

## *Choosing a Hospice*

Depending on where you live, you may have more than one hospice program from which to choose. In making your decision, consider the following questions:

- Which hospice does my doctor recommend, and why?
- Do my friends, family and neighbors have experience with a local hospice? Which do they recommend?
- Do I have a family member who can be my primary caregiver?
- What kinds of services does the hospice provide? What will it not provide?
- How often will I see my doctor or nurse?
- Hospice services are offered mostly in the home, but will there be times when I will need to be in a facility? If I do need hospice inpatient services, where will I be sent?
- Does the hospice have round-the-clock access to nurses who are available by phone or in person? Will they have any of my medical records?
- Will an emergency medication kit be set up in my home?
- What kind of support or services does the program offer to my family?
- Does the hospice work with residents in nursing homes or other facilities?

For more information on choosing a hospice, call the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization's HelpLine at 1-800-568-8898 or visit the organization's searchable online [membership database](#).