



**Caring  
Pathways**

*In-home compassionate pet care at life's end*



# In-Home Comfort Care for Your Pet



**Expert Veterinary Support and  
Comfort for Your Aging Pet**

# What is Comfort Care?

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Also known as hospice or palliative care, comfort care is proactive care focused on ensuring your pet's final weeks or months are filled with comfort and love. Our team is here to help your family maximize your pet's comfort and independence while guiding you through this stage with compassion and support.

## How We Support You

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### 1. Start the Comfort Conversation

Connect with our compassionate Client Care Team over the phone or via email to schedule an initial appointment with one of our in-home comfort care veterinarians.

### 2. Family Introduction Call

After scheduling, one of our hospice and palliative care veterinary technicians will call to discuss your pet's unique needs and answer any pre-appointment questions you may have.





### **3. At-Home Assessment**

A veterinarian dedicated to comfort care will visit your home to assess your pet and discuss care options with your family. This assessment typically consists of a conversation about your pet, observation of your pet in their home environment, and a physical examination.

### **4. Personalized Care Plan**

Following the assessment appointment, you will receive a detailed, individualized comfort care plan tailored to your pet's unique needs with your family's goals in mind. Often, families describe an immense sense of relief to have a well-thought-out plan moving forward and a team walking beside them to assist as questions and concerns arise.

***Our team is here to walk beside you every step of the way.***

## 5. Ongoing Support

Our veterinary team will provide continued in-person care, with direct phone and email access to our caring veterinary technicians. Our Caregiver Support Specialist, Mandi, is also available to all of our families for ongoing support. The first consultation is complimentary.

## 6. Guidance Regarding Euthanasia

Throughout the comfort care process, our team offers thoughtful guidance to help you determine when your pet's quality of life can no longer be adequately maintained, and when euthanasia may be the most compassionate choice. As the time comes, we can assist with making these delicate, in-home arrangements, along with coordinating aftercare.



# Helpful Tools for You

## Quality of Life Scales

Below are several quality-of-life scales that our Caring Pathways veterinary team recommends to pet families.

### **The Caring Pathways “Pathway to Care Assessment Form”**

Our “Pathway to Care” assessment form allows you to evaluate your pet’s condition objectively and monitor it over time.



### **The Ohio State University Scale**

How Will I Know? Assessing Quality of Life and Making Difficult Decisions for Your Pet.

### **The MMVHS Quality of Life Scale**

QoL scoring helps you take subjective thoughts about your beloved pet and put them into a more objective framework.



# Helpful Tools for You

## Daily Tracking Calendar

What to Track: Appetite, Drinking, Defecation, Urination,  
Interest in Play, Pain, Medications, Sleep Patterns

Month: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT

Notes:

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# We Are Here for You

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Our comfort care team is here to provide guidance, answer questions, and offer support throughout this journey.

**Phone:** (720) 287-2553

**Email:** [info@caringpathways.com](mailto:info@caringpathways.com)

**Website:** [www.caringpathways.com](http://www.caringpathways.com)

## Virtual Quality of Life Assessments & Comfort Care

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A 30-minute Virtual Quality of Life Consult with one of our veterinary professionals will facilitate an in-depth conversation using videoconferencing, helping you better understand the quality of your pet's life. An initial Comfort Care Assessment appointment is completely focused on maximizing your pet's comfort and quality of life. Use the QR code below to schedule an appointment.



## Other Pet Families Are Here for You Too

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"My cat Reese was already enrolled in hospice care with Caring Pathways as she has severe heart failure and the goal is comfort and love for her end days or months or years. Dr. Barrow treats her with nothing but love and kindness.

My youngest cat, at 12, who already has kidney failure has developed a growth on his sinuses. I have just scheduled his hospice intake as I will make sure he is comfortable and happy for the remainder of his life. End of life is a sad inevitability, but I can choose to provide the care they need and their last moments in the warmth and love of their home. Caring Pathways provides the love, warmth, and dignity our furry family members deserve." - Testimonial from Jamie

“Dr. Carmack is wonderful and has helped both my senior dogs so much with pain management and quality of life. We greatly appreciate her and Caring Pathways’ services.”

-Testimonial from Karen

## Our Team

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As an AAHA-accredited end-of-life practice, every member of our team receives extensive training related to hospice and palliative care, pain management, disease treatments, and comfort care techniques.

Our veterinary leadership team has decades of experience practicing exclusively end-of-life care and holds various post-doctoral certifications in animal hospice and palliative care, veterinary pain management, peaceful euthanasia, veterinary acupuncture, traditional Chinese veterinary medicine (TCVM) food therapy, and TCVM End-of-Life care.



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