinical community's understanding of the need for supportive care for seriously ill people and their loved ones.

Under her leadership, the hospital has built leading-edge palliative medicine and supportive care services. Collaborating with other specialties, the team works to address the diverse needs of patients with conditions such as cancer, heart disease, heart failure, multiple sclerosis and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). The program meets patients where and when they need it most through inpatient and outpatient care at Lake Forest Hospital. The program also provides consultations and services at Northwestern Medicine Grayslake Outpatient Center and Northwestern Medicine Glenview Outpatient Center, in addition to telehealth appointments and home visits.

As Lake Forest Hospital continues to grow, now is the time to expand the Palliative Medicine and Supportive Care team. The hospital has seen a 46% increase in the number of patients between fiscal year 2016 and fiscal year 2023.† To address this need, the hospital is building two additional pavilions, which will double inpatient capacity.

Additionally, the hospital is expanding access to leading-edge care, such as clinical trials, previously only available in downtown Chicago at Northwestern Memorial Hospital. This will continue to increase the number of patients, particularly those with complex and serious illnesses, seeking care at Lake Forest Hospital. Philanthropy can help the hospital fully meet this need by accelerating the growth of palliative care and supportive services.

*National Institutes of Health

† Fiscal year runs from September 1 to August 31



Meeting patients' needs

The Palliative Medicine and Supportive Care team at Lake Forest Hospital includes physicians, advanced practice providers (APPs), social workers, nurses, spiritual care and other professionals. Having a variety of professionals provides the range of perspectives necessary to deliver exceptional care to patients. The team does not solely rely on physicians to assess and treat, but allows for the assessment and identification of physical, psychological, emotional and spiritual needs.

With philanthropy, the team plans to add additional physicians, APPs, a program manager, a nurse and a medical assistant to the team. This will help the team fully meet the needs of patients in Lake Forest Hospital's expanded inpatient units. It will also help facilitate patient care across various sites, including patients discharged home or to post-acute partner facilities. Philanthropy can play a critical role in helping to support the team's mission of bringing compassionate care and a better patient experience for patients who are acutely ill.

Your philanthropy makes a difference

Today, there is growing national appreciation for palliative medicine as an essential component of top-quality medical care. Lake Forest Hospital is committed to ensuring palliative medicine and supportive services grow to serve more patients.

The Women's Board of Lake Forest Hospital's fundraising can help accelerate the Palliative Medicine and Supportive Care team's growth at the pace of Lake Forest Hospital's expansion – advancement that would make a difference in the lives of countless patients and their loved ones.

Will you join us in the quest for advancing Palliative Medicine and Supportive Care at Lake Forest Hospital?

For questions, or to make a donation, please contact:

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