SENIOR LIVING

What distinguishes home care from hospice care



Hospitals are in the business of treating patients and helping them overcome injuries and illnesses. In many instances, hospitals offer unparalleled care. However, hospitals are not always without risk, and sometimes are not the most comfortable places for their patients, particularly those recovering from injuries or facing end

Fluorescent lights, beeping machine monitors and 24-hour personnel conversing at all hours of the day can disrupt natural sleep patterns. Hospital patients may be woken at night for status checks and to draw blood. Staff shortages may mean some patients become lower priority and do not receive much individualized attention. Medication mistakes and hospital-acquired infections also are risks that patients take when they are admitted to a hospital. Many people would prefer an alternative, if possible, particularly if they have a serious illness to recover from or a terminal condition. Some individuals may be eligible for home-based care.

People may mistakenly think that home care and hospice care are one and the same. In fact, home care and hospice are two distinct services that provide support to individuals with serious conditions. They share similarities, but they differ in goals and eligibility.

HOME CARE

The main scope of home health care is curative. The goal is to help a patient recover from a surgery, injury or illness, according to Vitas Healthcare. Patients typically are visited by skilled nursing providers, physical therapists, speechlanguage pathologists, or occupational therapists. How long home health care services

last depends on the patient's needs and goals.

To be eligible for home coverage, patients have to meet certain criteria, such as being considered homebound. This means limited ability to leave the home without help. Service length depends on the needs of the patient, and frequency may decrease over time as the patient's health improves.

HOSPICE CARE

Hospice care can be administered at home or in another setting, but it's different from other home care in that it is not curative. Patients who have terminal illnesses can be placed in hospice care. This care focuses on pain and symptom management for those who are not expected to live longer than six months. Hospice services can include help with personal care from a home health aide, skilled nursing, medical social work to help with advanced directives and insurance, and bereavement coun-

seling. To receive hospice care, a doctor must determine that the patient has less than six months to live if the illness will follow the typical course. Hospice patients do not have to be homebound, according to Amedisys, a provider of health care in the home. Hospice visits typically increase over time as the pa-

tient's health declines. Home health care and hospice care are services with different eligibility and modes of care designed to assist patients in home set-

Vintage Voices

In the late 1940's and early 1950's, fishing and hunting was more a necessity than a sport. Roughly seven months out of any given year was fishing season. Weather permitting, my mother would load my brother and I up, on an almost weekly schedule, and head for a fishing hole. Beulah Welch and her youngest son would often go along on these fishing excursions.

There seemed to be a wide variety of choices when it came down to where the best fishing could be had. One spot I remember quite well was the steel boat dock on the Verdigris River, just below the water plant. Many a hot summer evening, I would fall asleep on that cool metal dock while Mom fished for the next

days supper.

Before the Montgomery County State Lake was built, the family would fish the creek that now makes up the lake. As I can recall, the area was a haven for copperhead snakes and not the safest place for youngsters. The Spring and early Fall seemed to bring the snakes out from everywhere.

Later on, after the lake was completed, Raleigh Clark was the game warden/care taker for the area and a friend of the family. We made frequent trips to the lake to fish and when I was about 12, one evening Raleigh came over and asked me if I wanted to go snake hunting with him. Raleigh sat in the front of the boat while I rowed and managed the spotlight. In just a little over half an hour Raleigh used up an entire box of .410 shells and we didn't even get a fourth of the way around the lake.

Another place that we often frequented was the city dam, just east of the former Girls Scout Little House. Most of those trips involved seining for crawdads and hellgrammites, but, occasionally, we could catch a fair number of drum off the base of the dam. Drum will eat, but you don't want it after it cools down because it gets rather like rubber in texture. If we had drum for a meal, Mom usually baked it.

Fishing was so much a part of everyday life that, when I was about 12, much of my spare time was gathering fish worms. In the Spring, when it would rain hard for a while, the worms could be found in the gutters along the street in front of our house. I collected all the nightcrawlers and sod worms that I could and kept them in a large tub. Then I put out a sign in the yard and sold fish worms for thirty-five cents a dozen and three dozen for a dollar. Some weekends I would do a land office business selling worms to the folks headed for the State Lake.

