WHEN IS IT TIME FOR HOSPICE?

Pet Hospice meets the needs of pets and families when:
• Your pet has a terminal diagnosis, and treatment has begun to shift from curing the illness to providing comfort
• Your pet has a life expectancy of three months or less
• You are able to care for your pet at home
• You live within 30 minutes of the James L. Voss Veterinary Teaching Hospital
• Your veterinarian oversees the medical management of your pet’s illness, in partnership with hospice

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What services are provided by the hospice volunteers?
• Volunteers provide basic nursing services, quality-of-life assessments, end-of-life discussions, and grief support. They act as a liaison between you and your family veterinarian.

Do hospice volunteers provide euthanasia?
• No. Volunteers can be present during euthanasia, but they do not perform the service.

How much does Pet Hospice cost?
• There is no charge for our services. Veterinarians, however, may charge appropriate fees for the services they provide.

How can I receive these services for my pet?
• Ask your veterinarian to refer you to our program, or call us at (970) 219-7335.
OUR MISSION

The mission of Pet Hospice is to provide compassionate end-of-life care for pets and emotional support and education for their families.

PET HOSPICE

The Colorado State University Pet Hospice Program is coordinated by the Argus Institute at CSU’s James L. Voss Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

It is a philosophy of care, rather than a specific place, and functions on the principle that death is a part of life. Pet Hospice provides comfort and care for your pet in the solace of your own home, under the guidance of your veterinarian.

Terminal illness and the dying process profoundly impact not only the patient, but the family and caregivers as well. It is our hope that this process can be experienced with dignity and respect as your pet rests at home surrounded by loved ones.

Pet Hospice is provided, free of charge, by Colorado State University veterinary student volunteers trained in:

- Empowering your family to care for your pet’s medical and emotional needs at home
- Providing pain and comfort assessment for your pet, as well as emotional support for your family
- Offering end-of-life education in a caring manner while in your familiar home environment
- Giving your family time to adjust to your pet’s progressive disease and say goodbye in your own way
- Helping to make your pet’s death a compassionate and meaningful experience for you, your family, and your pet

"We are so thankful that the CSU hospice team was there for us and our family throughout the entire process of losing our dog. They treated us and our beloved dog with unsurpassed care and affection, and walked us through a difficult process with kindness, love, and support."

—Kristin Baca