



A Day in the Life of an East End Hospice Aide

Leatha has been an East End Hospice Aide for nine years. She is one of more than 200 nurses, aides, social workers, volunteers and staff caring for EEH patients and their families. Leatha and her colleagues improve lives across Eastern Long Island.

9:00 AM

Leatha arrives at the home of her first patient. She greets the patient's paid caregiver, who shares a few updates before leaving for the grocery store. Leatha begins a load of laundry before checking on her still-sleeping patient and straightening the bedroom; she then heads into the kitchen to prepare scrambled eggs. When the patient wakes up, Leatha feeds her patient breakfast and then gives her a bed bath. She puts on fresh clothing and then brushes her patient's hair. The patient's caregiver returns, and Leatha says goodbye, promising to return the following morning.

10:30 AM

Leatha receives a call from her RN case manager to discuss the care plan for a newly admitted hospice patient. During the admission, the nurse discussed services provided by hospice aides including companionship, personal care, light housekeeping and equipment checks. Leatha clarifies a few details with the patient's nurse and agrees to meet them at the patient's house. Leatha and the nurse introduce themselves to the patient and his partner. They help the patient safely out of bed and into a chair, where he and his nurse review a list of medications. Meanwhile, Leatha changes the linens on the patient's hospital bed, which EEH provides, and tidies the room.

12:00 PM

Leatha arrives at the home of her third patient to find the patient out of bed, visiting with a neighbor. Leatha offers to prepare a light lunch for the patient while he and his wife

chat with their visitor. Leatha then checks over the patient's room and oxygen concentrator, only to realize it isn't working correctly. Leatha calls the durable medical equipment coordinator at the EEH Office to request an immediate replacement.

1:30 PM

After a quick drive, Leatha arrives at the home of her next patient. The patient's daughter greets Leatha. She has been staying with her mom but needs to get to a meeting at her child's school. Leatha greets the patient, who is seated in the living room. She promised to paint the patient's fingernails which she does while they chat about the flowers just beginning to sprout and their shared love of gardening.

3:00 PM

Leatha is visiting her fifth patient. The patient's son mentions that his father would enjoy extra morning company. Leatha calls the patient's RN case manager to request a volunteer. The nurse will coordinate with EEH's volunteer services to pair one of EEH's more than 150 trained volunteers with the patient for visits.

4:00 PM

Leatha arrives at the EEH Office for an educational program on caring for Alzheimer's patients. In-service trainings are scheduled four times per year. Each aide must complete 12 hours of in-service training annually. During trainings, aides learn new skills, give one another feedback and advice, and bond with coworkers.