

Eligibility

Services are available to infants through young adults who have life-limiting illnesses or conditions. Carousel serves nine counties in the greater Kansas City area.

Families may participate in Carousel regardless of their ability to pay. Insurance companies are billed when possible.

How Care Begins

Care starts with a phone call from a parent, the child's physician or a hospital staff member. Call **816-363-2600** to schedule an assessment to see how Carousel can help.

“Carousel has allowed us to revolve our lives around trips to the park and play dates rather than hospital, doctor and clinic visits.”

– Becky Means, mother of a Carousel child

About Kansas City Hospice & Palliative Care

Carousel is a program of Kansas City Hospice & Palliative Care, a nonprofit organization that has been enhancing life for the seriously ill and their families in the greater Kansas City area since 1980. Our programs include:

- Kansas City Hospice, providing comfort and care to patients at home or in long-term care facilities.
- Palliative Home Care, for people currently seeking curative treatments.
- Kansas City Palliative Medicine, physicians specializing in comfort care and symptom management.
- Kansas City Hospice House, an inpatient facility offering expert care 24 hours a day in a homelike setting.
- Passages, counseling and resources.

For more information about Kansas City Hospice & Palliative Care, call 816-363-2600 or visit www.kansascityhospice.org.



Carousel

9221 Ward Parkway, Suite 100
Kansas City, MO 64114
816-363-2600
www.kansascityhospice.org



Kansas City Hospice
& Palliative Care

Carousel is a program of Kansas City Hospice & Palliative Care. Kansas City Hospice & Palliative Care does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, handicap/disability or religious beliefs.

Carousel

Pediatric Palliative and Hospice Care



Carousel

Specialized home care for infants, children, teens and young adults with serious illnesses.



“Getting involved in Carousel is not giving up, but accepting that you and your family need help, care and support for your child.”

– Jeanetta Drabek Cates, mother of a Carousel child

Maintain Confidence and Control

When your child is seriously ill, everything changes. You want the best for your child, and you want the time your child spends at home to be as good as possible. In addition to the increased responsibilities of caring for your child, you may find that decisions are becoming more complicated.

You and your family don't have to go through this alone. The Carousel program can help make this difficult time easier. Our team of professionals provides support to you at home to help you regain and maintain confidence and control.

A range of home health care services are available for infants through young adults anytime following a diagnosis of a serious illness or life-limiting condition. Support also is provided to family members, including siblings.

What's palliative care?

Carousel offers pediatric palliative (pal-lee-uh-tiv) or hospice care, depending on your family's needs and desires.

Palliative care can be at any stage of serious illness and is available while receiving or seeking treatments to cure or slow the progress of the disease. **Hospice** is a special type of palliative care for people of all ages who have life-limiting illnesses and who are focused on comfort.

Both palliative and hospice care offer specially trained nurses, social workers, chaplains, physicians and other therapists who address pain and other symptoms, emotional and spiritual needs of patients and families, and improve quality of life.

Services as You Need Them

Carousel team members are specialists in caring for children with serious illnesses and supporting their families. Care is usually at home, but staff can visit children at school, day care, clinics or the hospital to match family schedules. Children can continue to receive treatments and return to the hospital, and the team helps with transitions.

Families receive care to fit their changing needs. It includes:

- **Pediatric nurse visits** to manage pain and other symptoms and to regularly monitor the child's condition.
- **Counseling** to build on your family's strength and help you cope.
- **Nondenominational spiritual support.**
- **On-call nurses, social worker and chaplain** available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, for questions and visits.
- **Trained volunteers** to provide companionship for the child or siblings, run errands or give parents a break.
- **Art or music therapies** to help the child and siblings explore their feelings.
- **Education** on keeping the child comfortable at home.



- **Assistance with participation at school.**
- **Communication with the child's physician** and other health care providers.
- **Monitoring the child's response** to treatments for the illness.

When home is not the ideal setting, Kansas City Hospice House is available for children and families who need additional support. The comfortable inpatient facility has a beautiful, homelike atmosphere and provides space for family members.