

# Compassion and Care for Medically Challenging Pregnancies Act



<https://pixabay.com/en/baby-child-birth-trust-hand-macro-168118>

“Perinatal hospice is an innovative and compassionate model of support for the pregnant woman who finds out that her baby has a life-limiting condition and who chooses to continue her pregnancy.”

The Compassion and Care for Medically Challenging Pregnancies Act

The Compassion and Care for Medically Challenging Pregnancies Act describes perinatal hospice as “comprehensive support to the pregnant woman and her family that includes support from the time of diagnosis, through the time of birth and the death of the infant, and through the postpartum period. Supportive care may include, but is not limited to, counseling and medical care by maternal-fetal medical specialists, obstetricians, neonatologists, anesthesia specialists, clergy, social workers, and specialty nurses focused on alleviating fear and ensuring that the woman and her family experience the life and death of their child in a comfortable and supportive environment.”

LB506 (April 26, 2017)  
The Compassion and Care for Medically Challenging Pregnancies Act



<https://pixabay.com/en/sunrise-red-morgenrot-sun-mood-1688100/>

## Perinatal hospice services may include:

- Support throughout the pregnancy, delivery, and post-partum period
- Guidance regarding medical decisions
- Assistance with making memories, pictures, or keepsakes
- Personalized birth plan
- Pain relief for baby if necessary
- Memorial or Funeral Service guidance
- Coordinating discharge from hospital to home or Hospice program

This information is shared as required by Nebraska Revised Statute 71-5001, The Compassion and Care for Medically Challenging Pregnancies Act. The Department does not endorse any specific perinatal hospice program.

[dhhs.ne.gov/MomAndBaby](https://dhhs.ne.gov/MomAndBaby)  
March 2024

## National Resources:

Perinatal Hospice & Palliative Care has a list of programs in the United States and Internationally. Programs can be viewed at Perinatal Hospice & Palliative Care at: <https://www.perinatalhospice.org/>

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Self-Reported Perinatal Hospice Program			
Hospital / Hospice Program	County	Hours	General Program Overview (information provided by the program)
<b>Connected Forever</b> 61691 733 Road Tecumseh, Nebraska 68450 402-297-6109 <a href="https://connected4ever.org">https://connected4ever.org</a>	All of Nebraska	24/7 as needed	Connected Forever is a Nebraska-based non-profit providing resources, education, and support to ensure no family feels alone. Providing one-on-one support with a trained mentor to walk through and provide support as you navigate your journey. We provide support, online and in-person, care packages, and host events throughout the year for parents and families. We have several collaborations and resources throughout Nebraska we are able to connect with to meet the needs of the family.
<b>Butterfly Memories</b> Bryan Medical Center 1600 S. 48 <sup>th</sup> Street Lincoln, Nebraska 68506 402-481-8011 Email: <a href="mailto:Butterfly_Memories@bryanhealth.org">Butterfly_Memories@bryanhealth.org</a>	Lancaster	24-hour contact availability	Butterfly Memories is a Perinatal Hospice Program that serves the pregnant patient and their families in their difficult journey. Support from the team includes, but is not limited to, the Maternal-Fetal Medicine Physician, Obstetrician, Pediatrician, Neonatology, Neonatal Nurse Practitioner, Social Work, Pastoral Care, Nursing, and support staff. The main goal of the program is to create a comfortable, supportive, and informational environment for the patient and their support system during their prenatal, antepartum, and postpartum periods. This program that strives to meet the needs of these individuals during this period of their lives with full respect for their personal values, beliefs, and traditions.
<b>EMBRACE (Every Moment Brief Remembered Always Cherished Eternally) Perinatal Palliative Care &amp; Hospice</b> CHI Health - St Elizabeth 555 South 70th Street Lincoln, Nebraska 68510 402-219-7065 <a href="http://www.chihealthstelizabeth.com">www.chihealthstelizabeth.com</a>	Lancaster	24-hour contact availability	The EMBRACE program is a support system for families who are facing the knowledge that their unborn baby has a life-limiting diagnosis. The EMBRACE team consists of maternal fetal medicine specialists, family physicians, nurses, social workers & pastoral care ministers who strive to address the physical, spiritual & emotional needs of the family when they receive this life-changing information. EMBRACE recognizes that every moment a family spends with their baby is precious, striving to create a sacred & safe environment where a family can give birth & honor the life of their child even though the time may be brief. EMBRACE assists in creating a birth plan, providing resource materials, discussing desired medical interventions, spiritual support, baby photographs & keepsakes, ongoing follow-up and support for family and friends.
<b>HoriSun Hospice</b> 2200 South 40th Street, Ste. 101 Lincoln, Nebraska 68506 402-484-6444 <a href="http://www.horisunhospice.com">www.horisunhospice.com</a>	Lancaster, Seward and portions of Cass, Otoe, and Saline counties.	24-hour contact availability	HoriSun's purpose is to ensure the delivery of quality, safe, and cost-effective hospice services to patients and their families. HoriSun Hospice provides help, hope, and comfort to those facing a life-limiting illness. Qualified interdisciplinary team of health care professionals and trained volunteers have ensured that each individual receives the unique quality of care that they deserve.
<b>No Footprint Too Small Birth &amp; Bereavement Services</b> 4740 A Street, Suite 200 Lincoln, Nebraska 68510 (402)318-3911 Office (712)574-0478 Doula Support Email: <a href="mailto:info@nofootprinttoosmall.com">info@nofootprinttoosmall.com</a> <a href="https://nofootprinttoosmall.com/">https://nofootprinttoosmall.com/</a>	Lancaster, All of Nebraska	24-hour/7 days a week as needed	No Footprint Too Small is a 501c3 nonprofit organization located in Lincoln, Nebraska, serving all of Nebraska. Our mission is to provide comprehensive perinatal support to mothers, fathers, and families who are affected by pregnancy or infant loss. We offer emotional and physical support during pregnancy and labor involving a loss through doula support, care packages and weighted memory bears, referrals to local community resources like grief counselors and resources for surviving siblings, grief support groups and retreats, funeral arrangement guidance and financial assistance, breast pump rental, custom swaddles to provide even the smallest babies with clothing and dignity, and translation services for Spanish-speaking families.

