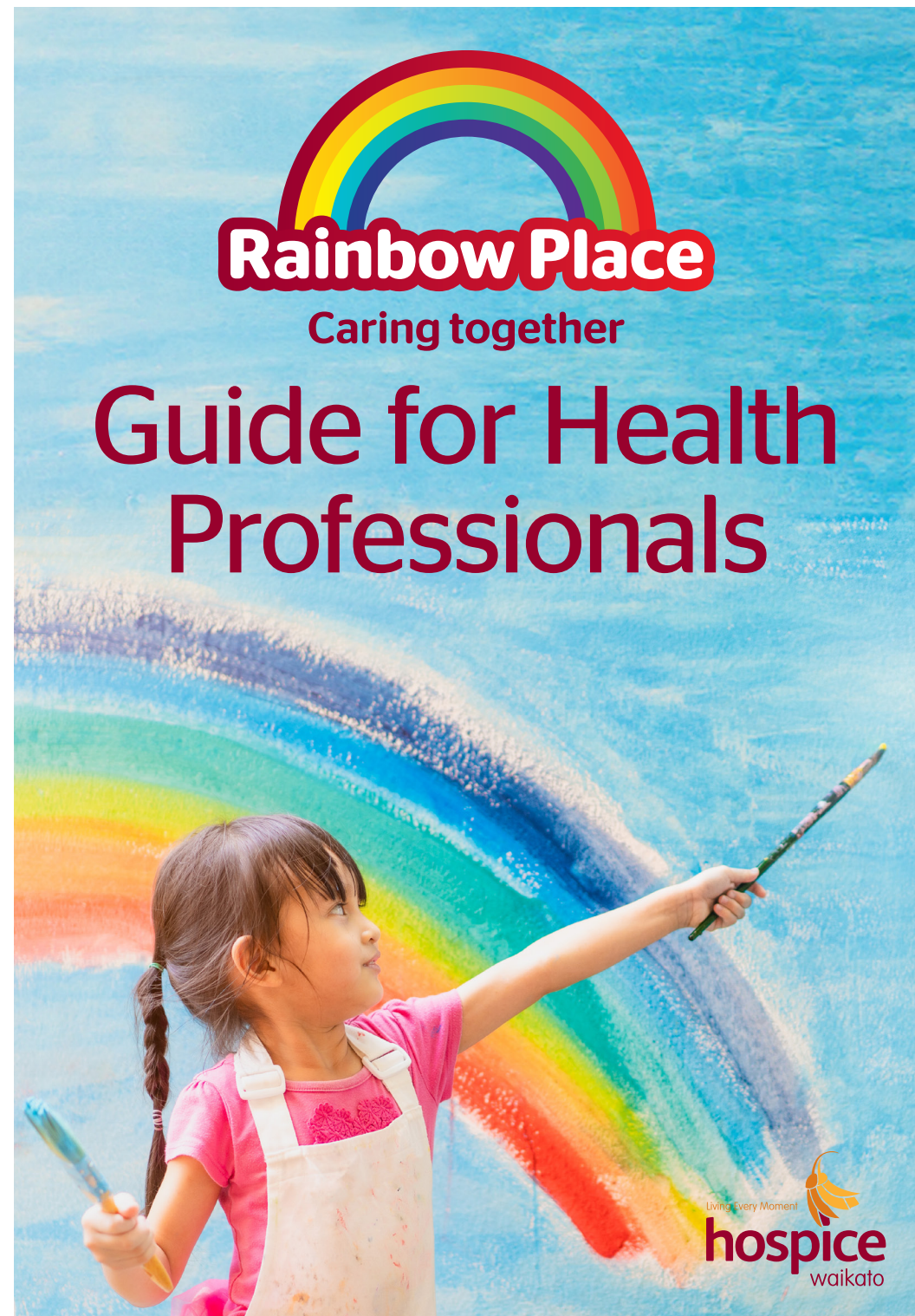






334 Cobham Drive, Hillcrest, Hamilton, 3216

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www.rainbowplace.co.nz/

If a child meets any of the criteria stated above, they can be referred to Rainbow Place through our website:

www.rainbowplace.co.nz/service/referrals

Once the referral has been received it will be triaged by the team and if accepted a Rainbow Place Clinical Nurse Specialist will set up an initial visit with the family. Sometimes we will arrange a Screening Assessment to access the child and family face to face to work out if they meet the criteria. If in any doubt refer anyway as the referral can be discussed as a team.

If you have any other questions or need advice contact one of the Rainbow Place CNS on 07 859 1260 or 0800 HOSPICE.

Referral Criteria

We prioritize babies, children and young people who are fragile and need a high level of support.

There are four categories we use which help us triage which children meet the referral criteria.

Category 1

Life threatening conditions for which curative treatment may be feasible (Examples: extreme prematurity, severe necrotizing enterocolitis, congenital heart disease, cancer, irreversible organ failures of heart, liver and kidney).

Category 2

Conditions where premature death is possible (Examples: chromosomal abnormality, severe spina bifida, bilateral multi-cystic dysplastic kidneys, bilateral renal agenesis, cystic fibrosis, Duchenne muscular dystrophy).

Category 3

Progressive conditions without curative treatment options. (Examples: Anecephaly, skeletal dysplasia, severe neuromuscular disorders, Batten disease, mucopolysaccharidoses).

Category 4

Irreversible but non-progressive conditions causing severe disability, leading to susceptibility to health complications and likelihood of premature death. (Examples: severe hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy, severe cerebral palsy, multiple disabilities such as following brain or spinal cord injury, complex health needs/high risk of an unpredictable life-threatening event or episode).

