At Rising Hope, we believe that every baby is a valued member of our human family and is entitled to loving, tender care until death.

We strive to provide each family with physical, emotional, and spiritual support.

We try to provide parents the tools, information, encouragement and compassionate care that allow them to be the parents they want to be.

At Rising Hope, we believe that walking this walk with you is an honor and a privilege.

For more information about Rising Hope Perinatal Hospice Program, contact Mary Peroutka at (410) 884-4709 or mperoutka@hcgh.org.

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Perinatal Hospice Program

“You matter because you are you, and you matter until the last moment of your life.”

- Dame Cicely Saunders
**Perinatal Hospice Program**

The news that an unborn baby has a condition that may result in death is devastating. Some parents do not question the course of their baby’s life and decide to parent their infant for as long as he or she lives. If you and your family have chosen to continue your pregnancy, then Rising Hope Perinatal Hospice Program may be a good option for you.

It is becoming more common to diagnose fatal conditions prior to birth, presenting the enormously difficult task of preparing to welcome a new life and saying goodbye at the same time.

Rising Hope Perinatal Hospice Program is a free service for families that offers support during pregnancy and after.

We emphasize quality of life and try to help you find comfort and meaning in whatever time you have with your baby. We want you to have an experience that meets your goals, your values, your beliefs and your desires.

**Other Important Services**

- Emotional support during the pregnancy
- Assistance for parents in creating a Plan of Care and Birth Plan to guide their hospital stay and express their wishes to caregivers regarding medical treatment
- Discussion of options and decisions that parents will face before, during and after delivery
- Resources for spiritual and religious support
- Creating memories using photography, mementos, cast impressions and clothing
- Assistance with arranging home hospice care, if desired
- Helping families who want to take their baby home
- Referrals for other services, such as therapists and funeral directors
- Helpful Internet resources and book lists
- Support groups for after the death of the baby
- Annual October “Walk to Remember” as part of National Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month

Rising Hope Perinatal Hospice Program will support you as you find your way through the difficult days and months ahead.

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**Compassionate Listening**

The most important goal of Rising Hope is to help parents understand that they are not alone and that they will not be abandoned during this difficult time. Our program gives you the opportunity to express your anger, fear and terrible sadness to someone who will truly listen and understand. Support groups put you in touch with other parents struggling with similar issues.

**Coordination of Care**

Rising Hope is a family-centered program that uses a multi-disciplinary team approach. Our perinatal experts include obstetricians, perinatologists, labor and delivery nurses, neonatologists, NICU staff, chaplains and pastors, social workers, genetic counselors, therapists and traditional hospice professionals. We provide palliative and hospice care that will help parents adjust to the reality of their infants’ mortality while honoring their desire to acknowledge every minute of his or her life.