

## HOSPICE READINESS CHECKLIST

REQUIRED

- Diagnosed with a life-limiting diagnosis (ex: Metastatic Cancer, COPD, Heart Failure, End-stage Alzheimer's Disease, etc.) and has multiple co-morbidities
- Patient/caregiver refusing any further aggressive/curative treatment

SUPPORTING

- Treatment is no longer working (rapid decline in health despite receiving aggressive treatment)
- Multiple ER visits and/or hospitalizations over the last 6 months
- Multiple infections in the last 6 months
- A sudden decrease in appetite
- Unintentional weight loss in the last 6 months
- Shortness of breath, even at rest
- Pain that is difficult to treat
- Falls in the last 6 months
- Sleeping longer and more frequently
- Change in status in the last 6 months (ex. confusion or declining mental function, unable to perform ADLs, difficulty communicating, the patient was walking and now they are bed/chair bound)
- Caregiver feeling stressed and overwhelmed (patient's symptoms are getting harder to manage)
- The patient's doctor has informed the patient/family that they have a prognosis of 6 months or less if the disease progression runs its normal course

