Objectives

- Describe the “No One Dies Alone” model.
- Discuss the adaptation and implementation of the “No One Dies Alone” model with volunteers at Alegent Hospice.
- Discuss the outcomes of the “No One Dies Alone” model at Alegent Hospice.

What is NODA?

No One Dies Alone (NODA) is a national program developed by Sandra Clark, RN, in 2001 to recruit and train volunteers to be a caring presence to the dying patient.
Why?
- Nebraska End of Life Survey
- Aging population
- Job mobility
- Little or no family
- Needed respite

Who?
- Patient actively dying
- Within 48 – 72 hours
- No family available

How?
Volunteer companions
- Desire
- Availability
- Training
Training Manual

Contents:
- NODA and its founder
- Training agenda
- Teaching materials and exercises
- Administering the program

Training Manual

- User friendly
- CD
- Duplicate freely
- Acknowledgement

Sample Handouts

- Agenda & content
- Attitude toward death
- Stages of dying
  - What you see
  - What is happening
  - What you can do
Final days
- Emotional
- Physical
- Spiritual

Required reading
FINAL GIFTS
Maggie Callanan & Patricia Kelley
“Nearing Death Awareness”

Variety of communication exercises
- Religions and their concepts of healing
- Volunteer self care
- Sample evaluations
Launching the program

- Sample material
  - Letters
  - Forms
  - Procedures
  - Processes
  - Comfort Bag/Cart

NODA at Alegent Health Hospice

Special considerations for hospice:

- Referral criteria
- Recruitment for 24/7 coverage
- Enhanced training
- Logistics related to multiple sites

Implementation for Hospice

- Defined referral criteria to include the actively dying patient with no family or friends, and limited respite for family members.
- Recruited current hospice volunteers to staff 24/7 shifts.
Developed a 5 hour training module that educated volunteers about the physical, emotional and spiritual aspects of the dying process.

Developed scheduling process and directory of multiple facilities served by hospice, including maps and access codes.

Assembled 10 comfort bags.

Outcomes

From September 2008 through February 2010

- 27 NODA Volunteers
- 32 referrals for NODA volunteers
- 138 NODA volunteers assigned; 95 needed
- 324 hours at bedside; 229 overnight hours
- 13 NODA volunteers present at time of death

No One Dies Alone

May the touch of my hand give you courage for the journey

May the touch of my caring bring you comfort and peace

May the touch of my presence say to you “you are not alone”
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- ST. Joseph Mercy Oakland
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Information and Materials

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