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### Self-Reported Perinatal Hospice Program

Hospital / Hospice Program	County	Hours	General Program Overview (Information provided by the program.)
<b>Methodist Fremont Health</b> 40 East 23 <sup>rd</sup> Street Fremont, Nebraska 68025 402-941-7146 <a href="https://bestcare.org/locations/methodist-fremont-health">https://bestcare.org/locations/methodist-fremont-health</a>	Dodge	24-hour contact availability	Following our Methodist Health System mission and values, we provide quality and evidence-based care to all families. Whether a baby dies in utero, immediately following delivery or is in need of palliative care support, our in-person and telehealth collaboration along with Methodist Women’s maternal-fetal medicine and neonatology allows us to provide the care your family needs. Our facility’s support team includes obstetrics, pediatrics, anesthesia, nursing, pastoral care, language services, social work, palliative care, and hospice. Our goal is to provide physical and emotional support to families dealing with a life-limiting diagnosis and creating individualized planning throughout pregnancy, delivery, and the postpartum period. Our soon to be “Butterfly Suite” provides a special and safe environment for families and their support systems. This allows families to cherish the time with their baby with respect to personal and cultural beliefs, traditions, and values.
<b>Methodist Women's Hospital</b> 707 N 190th Plaza Omaha, NE 68022 402-815-4000 <a href="https://www.bestcare.org/womens-hospital/">https://www.bestcare.org/womens-hospital/</a>	Douglas	24-hour contact availability	Maternal-Fetal Medicine Specialists, Neonatologists, Obstetricians, Anesthesia, Clergy, Social Workers, and specialty nurses are available on site or on call 24/7. We offer comprehensive support to the pregnant woman and her family from the time of diagnosis through pregnancy, delivery, and in the postpartum period. Whether the baby dies in utero, immediately post-delivery or is needing palliative care, our physicians, nurses, and support staff are trained to respond with sensitivity, compassion and with evidence-based best practices.
<b>Nebraska Medicine</b> 983255 Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE 68198-7400 402-559-6150 <a href="http://www.nebraskamed.com">www.nebraskamed.com</a>	Douglas	24-hour contact availability	Perinatal hospice care at Nebraska Medicine includes the ability to access services for the care of the mother and newborn. Pre-delivery counseling to allow for parents to make informed decisions regarding options for care is available. Multidisciplinary plan is developed along with the parents before the infant is delivered. Plan is subject to changes depending on the parents’ wishes and infant condition after delivery. Support services are offered and provided for parents and infant. Services are focused on patient specific counseling and needs depending on gestational age. Community resources are available and offered for parents for support after discharge
<b>CHI CUMC Medical Center Bergan Mercy Hospital</b> 7500 Mercy Road, Omaha, NE 68132 402-398-6014 <a href="http://www.CHI.com">www.CHI.com</a>	Douglas	24-hour contact availability	In keeping with the CHI mission, our program’s goal is to achieve the best quality of life for babies and their families when the expected lifetime of the baby will be brief. Our team is comprised of a neonatologist, neonatal nurse practitioner, social worker, pastoral care provider, ethicists, and bedside nurses. We work in conjunction with obstetricians and perinatologists to create a life plan for the family that is supportive and mindful of their personal, cultural, and religious needs and desires.  We serve all of the CHI hospitals in the Omaha Metro area, including Mercy in Council Bluffs.
<b>Endless Journey Hospice</b> 10831 Old Mill Rd. Ste 400 Omaha, NE 68154 402-800-8145 <a href="https://www.endlessjourneyhospice.com/">https://www.endlessjourneyhospice.com/</a>	Douglas	24/7	Endless Journey accepts neonate hospice patients that have received a diagnosis considered incompatible with life in utero. Once the child is born, our hospice is able to sign the baby onto services to offer comprehensive hospice nursing and social services in the family home until the time of the patient's death. Once the baby has died supportive bereavement services are engaged to provide companioning grief support to all members of the family. Endless Journey employs a Certified Child Life Specialist (CCLS) to provide developmentally appropriate grief support to siblings of the baby and also anticipatory guidance to caregivers sharing news of the perinatal diagnosis prior to birth.  Endless Journey hospice is a hospice only program. We do not have a perinatal physician on service who can provide palliative OB care to a mother prior to the baby's birth.