Position Description:
The hospice social worker provides Medical Social Services to patients and families within the context of an interdisciplinary care team at end of life.

Primary responsibilities include:

- Assess emotional factors related to terminal illness.
- Assess the patient/family psychosocial status, including potential for risk of suicide and/or abuse or neglect.
- Participate in development and revision of the plan of care.
- Provide social services including: Short-term individual counseling; Crisis intervention; Assist in providing information and preparation of advance directives; and transfer or responsibilities regarding fiscal, legal and health care decisions.
- Maintain clinical notes in timely manner.
- Identify family dynamics and communication patterns.
- Identify and utilize appropriate community resources and assess patient/family ability to access them.
- Assess special needs related to cultural diversity including communication, space, role of family members and special traditions.
- Address patient/family questions and issues.

Desired Competencies:

- Relationship Building – Ability to effectively build relationships with patient/families, referring sources and co-workers
- Creative and Analytical Skills – Ability to view situations through various “lenses” and imagine new concepts, ideas to apply in problem solving
- Autonomy – Ability to work independently with minimal supervision
- Team Building – Appreciation of interdisciplinary approach and desire to work interactively
- Organized and Detail Oriented
- Working Under Pressure – Ability to complete assigned tasks under stressful situations.

Position Requirements:
Understanding and acceptance of hospice philosophy. Sensitivity to issues of loss and grief
Reliable transportation including valid driver’s license and auto insurance
MSW required. Experience in hospice, geriatric or medical social work environment preferred but not required.