



What is a Hospice?

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LOROS

Hospice Care for Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland

Being there for you
and your family

What is a Hospice?

A hospice provides palliative care - care for people with life limiting illnesses, focussing on giving them the best possible quality of life. A hospice provides support for carers and family members, in the form of counselling.

Every year, LOROS Hospice provides vital care to over 2,500 people with terminal or life-limiting illnesses, as well as providing support for many of their loved ones. From managing someone's pain, to looking after their emotional, spiritual and social needs, hospice care supports the whole person, helping them to live their life to the full.

"You matter because you are you and you matter until the last moment of your life. We will do all we can, not only to help you die peacefully but to live until you die."

- Dame Cicely Saunders, founder of the UK hospice movement

Grief is a natural reaction to loss and each person has their own unique and individual experience. There is no right way to grieve. You may experience going through many different feelings or you find your thoughts and concentration fluctuate, leaving you feeling confused. You may feel some immediate relief. There can be good days and bad days and ups and downs. This is a normal response to loss.

Talking about grief and bereavement in school

Talking about the feeling of grief and loss is a difficult but vital conversation to have with children. This may seem daunting for

you as staff and parents may question if the topic is too mature for their children. LOROS is here to support you. This conversation provides bereaved children with a better understanding of their own feelings and will help them to feel less alone. It will also help prepare any children who may experience loss in the future, and it will enable children to better understand and support their peers.

What can you do?

1. Talk to parents/carers. Let parents/carers know in advance that children will be discussing the issue of loss and bereavement and allow them an opportunity to raise any issues or concerns they may have.
2. Ask parents/carers to alert the school to any experiences their child has that might make this area particularly difficult for them – for example a bereavement, or someone in the family with serious illness and anticipating loss.
3. Also ask children/young people themselves as they may not want to be excluded from activities with their peers. It can be helpful to sensitively check in with them how this can be possible.
4. Encourage children/young people to talk about their own experiences.
5. Give children/young people information on what to do if they want to talk more about their feelings (e.g. Who to talk to, time out cards etc.).
6. Book a free teacher training session with LOROS.

The history of the Hospice Movement

In 1843, as a young widower and bereaved mother, Mme Jeanne Garnier, along with others in a similar situation, founded the Dames de Calaire in Lyon, France, to provide care for the dying.

Between 1874 and 1899, twenty one years after her death, Jeanne Garnier's influence led to the introduction of six more establishments in Paris and New York.

Thirty six years after the first hospice was founded, the idea spread to Ireland when it was adopted by The Irish Sisters of Charity who opened Our Lady's Hospice in Dublin. Shortly after, it spread to England when they opened St. Joseph's Hospice in Hackney, London.

However, hospices did not become more widely known until Dame Cicely Saunders founded St. Christopher's House in London in 1967.



Who is Dame Cicely Saunders?

The founder for the modern hospice movement as we know it is Dame Cicely Saunders.

She started work as a volunteer nurse in 1948 and further trained as a Social Worker and then finally a doctor.

Dame Cicely identified the need for a place specifically to provide end of life care through a friendship she had struck up with a patient under her care. This patient spent the last two months of his life on a busy surgical ward, simply because there was nowhere else he could go.

Dame Cicely oversaw the opening of St Christopher's Hospice in London in 1967 created as a medical, teaching and research facility dedicated to the physical, emotional and spiritual care of the dying.

The modern-day hospice movement was born and today there are more than 220 local hospices all across the UK. LOROS is the local hospice for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

When the charity was first registered in 1977 the letters in LOROS stood for the Leicester Organisation for the Relief Of Suffering. In 1984 the name was changed to the Leicestershire and Rutland Organisation for the Relief of Suffering as the scope was extended to include Leicestershire and Rutland.

History of LOROS

LOROS Hospice's first ever chair of trustees, Barbara Keene, and first President, Lady Clarissa Palmer, played a key role in establishing LOROS and opening the inpatient ward in September 1985.

The pair recalled the anxiety with which people viewed hospices in those days, and the fear they had to overcome to get support for LOROS.

"People didn't understand what hospice care was. It was viewed as a death sentence," said Lady Palmer. "The word hospice filled people with horror."

"We had to educate people. It was so important people understood what the care was, and that patients could stay for a short while and then go home."

Focusing on the patients was always a big part of the LOROS approach to end of life care, remembers Barbara.

"I made sure that clinical staff had a voice at our trustee meetings, and invited the matron and medical consultant to attend. There was a real team spirit, everyone pulling together to offer the best care and advice possible," said Barbara.

"I'm so proud to see that it's still the priority and LOROS is in safe hands."

Lady Palmer added, "I feel very privileged to have been involved. Local people raised the money to establish LOROS and they are still at the heart of it now. We must have helped thousands and thousands over the years."

John Knight, former CEO of LOROS Hospice, paid tribute to the hard work and vision of Barbara and Lady Palmer. He said, "The strong governance that was put in place right at its inception has been key to LOROS' success. Without their leadership we wouldn't be here now."





LOROS Hospice history highlights

1975 December

Joint meeting of Leicester Council of Churches and Leicester Free Church Women's Council, to secure better care for the terminally ill.

1977 March

LOROS becomes a registered charity.

1980 December

Groby Road site is chosen for the Hospice at the back of the Hospital.

1981 January

LOROS opens its first office at 18 Friar Lane and Mrs Anne Kind is appointed as first employee.

1984 March

The President, Lady Palmer, cuts the first turf at the Groby Road site to start work on the Groby Road Hospice building.

1985 September

First patient is admitted to the Hospice (registered for 12 beds only).



1986 February

Hospice is licensed for 25 beds.

March

The target to raise £1.5 million in five years is achieved.

May



HRH The Prince and Princess of Wales officially open the Hospice.

1989 August



First LOROS shop opens in Loughborough.

1990 January



Community Nurse Specialist team established (formerly known as Home Care).

1996 July



The LOROS Lottery is launched.

December

First Light up a Life service is held at the Hospice.

1997 February

Opening of the new Relatives' Suite at the Hospice.

2004 April

Five new single patient rooms are opened on the Ward, now 31 beds.

2007 June



Launched a £2 million Capital Appeal to fund an extension to increase single room capacity

2010 September

Founders event held to mark the 25th Anniversary of the Hospice opening.

2012 May



Official opening of the award-winning Garden of Light and Reflection.

December

Manor Croft Day Therapy Unit closes.

2013 September

Manor Croft property sold.

2015 September

The Hospice celebrates its 30th Anniversary.

December

Announcement of plans for a £6 million expansion of the Hospice site.

2016 July

His Holiness Shri Rameshbhai Oza visits the Hospice.

October

LOROS Patron Alan 'The Birch' Birchenall cuts the turf to mark official start of the £6 million extension.

December

The Hospice launches its Consultant Clinic at Uppingham Surgery as part of expansion of services into the Rutland area.

2017 March

Launch of LOROS Local, a mobile resource centre.

October

Baroness Finlay opens Phase One of the Hospice expansion, the LOROS Professional Development Centre.

2018 October

Opening of the new Day Therapy and Outpatient's extension.

November

Hospice staff were chosen to meet Their Royal Highnesses The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge as they visited Leicester City Football Club.

2019 September



Creation of a Woodland Walk and opening of the Day Therapy Gardens.

October



Care for a Drink added to the income generation portfolio.

2020 Hospice celebrates 35 years of the Hospice opening

Can you help?

We rely on the generosity of people like you to fund 75% of our care.

To help support the people of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland at the end of their lives please visit loros.co.uk or contact the fundraising team on (0116) 231 8431 or email fundraising@loros.co.uk



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