During the summer, when there wasn't a lot of rain, worms were a little more difficult to come by. I solved that problem. We had an old crank telephone and I dug the generator out of it. With some wire, a couple of pieces of copper rod and a five gallon bucket of water, I could gather all the worms I needed. Just a half block south of my house, the city dumped all the leaves that were collected each fall. Those decaying leaves were a nightcrawler paradise. I dumped the water in about a three foot area, stuck the copper rods in the mud, hooked up the wires and turned the crank on the generator. In four or five minutes I could gather up several dozen worms. Jiffy corn bread mix and coffee grounds really fattened up the fish bait.

The creek that ran east toward the Verdigris River provided several adventures for the neighborhood kids. All we had was cane poles or long tree limbs with string attached to fish with, but we always seemed to catch something to bring home for a meal. One particular outing, someone caught a giant alligator snapping turtle; that thing was so big we could barely get it into a wash tub. Francis Wells was the park and zoo superintendent in those days and he wanted that turtle for the zoo and it became an exhibit in the moat around Monkey Island.
McTaggert's ford, Brown's ford,

Linn's ford and a host of other places provided food and relaxation for the first twenty years of my life. Fond memories of the good times and great eating.

> **Charles Rice** Independence, KS

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200 Public **Notice**

(First published in the Independence Daily Reporter September 20, 2025)
INVITATION TO BID....00020
SEALED BIDS for Sewer System Improvements, Independence, KS will be received by City Clerk, 120 N 6th Street, Independence, Kansas 67301 until October 23rd, 2025, and then sublish separad and read all and at City. publicly opened and read aloud at City Hall, 120 N 6th Street, Independence, Kansas at 10:00 A.M..

Kansas at 10:00 A.M..

Bidding documents have been prepared by TranSystems. Plans and specifications have been prepared by TranSystems. The bid documents, plans and specifications may be examined at the office of the City Clerk and may be obtained from the office of TranSystems, 115 South 6th Street, Suite B, Independence, Kansas, 67301. Copies of the bid documents may be Copies of the bid documents may be obtained from that office upon payment of a non-refundable deposit of

ment of a non-refundable deposit of 100 dollars (\$100.00) or electronically at no cost by contacting Shawn Turner, P.E. at sdturner@transystems.com.

The Owner reserves the right to waive any informalities or minor defects and to reject any or all bids and to readvertise and rebid and/or negotiate with any or all bidders.

Attention of bidders is called to the requirements as to conditions of employment to be observed and Federal prevailing wage rates to be paid under the contract, Section 3 of the 1968 Housing Act, Segregated Facility, Section 109 of the 1974 Housing and Community Development Act

Facility, Section 109 of the 1974 Housing and Community Development Act and Executive Order 11246, Housing and Community Development Act of 1964 and the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Bidders on this work will be required to comply with the presidents Executive Order No. 11246 (Equal Employment Opportunity) as amended. Requirements for bidders and contractors under this order are explained in tors under this order are explained in the specifications.

tors under this order are explained in the specifications.

Bidder must fully comply with Subpart C of 2 CFR Part 180 and 2 CFR Part 1532, entitled Responsibilities of Participants Regarding Transactions. Contractors, subcontractors, or suppliers that appear on the Excluded Parties List System at www.sam. gov are not eligible for award of any contracts funded by the KDHE State Revolving Fund programs.

All contracts and subcontracts exceeding \$100,000, at any tier under a SRF Loan Agreement shall comply with the Anti-Lobbying Act, Section 319 of Public Law 101-121, and file an Anti-Lobbying Certification form, and the Disclosure of Lobbying Activities form, if required, to the next tier above.

Bidders on this work, including sub-contractors or vendors, will be required to comply with the Kansas Act Against Discrimination (K.S.A. 44-1001 et. Seq.) and the Kansas Age Discrimination in Employment Act (K S A > 44-1111 et Seq.)

sas Age Discrimination in Employment Act (K.S.A> 44-1111 et. Seq.)

