



***Hospice of Hilo has
changed its name to
Hawai'i Care Choices -
effective **January 1, 2018*****

January 1, 2018 — (Hilo, HI)

For Hospice of Hilo, 2018 marks 35 years in service to the East Hawai'i community. In the last five years, the organization has grown to add a 12-bed inpatient facility and a community-based palliative care program, named Kupu Care, to its support choices.

Kupu Care made a significant difference in the lives of over 100 people in 2016 – seeing an 87% reduction in ER visits, an 82% decrease in hospital admission rates, and a 77% decrease in ICU days when compared to their experience before palliative support. “The nurse visited me at home, taught me about my illness and how I could feel better,” reported a Kupu patient with Congestive Heart Failure. “Now I can play with my grandson again.”

As of January 1st, Hospice of Hilo has changed its name to Hawai'i Care Choices. “Every person's path through illness is unique,” said CEO Brenda S. Ho. “Our new name reflects that fact that we offer care options, solutions and support long before a patient would need hospice services.”

Hawai'i Care Choices' new continuum of care approach means a patient or family member can contact the organization for guidance, and be connected to the right care at the right time for their needs and values. “For those diagnosed with a serious illness and still receiving curative treatment, palliative care can help maintain comfort and reduce the need for hospital services,” explained Ho. “Hospice care is vital support for individuals when a cure is beyond reach, and bereavement care is available for those in the grieving process.”

This coordinated system of care through a team of nurses, social workers, spiritual counselors, and providers is dedicated to the belief that quality of life matters. “Changing our name after 35 years is a big step, but we feel it is important that the organization's name accurately communicate what we offer. The services have always reached more than just Hilo, and have encompassed more than hospice care for many years, it's time the name matches what we do, and Hawai'i Care Choices does just that.”

For more information visit www.hawaiicarechoices.org or call 969-1733.

Starting in January 2018, our new name will reflect the fact that we provide care options and support long before life's final months.

What will our new name mean for patients?

- Patients who are seriously ill, but not yet eligible for hospice will feel more comfortable being referred to our services.
- Our program continuum means when a patient or family member needs care, support and guidance for any serious illness, there is no need to figure out which of our services are most appropriate – we can provide the information, assessment and resources to connect patients to the right care at the right time.

To benefit from any of our programs it will be only one call, we'll take care of the rest:

(808) 969-1733



Hawai'i Care Choices – a Continuum of Exceptional Care for Patients and Families.

Palliative CARE

Support that can begin at diagnosis and can continue alongside treatment.

Hospice CARE

Support that can begin when a cure is beyond reach.

Bereavement CARE

Support given for those in the grieving process, offered free to all.

For: Serious Illness
Time: Months to Years
Where: Provided in-home and accessible locations.
Why: Patient desires support while still seeking curative care to impact disease outcomes.

For: Life-limiting Illness
Time: Weeks to Months
Where: Wherever patient calls home
Why: Patient desires support while focusing on quality of life and comfort measures.

For: Those who have lost a loved one, expectedly or unexpectedly.
Where: Provided in-home and accessible locations.
Why: Loss is very hard. It helps to talk to someone who understands and can show paths for healing.

KUPU CARE:

Community Palliative Care Program

TRANSITONS CARE:

Hilo Medical Center program - for HMC Patients

SUPPORTIVE CARE:

Benefit for HMSA patients

CONCURRENT CARE:

Benefit for UHA patients

HOME CARE:

Alleviating pain and discomfort at any apartment, house, structure or facility a patient resides.

INPATIENT CARE:

Short-term, transitional care for complex needs at the Pōhai Mālama Care Center or with Crisis team.

PATIENT & FAMILY CARE:

Anticipatory Grief Services
Support groups, Camps and Retreats

COMMUNITY CARE:

Adult, Child, & Teen Grief Support Workshops, Presentations and Resources