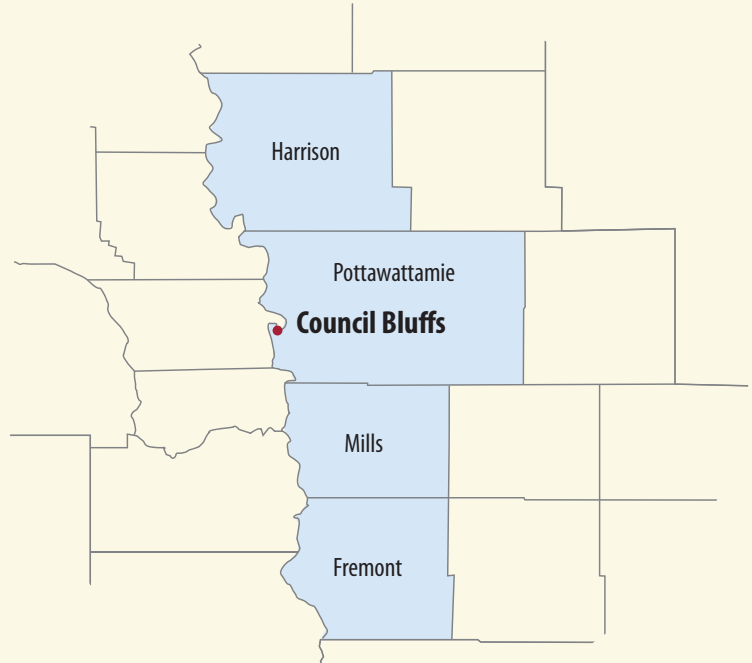


## Admission Criteria

- The patient has a terminal illness with a prognosis of six months or less.
- The patient has an attending physician who validates that the patient has six months or less to live if the disease follows its normal progression.
- The patient or legal guardian chooses care focusing on comfort and support.
- The patient, hospice and facility agree to the admission.
- The care facility has a contractual agreement with hospice.

Hospice of Southwest Iowa  
Service Area

**For hospice referrals,  
please call 712-352-1389**



# Medical Indicators For Hospice Evaluation

Your resident may be appropriate for a hospice evaluation if any of the following symptoms were experienced in the past six months:

- Weight loss of 10% or greater
- Decreased or minimal appetite
- Requires significant daily assistance
- Increased in need for oxygen
- Multiple hospitalizations
- Change in level of consciousness
- Increase in treatment or therapies
- More isolated, withdrawn or restless
- Skin Breakdown
- Decreased ambulatory ability

<p><b>End Stage Renal Disease</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chronic / acute illness that precipitated renal failure</li> <li>• Discontinuing or refusing dialysis</li> <li>• Not tolerating a sufficient amount of fluid or nutrition to sustain life</li> <li>• Abnormal lab values (i.e. elevated BUN and creatinine)</li> </ul>	<p><b>End Stage Liver Disease</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jaundice</li> <li>• Ascites</li> <li>• Edema</li> <li>• Anorexia</li> <li>• Abnormal lab values (i.e. liver enzymes or elevated pro-time)</li> </ul>
<p><b>End Stage Dementia</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bed bound or unable to ambulate</li> <li>• Dependent on ADLs</li> <li>• Incontinence</li> <li>• Difficulty swallowing or refusing to eat</li> <li>• Food intake insufficient to sustain life</li> <li>• Refusing G-tube placement</li> <li>• 10% weight loss over the past six months</li> <li>• Minimal Vocabulary</li> </ul>	<p><b>End Stage Pulmonary Disease (COPD)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Difficulty breather at rest (Dyspnea)</li> <li>• Oxygen dependency</li> <li>• Rapid heart rate when resting</li> <li>• 10% weight loss</li> <li>• Frequent ER visits / hospitalizations</li> <li>• Abnormal lab values on basic metabolic profile</li> </ul>
<p><b>End Stage Cardiovascular Disease</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10% weight loss over the past six months</li> <li>• Insufficient fluid or caloric intake to sustain life</li> <li>• Dependent on ADLs</li> <li>• Bed / chair bound</li> </ul>	<p><b>End Stage Cardiac Disease</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requires considerable assistance with ADLs and frequent medical support</li> <li>• Difficulty breathing at rest (Dyspnea)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Cancer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anorexia with significant weight loss</li> <li>• Need for pain / symptom management with medication adjustments</li> <li>• Evidence of end-stage disease and/or metastasis</li> <li>• No longer receiving curative treatment</li> </ul>	<p><b>Severe Malnutrition</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10% or more weight loss over the past six months</li> <li>• Not responding to nutritional support</li> <li>• Loss of appetite, muscle wasting, refusal to eat</li> <li>• Karnofsky score &lt; than or equal to 40%</li> <li>• Body Mass Index &lt; than or equal to 22kg/m<sup>2</sup></li> </ul>