Rainbow Place Guide for Health Professionals

Hospice Services for Children & Young People

“Palliative care for children and young people is about promoting the best possible quality of life and care for those with a life-limiting or life-threatening condition, and their families.”

— World Health Organisation, 2018



Cultural Support

Rainbow Place acknowledge and are sensitive to the diverse cultural makeup of our Waikato region. Our team is experienced in supporting people from different cultures and all walks of life. We believe a good relationship is based on respect, honesty, integrity, and love.

Our commitment to Te Tiriti O Waitangi is reflected in our care for whaanau and families according to their own spirituality, cultures, and faith traditions. Te Whare Tapa Whaa provides the framework for engaging with patients and their whānau. Our team work with patients and their families/whaanau to ensure their needs are met in ways that are meaningful to them as follows - Te Taha Wairua (spiritual), Te Taha Hinengaro (emotional), Te Taha Tinana (physical) and Te Taha Whaanau (social), Whenua (connection to land/roots)

Our Kaumatua and Kaiaawhina can:

- Act as a guide to hospice services and programmes of care
- Support with tikanga and kaupapa Maaori such as karakia, pooowhiri and waiata
- Provide general support and advocacy.

We work in partnership with a range of cultural healthcare providers within our region to ensure care is provided in a culturally appropriate way for all those using our service. Additionally, we offer access to interpreters and sign language.

Siblings programs

We recognise the need to build resilience and confidence in our siblings, while making them feel special. So, we offer "Siblings Days" during the holidays, for those siblings aged 5 – 12 years. On these days, children can interact and participate in fun on-site activities. These days are always super popular!

Transition Pathways

Supporting families with adolescents 14+ for the progression from paediatric to adult services, with the introduction to shared care and other supportive agencies. Rainbow Place has developed strong connections to form a multi-disciplinary approach for their transition.

End of life care

When the time comes, we are on-hand to offer support and guidance to both families/whaanua and professionals providing their care. We can bring the hospice and our palliative expertise into the hospital or home and make end of life a collaborative experience by offering additional support and care.

Our Services

Rainbow Place services include:

Regular nurse contact

Our nursing team offer compassionate specialist nursing care which includes the management of symptoms and care co-ordination with all the various health professionals. Our nurses build relationships with each family and their family members/whānau and customize the service we provide as each child's needs vary tremendously and each journey is unique.

Respite services

We offer a two-night on-site stay in the inpatient unit and our Rainbow Days programme which is on-site day respite. This enables our families/whānau to take a mental and physical break to rest and recharge. We can also offer short term in-home respite for new families and when families/whānau are in crisis.

Recreation program

Play is a vital aspect of care for Paediatric patients regardless of the stage or extent of the illness. Every child will get a dedicated Play Care Plan which is regularly updated.

Morning Tea program

We hold fortnightly morning teas for families/whānau to meet and socialize. We often have speakers or organizations joining the tea group to discuss various topics relevant to the families/whānau.

Music

Music is something that touches us all. It can provide comfort and support through difficult times and give a voice to those feelings that words alone cannot describe. It can provide spiritual, emotional, and social support. We have found this often has a great impact on our children/ tamariki with very positive results. From time to time, we have volunteers available to help our children to experience the special qualities of music.

Counselling and support

This is provided for children, their siblings, and wider families/whānau either at Hospice Waikato or in collaboration with True Colours Children's Health Trust.

Introducing Rainbow Place

When a child or young person has a diagnosis of a life threatening or life-limiting condition, an early referral to Rainbow Place can provide families with additional support as they face the road ahead.

Rainbow Place is Hospice Waikato's paediatric hospice service and provides free, supportive, nurse-led care for children and young people aged between birth and 21 years of age with chronic advanced or incurable conditions. We are one of the only paediatric hospice services in New Zealand to offer child-focused care for children living with these conditions.

Common misconceptions:

- "Isn't palliative care for dying people?"
- "It sounds scary, and I don't know enough about it."
- "We aren't ready for hospice yet; we don't need their service."
- "It must be a really sad place."

These are some of the most common misconceptions we encounter and the most difficult to change. There are sad moments, and we are here for end-of life care if it is needed. However, most of the time it is about providing care and support in whatever form our families/whānau need. Our team often journeys alongside our children and families/whānau over many years. Our focus is to be a constant reassuring presence throughout their time with us, offering guidance, advocacy, and support.



6

Working in the children's palliative care space, we are committed to raising awareness of the need to ensure that people understand the important differences between Paediatric Palliative and Adult Palliative Care. Many of us would consider 'Palliative Care' to reflect the time when a person is reaching the end of their life. But when it comes to children, entering palliative care does not always mean end-of-life is imminent, but that the child has a condition for which there is no reasonable hope of cure and the journey toward end-of-life is being acknowledged.

Adult Palliative Care is usually provided when prognosis is less than six months and the focus is on mitigating suffering, quality of life and quality of death.

7

Paediatric Palliative Care has a strong focus on quality of life for children and young people and is generally delivered over a longer time frame- children can remain under a specialist palliative team for months and sometimes several years. Paediatric Palliative supports more than just a child's medical wellbeing. It is holistic, meaning it embraces their physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs. It also involves providing support for the entire family/whaanau rather than being focused on the patient, to promote best possible quality of life.

Health professionals in paediatric palliative care spend considerable time getting to know each family individually and ensuring their preferences and needs are well understood and respected. Giving them the choice on when and how we support them, by making them the centre of the care we provide.

At Rainbow Place, we aim to create an experience of belonging, connection, and resource for our families/whaanau.