No bidder may withdraw his bid within 60 days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

Bidders with questions concerning the project may contact: Shawn Turner, P.E., TranSystems, 115 South 6th Street, Suite B, Independence, Kansas 67301 or by email at sdturner@transystem

dence, Kansas 67301 or by email at sdturner@transystem
INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS
00100
BIDS will be received by The City of Parsons, Kansas (herein called the Owner), at the office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 120 North 6th Street, Independence, Kansas 67301 until 10 A.M., October 23rd, 2025 and then publicly opened and read aloud. Each BID must be submitted in a sealed envelope, addressed to City Hall, 120 North 6th Street, Independence, Kansas, 67031. Each sealed envelope containing a BID must be plainly marked on the outside as BID FOR:
Sanitary Sewer Improvements Westminstor, 15th & Bigher and 2018. Locuments

minster, 1st & Birch, and 2nd & Locus Streets. and the envelope should bear on the outside the name of the BID-DER, his address, his license number, DER, his address, his license number, if applicable, and the name of the project for which the BID is submitted. If forwarded by mail, the sealed envelope containing the Bid must be enclosed in another envelope addressed to City Clerk, City Hall, 106 North 6th Street, Independence, Kansas, 67301.

All BIDS must be made on the required BID form. All blank spaces for BID prices must be filled in, in ink or typewritten, and the BID form must be fully completed and executed when submitted. Only one copy of the BID form is required.

The BIDDER shall submit a completed Contractors Qualification

Improvements

completed Contractors Qualification form with their bid. The BIDDER shall include the following forms for the bid to be valid: Kansas

Against Descrimination • Demonstration of Compliance with DBE Good Faith Efforts

Certification Regarding Lobbying

garding Lobbying

- AIS Certification
The OWNER may waive
any informalities or minor defects or
reject all BIDS. Any BID may be withdrawn prior to the above scheduled
time for the opening of BIDS or authorized postponement thereof. Any BID received after the time and date specified shall not be considered. No BIDDER may withdraw a BID within 60 calendar days after the actual date of the opening thereof. Should there be reasons why the contract cannot be awarded within the specified period, the time may be extended by mutual agreement between the OWNER and the RIDDER the BIDDERS must satisfy themselves of

the accuracy of the estimated quanti-ties in the BID schedule by examina-tion of the site and review of the drawings and specifications, including any ADDENDA. After BIDS have been submitted, the BIDDER shall not assert that there was a misunderstanding concerning the quantities, the nature of the WORK to be performed, or the extent of responsibilities and risks to be assumed in that performance.
The OWNER shall provide to the BID-DERS prior to BIDDING, all information which is pertinent to, and delineates and describes, the land owned, and shall be of the provided of the beautiful or the land owned.

and rights-of-way acquired or to be acquired.
The CONTRACT DOCUMENTS con-

tain the provisions required for the construction of the PROJECT. Information obtained from an officer, agent or employee of the OWNER or any other person shall not affect the risks or obligations assumed by the CONTRACTOR or relieve him from fulfilling any of the conditions of the contract.
The OWNER, within four-

teen (14) days, exclusive of Sundays and holidays, of the receipt of accept-able INSURANCE CERTIFICATES,

200 Public **Notice**

and Agreement signed by the party to whom the Agreement was awarded shall sign the Agreement, and return to such party an executed duplicate of the Agreement. Should the OWNEF not execute the Agreement within such period, the BIDDER may, by WRITTEN NOTICE, withdraw his signed Agreement. Such notice of withdrawal shall be effective upon receipt of the Notice by the OWNER. NOTICE TO PROCEED shall be issued within THIRTY (30) days of the execution of the Agreement by the OWNER Should there be reasons why the NOTICE TO PROCEED shall be issued within THIRTY (30) days of the execution of the Agreement by the OWNER Should there be reasons why the NOTICE TO PROCEED shall be issued within THIRTY (30) days of the execution of the Agreement by the OWNER Should there be reasons why the NOTICE TO PROCEED shall be issued by the Proceed shall be included by the OWNER Should there be reasons why the NOTICE TO PROCEED shall be issued by the OWNER Should there be reasons why the NOTICE TO PROCEED shall be issued by the OWNER Should there be reasons why the NOTICE TO PROCEED shall be s

tion of the Agreement by the OWNER Should there be reasons why the NO TICE TO PROCEED cannot be issued within such period, the time may be extended by mutual agreement between the OWNER and CONTRACTOR. If the NOTICE TO PROCEED has not been issued within the thirty (30 day period or within the period mutually agreed upon, the CONTRACTOR may terminate the Agreement without further liability on the part of either party. party.
The OWNER may make such inves-

