

PHILANTHROPY AT WORK



PROGRAM TRAINS MEDICAL STAFF IN END-OF-LIFE CARE

End-of-life care is different from typical medicine. The management of pain and other symptoms, and the social, psychological, cultural, emotional and spiritual supports needed – all require special palliative skills not routinely covered in medical education. Hospice of the Valley in Phoenix started a program in 2006 to train all family practice and internal medicine residents at the Maricopa County teaching hospitals in palliative and end-of-life care.

Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust has provided four grants to establish training programs in palliative care medicine, first for medical residents, then for nurses, for medical social workers and chaplains, and most recently for hospital doctors. Each grant establishes a unique program, and then Hospice of the Valley sustains the program going forward. Innovative healthcare. Innovative philanthropy.

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