

Opinion: Hospice volunteers a critical component to health care

By Robert Orr

We all know it takes a very special person to be a Hospice worker, helping the terminally ill patients every day 24-hours-a-day.

Barton Health currently has 18 volunteers and more are needed in weeks to come. Barton's Hospice would not exist if it were not for our volunteers.



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Since 1996, Barton Hospice has been serving the terminally ill in South Lake Tahoe, Carson Valley and the surrounding areas. Their families and volunteers are a crucial part of the hospice team and are cherished by both staff and patients.

Hospice volunteers are very special people; giving of their time, hearts and compassion. They help the terminally ill and provide support and respite for the caregiver that is desperately needed.

Many Hospice volunteers have personally experienced Hospice Care in their families or communities, giving them the empathy necessary to help other families when they are losing a loved one.

Hospice care is designed for patients who have a terminal diagnosis and a life expectancy of six months or less. Anyone interested in helping Barton Hospice will find being a Hospice volunteer personally rewarding and gratifying.

If you are interested in being a Hospice volunteer at the lake or in the valley, please call me at (530) 307.0288 or the Hospice office at (530) 543.5605.

Robert Orr is Barton Hospice's chaplain.