The OWNER may make such investigations as he deems necessary to determine the ability of the BIDDEF to perform the work, and the BIDDEF shall furnish to the OWNER all such information and data for this purpose as the OWNER may request. The OWNER reserves the right to reject any BID if the evidence submitted by or investigation of, such BIDDER fails to satisfy the OWNER that such BIDDER is properly qualified to carry out the obligations of the Agreement and to complete the work contemplated therein.

A conditional, or qualified BID, or tied Bids will not be accepted.

A conditional, or qualified BID, or tied Bids will not be accepted. The BIDDER submitting the lowes TOTAL BID AMOUNT will be designated Apparent Low Bidder. Contract will be awarded to the lowest responsive responsible Bidder based on the lowest Total Bid Amount and having provided the necessary Bid Schedule and other Bid Documents. The Total Bid Amount shall be determined by the summation of the Extended Totals for each bid item. Extended totals shall be determined by the Item Bid price written. determined by the Item Bid price writ-ten in words for lump sum bid items and the Item Bid price written in words multiplied by the number of units for the unit bid items. In all instances, the Item Bid price written in words shall

Item Bid price written in words shall take precedence over other prices written either in words or numerals Bids received without Item Bid Prices written in words will be adjudged non-responsive.

All applicable laws, ordinances and the rules and regulations of all authorities having jurisdiction over construction of the PROJECT shall apply to the contract throughout shall apply to the contract throughout The low BIDDER shall supply the names and addresses of major mate-rial SUPPLIERS AND SUBCONTRAC TORS when requested to do so by the OWNER.
The ENGINEER is Transystems, 115 South 6th Street, Suite B, Independence, Kansas, 67301. Contact Shawr

September 20, 27, 2025

Helpful Tips

What to do to prepare your garden for winter Gardens provide an idyllic es-

cape from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. In fact, many gar-dening enthusiasts typically cannot wait for the spring thaw so they can spend the next several months tending to their plants under the warm sun. But a gardener's work is never truly done, and the work to make gardens stun in the spring actually begins during the preceding fall.

Preparing gardens for winter is an important step that can help homeowners ensure their gar-dens return to full strength in the spring. The tasks necessary to prepare gardens for winter may depend on what homeowners are planting, but the following are some general maintenance suggestions that can keep gardens safe this winter.

Remove weeds and debris. Weeds and debris are unsightly and detrimental to plant life in spring, but they also can be harmful in the winter. Weeds and debris left to linger in gardens through the winter provide overwintering spots for insects and can contribute to disease. So it's imperative that weeds and debris are removed before the ground hardens in winter. Don't wait until the ground hardens, as that can make it hard to remove the roots

of weeds, adversely affecting the

garden as a result.

Prepare the soil. The Farmer's Almanac advises homeowners to gently till the soil in their gardens so they can expose any insects before they settle in for the winter. Once garden soil is exposed, add a layer of compost, leaves, aged manure, and, if necessary, lime, gently tilling it into the soil According to the North Carolina Cooperative Extension, the only accurate way to determine if lawn or garden soil needs lime is to test it. Lime makes soil less acidic and reduces soil pH. Low soil pH makes it hard for certain plants to grow, but acidic soil is ideal when growing blueberries. Test the soil for lime and amend it depending on what you hope to grow in the spring so it's ready to thrive when winter ends. Remove dead or diseased plants.

Dead or diseased plants should not be left in the garden through the winter. These plants can attract insects and are vulnerable to disease, which can make it hard for the garden to thrive in the

Protect fruit trees. If you have fruit trees, install mouse guards around the base to prevent mice and voles from killing the trees over the winter. If left to their own devices over the winter, mice and voles may eat the bark of fruit trees, killing the trees as a result. The Farmer's Almanac notes that mouse guards made of fine mesh hardware cloth can effectively protect fruit trees from hungry mice and voles over the winter.

A gardener's work is never done, and the work to create beautiful spring gardens begins in the fall.

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