

*The most beautiful  
things in the world  
cannot be seen or  
even touched, they  
must be felt with the  
heart.*

-Helen Keller

A SPECIAL  
KIND OF CARE

Hudson Valley  
Hospice

845.240.7555  
[hvhospice.org](http://hvhospice.org)

DUTCHESS OFFICE  
374 Violet Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

ULSTER OFFICE  
153 Sawkill Road, Kingston, NY 12401

## HEART-TO-HEART

A Hudson Valley Hospice  
Palliative Care Program



Hudson Valley  
Hospice



## HEART-TO-HEART CARDIAC CARE PROGRAM

**Heart-to-Heart** has been developed by Hudson Valley Hospice, with collaboration from the area's leading cardiologists to provide cardiac care at home. The program is designed to improve the quality of life when living with advanced heart disease. Your individualized care plan is focused on your staying where you live - at home, in a nursing home or at your residence of choice.

Instead of moving through a series of crisis interventions that put strain on you, your heart and your family, our goal is to manage your symptoms at home. You go to the emergency room less often. You spend little or no time in the hospital. Your family caregivers have the support and information they need to keep you safe and comfortable. Less stress all around, and more opportunities to meet your own personal goals.

## HOW DOES HEART-TO-HEART WORK?

- Your symptoms are managed with an individualized plan of care and the participation of your doctor.
- You have access to our staff 24/7. You call, we help you handle immediate symptoms, or we may come to you.
- You receive regularly scheduled home visits from specially trained medical staff.
- You may receive specialized cardiac therapies at home, including IV Lasix, Dobutamine and Milrinone (Primacor) treatments, as prescribed by your physician.
- When necessary, a respiratory therapist is available to help you with specialized equipment.
- You will have access to all of Hudson Valley Hospice's services, including nurses, home health aides, social workers, volunteers, chaplains, music therapists, respiratory therapists and a host of complementary therapies.

## NEXT STEPS

Talk with your family and your doctor about changing the focus of your care. If your symptoms are making it increasingly difficult for you to do the things you want to do, and if your medications are no longer really effective, it may be time to make a transition from aggressive treatment to **Heart-to-Heart** Hospice Palliative Care Program.

**Heart-to-Heart** services are covered by Hospice Medicare, Medicaid, Veteran's Benefits and most insurance plans. Financial assistance may also be available.

If you think this program can help you, a family member or a friend, please call us at **845.240.7555**. *We are here to help!*

