Frequently Asked Questions

What is Hospice and Palliative Care?
Hospice and Palliative Care is both a philosophy and method of delivering care that includes pain management and symptom relief for the patient, while focusing on emotional and spiritual support for families. Perinatal Hospice care can be provided along with concurrent life prolonging or curative care or as the main focus of care. Since 1985, Hospice of Baton Rouge has been dedicated to the belief that no one should die alone, afraid or in pain and that dying people of all ages have a right to quality care.

Will the patient remain under my care?
Yes, the patient will continue to be treated as before, with the addition of the expertise of the Perinatal Hospice Team.

Where is palliative/hospice care provided?
Care is provided where the infant lives; whether in the hospital, at home, or at the Hospice of Baton Rouge Inpatient facility, the Butterfly Wing.

How do I make a referral to the Perinatal Hospice?
Once the family has made the decision to continue the pregnancy, a referral can be made by anyone including a family member, friend, or healthcare provider, by calling (225) 767-4673. A physician order for services is necessary. A member of the team will return the call the same day.

What areas do you serve?
Hospice of Baton Rouge provides care in the following parishes: East and West Baton Rouge, Livingston, Iberville, Ascension and portions of East and West Feliciana and Pointe Coupee.

How will my patient pay for this program?
Hospice of Baton Rouge is the only non-profit hospice in Baton Rouge, providing services regardless of an individual’s ability to pay. In support of our conviction that no one shall ever be turned away, Hospice of Baton Rouge relies on memorial gifts, private donations, contributions, grants and funding from the Capital Area United Way. There is no reimbursement for a program of this nature. The generosity of the Baton Rouge community will make it a reality.
For those families facing difficult decisions when expecting a newborn with a life-threatening condition or illness after birth, our Perinatal Hospice Program offers support, comfort, guidance, dignity and hope from the initial diagnosis through delivery and beyond.

Our Perinatal Hospice Program can be thought of as a “hospice in the womb” (including birth planning and preliminary medical decision-making before the baby is born) as well as a more traditional hospice and palliative care program at home after birth (if the baby lives longer than a few minutes or hours). Palliative care can also include medical treatments intended to improve the baby’s life.

Perinatal hospice enables families to make meaningful plans for their baby’s life, birth, and death, honoring the baby as well as the baby’s family.

For more information, or to schedule an in-service luncheon for your staff, please contact Hospice of Baton Rouge at (225) 767-4673.

Specially trained professionals work closely with the obstetrician and/or midwife to formulate an individualized plan of care. Team members include a doula, pediatric nurse, social worker and chaplain who will assist you and your staff in caring for the family. There is ongoing bereavement support for the parents and family of the child and on-call support is available 24 hours a day.