

Our Pledge To Our Referral Sources

As Abbie Hunt Bryce Home staff, we pledge to work from the assumption that each potential resident is hopefully appropriate for admission. Every effort will be made to meet the needs of the patient either by admission or by accessing other community resources.

- We have staff on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. When census is high, or the acuity of the resident's condition worsens, we will add additional staff to accommodate everyone's needs.
- The Abbie Hunt Bryce Home is not a licensed nursing facility but we take pride in serving our residents compassionately. This includes providing shelter; nutrition; and physical, emotional and social support.
- The Abbie Hunt Bryce Home staff is open to discussing ways to help anyone who needs living accommodations with caregiver oversight. We will discuss referrals that are outside of our traditional mission. These arrangements are subject to bed availability and patient acuity status.
- Our goal is that following admission each person will live out his or her final days here or achieve stated outcomes. However, staff's role is that of caregiver and not hands on licensed medical professional. It is possible that in some cases a resident may need more care than can be provided at the Abbie Hunt Bryce Home.
- Conditions and situations not specifically addressed through the admission criteria can be discussed on a case-by-case basis, with the potential resident's care needs guiding our decision.

Our Story

After years of study and with the full support of Central Indiana's medical community, the Abbie Hunt Bryce Home opened in July 2004. It was designed to serve the terminally ill homeless population, and those with limited financial resources and other support, by providing a free individual living space for their final life journey. The Home is a gift to the community and there are no costs to the residents. Staff and volunteers serve 30 to 60 Hoosiers each year.

Mission

The Abbie Hunt Bryce Home is a residence providing compassionate, respectful and dignified support to the citizens of Central Indiana who are terminally ill and without financial resources.

Who We Serve

Central Indiana residents who: have a terminal diagnosis; are recipients of medical care provided by a hospice; and have limited financial resources. A means application will be used to help determine whether admission is appropriate.

Staff

Home staff, supported by volunteers, is available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

Capacity

The Home is comprised of three connected townhouses with four bedrooms each, for a total capacity of twelve units.

Medical Support

Any licensed hospice in central Indiana may provide services to residents.

Who Makes Referrals

The Abbie Hunt Bryce Home accepts referrals from hospitals; hospice programs; charitable organizations, including other shelters and social service agencies; physicians; faith-based organizations; and self or family members.

Funding

The Abbie Hunt Bryce Home was built through the generous private contributions of individuals, foundations, and corporations. Ongoing fundraising and contributions underwrite operating expenses.

Living quarters are provided free of charge. However, residents, their families, loved ones, and the hospice providing care often consider making voluntary donations or collect personal living items for resident benefit.

Admission Criteria

The potential resident must:

- Provide information to complete the application form.
- Be enrolled with a Hospice organization.

- Meet the financial requirements of a monthly income less than 200% of the poverty level.
- Provide a list of assets and their value which will be evaluated by the Home's designee to determine if his/her financial status conforms to the Home's charitable mission.
- Sign the Resident Agreement.
- Have agreed upon responsibility for her/his own medical needs as the Home is not a medical facility.
- Be able to live with others safely in a home-like setting.

How The Admission Process Works

Abbie Hunt Bryce Home staff aim to make the referral process efficient and compassionate.

- Referral source contacts the Home to determine if there are available beds for either a potential male or female resident.
- The referral source provides basic applicant information, including name, age, present applicant location, diagnosis, and hospice provider information.
- The application is completed if preliminary information is acceptable.
- Home designated staff completes an assessment where the potential resident is currently residing. This includes reviewing the applicant's overall condition, physical needs, income/assets, and hospice provider. A recent chest x-ray is also required.
- Once it is determined that the potential resident meets all criteria, arrangements are finalized.

Although it is not necessary for the potential resident to tour the Home, it is encouraged when possible.

Factors that may preclude admission include, but are not limited to:

- All available living quarters are either occupied or have viable applicants in waiting.
- Patient acuity is beyond the scope of staff restrictions and the Home's operational mission.
- The applicant's financial status precludes him/her from qualifying for the Home's charitable focus.
- Male or female room availability as the Home is oriented toward safety, privacy, and resident well-being.

When capacity is reached or accounted for, a waiting list will be created and regularly updated to referral sources.

The referral source will be given a thorough explanation if the Abbie Hunt Bryce Home is not appropriate for the applicant.

When Hospice Care Is No Longer Appropriate

The Hospice care provider accepts responsibility for locating alternate placement for residents who:

- Are no longer considered Hospice eligible as determined by the Hospice provider (at the end of the recertification period); or
- Revoke their hospice; or,
- Exhibit behavior that places other residents and staff at risk.

The Abbie Hunt Bryce Home is willing to work with the Hospice to allow some leeway in allowing the resident to remain in the Home while alternative arrangements are made. However, the provider and resident

must have these arrangements finalized prior to the resident being dismissed from Hospice care, to ensure the resident's medical care will be provided for the duration.

Other Care Options

In recent years the Home has provided living quarters for homeless patients recovering from surgery. The basic criteria are similar to those for our traditional resident. Please note:

- Candidate must be referred by a qualified agency that can verify homeless status.
- Referring agency will ensure coordination with Home staff regarding admission, transportation, and discharge.
- Patients must be under the care of a licensed home health care provider which will oversee all medical related care.

Morning Light is also willing to discuss new approaches to using Abbie Hunt Bryce Home capacity. Staff will provide details upon request.

Have Questions?

Phone: (317) 860-0484 or reach via email at admin@morninglightinc.org. We are also available to speak to community contacts and groups about this unique and vital program.