

# SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE IN PALLIATIVE CARE

**DID YOU KNOW?** Social Workers are employed in Palliative Care, which is a specialty in caring for people with life limiting illnesses.

Palliative Care social workers help individuals and families by:

- Providing specialized expert knowledge, understanding and treatment of the social, psychological, emotional, spiritual, quality of life and functional aspects of end of life care
- Supporting individuals and families through the end of life experience; from diagnosis, symptom management, through to palliation and bereavement
- Providing education and supports to individuals and families regarding advanced care planning including Advanced Health Care Directives
- Advocating for services and access to care that promotes and respects each individual's values, beliefs and rights while preserving dignity
- Collaborating with inter-disciplinary teams for whole person care
- Providing expert knowledge and consultation services to institutional, organizational and community partners regarding the specific nature of palliative care
- Developing programs for end of life based on nationally recognized best practices
- Engaging in mentorship opportunities with students and colleagues

There are over 1600 social workers registered to practice social work in Newfoundland and Labrador. Further information about the social work profession can be found at [www.nlcsw.ca](http://www.nlcsw.ca) or by contacting:

Newfoundland & Labrador  
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