

**POSITION DESCRIPTION**  
**VOLUNTEER MASSAGE THERAPIST**

**Reporting to:** Community Volunteer Lead

**Employment Status:** Volunteer

**Date Prepared:** 25 June 2018

**POSITION PURPOSE**

Provide massage therapy for patients and their family in the community.

**RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Provide massage therapy care and treatment for patients with a terminal illness and their family in order to maintain the highest quality of life.
- Work with the Community Volunteer Lead and liaise with the multi-disciplinary team.
- Enter into a partnership with the patient and their whanau/carers to provide palliative massage therapy care that meets expressed and assessed needs.
- Plan care and treatment based on these needs, to implement interventions and treatment and to monitor and evaluate outcomes.

**Health and Safety**

- Practise within Mary Potter Hospice health and safety policies and procedures outlined in the Health and Safety Policy Manual.
- Report all identified hazards, incidents (including near-misses) and accidents to the Community Volunteer Lead.
- Contribute to ensuring that a safe working environment is maintained at all times.
- Participate in mandatory health and safety training as required.

This job description does not intend to cover every detail that may be required within the role, and the expectation is that any other reasonable requests made by the Team Manager will be undertaken.

## **FUNCTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS**

### **Internal**

- Patients and their families and whanau/significant people
- Multi-disciplinary team from Mary Potter Hospice localities

### **External**

Patient and family members

Community stakeholders

## **EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

Diploma in Massage Therapy or working towards it

## **PERSON SPECIFICATION**

The following requirements are sought for this position:

- Demonstrate an awareness of boundaries and critical issues and able to function in a safe and responsible manner.
- Have a sound knowledge of touch therapy and practice its application in a palliative care context.
- Demonstrated ability to assess and prioritise patient and family/whanau needs.
- Understanding of an demonstrated ability to apply the concept of cultural and spiritual safety.
- Understanding of the grief process.
- Awareness of current trends in palliative /aged care.
- Computer literacy with ability to utilise electron patient management systems;
- Present with a good sense of humor.
- Have no impediments to travelling within Mary Potter Hospice service areas where appropriate.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.

In order to meet the changing needs of Mary Potter Hospice, this job description may require change from time to time.

Signed: ..... Date: .....  
(Job Holder)

Signed: ..... Date: .....  
(Director)

## **About Mary Potter Hospice**

For nearly 40 years, Mary Potter Hospice has provided the highest quality specialist palliative care to people whose illnesses are incurable. We support patients and their families to deal with the host of significant and challenging changes.

At Mary Potter Hospice our vision is that people in our communities who need palliative care have access to compassionate and quality care, when and where they need it. To achieve this, we work alongside our many health partners to promote and provide education on quality palliative care and care planning services. We provide high quality specialist palliative care in our In-Patient Unit, in other care facilities and the community. The Hospice assists patients and their families with the quality of their life, their dying and their bereavement.

Our values are based on respect, compassion, dignity, hospitality, and stewardship.

In 2017/18 it will cost approximately \$12 million to run the Hospice. Government contract income currently funds 50% of this with the balance to be raised from the community. Donated goods sold through our retail shops is expected to exceed \$2 million (gross).

Mary Potter Hospice is proud to be regarded as one of Wellington's most loved and trusted charities.

**As at January 2018**