

Moravian Manor Communities’ *“No Resident Dies Alone”* Program



Moravian Manor Communities offers a special program called “No Resident Dies Alone” for residents and families when the resident is close to passing away. This program is intended to complement the family’s visitation plans at this time in the resident’s life.

For a variety of reasons, families may not be able to sit vigil with their loved one as the time draws near...family may live outside the area, have work responsibilities, have difficulty watching their loved one decline, or face other challenges that make sitting with their loved one unfeasible.

“No Resident Dies Alone” is designed to coordinate with the family’s schedule so that between the family and program volunteers, the resident has someone with them around the clock. For example, the family can sit with their loved one from 8 am – 10 pm. Then program volunteers will be coordinated to sit with the resident from 10 pm until 8 am the next day.

“No Resident Dies Alone” volunteers receive two hours of training for this ministry. Training is provided by local hospice staff and Moravian Manor Communities’ chaplain. Volunteers also undergo background checks to ensure protection of the resident and the other volunteers. Some program volunteers live at Moravian Manor Communities in our residential living neighborhoods, some come from the Lititz community, and some are staff. They all share a desire to prevent Moravian Manor Communities’ residents from dying alone. Volunteers are responsible to sit and observe the resident and their needs. They do not provide any direct nursing care but notify nursing staff if care is needed.

The “No Resident Dies Alone” program is not implemented without family or Power of Attorney approval. Someone from Moravian Manor Communities’ staff, nursing, social services, or the chaplain will seek out this approval from families.

The goal of “No Resident Dies Alone” is to cover the final 24 hours of a resident’s life, as closely as can be determined. Volunteers are limited to two-hour shifts, and as a result, it does not take long to utilize all available volunteers. Often it is necessary to customize coverage if the vigil prolongs. Family and the chaplain, who coordinates the program, will consult to continue to provide the best possible coverage if the vigil goes beyond 48 hours.

For any concerns or questions about the program, please contact:

Our Chaplain 717-625-6139
Charge Nurse 717-626-0214
Social Services 717-626-0214

“No Resident Dies Alone” is just one of the many ways of anticipating the needs of the people we serve.

