



## **MEGA WISH Bank as of July 24, 2014**

### **BRINGING TOGETHER FAMILY/FRIENDS**

Facilitating Connections to Bring Family/Friends Together

- Helping to get loved ones to the ICU who would otherwise be unable to visit
- Facilitating long distance phone calls with loved ones
- Facilitating Skype video calls with loved ones
- Locating lost family members and facilitating communication/visits with them
- Helping a loved one to lie in bed with the patient during the final hours or offering family a bed to sleep in the patient's room
- For family to have an opportunity to talk with the patient (or the patient to talk with the family)

Bringing Family/Friends Together through the Provision of Food

- Bringing coffee and snacks to the quiet room for the family
- Hosting a tea party for the family at the patient's bedside
- Bringing in a birthday/celebratory cake for the patient and family
- Clearing the staff conference room, bringing in dinner for the family to share
- Giving the family a gift certificate for them to go out together for a meal

### **HUMANIZING THE ENVIRONMENT**

Humanizing the Environment in the ICU

- Allowing flowers in the patient's room
- Buying flowers for the patient's room
- Bringing in chocolates for the patient/family
- Facilitating the presence of candles for the patient's room
- Calling the patient by a specific preferred/familiar name
- Playing music, television stations, or audio books that have meaning for the patient and/or family
- Bringing a beloved pet into the ICU for a visit
- Providing a symbolic last supper or final toast
- Placing treasured photos of the patient and/or family in the patient's room
- Encouraging the family to bring in or create a photo collage or photo album
- Enabling a spa treatment for the patient (i.e. hairdo/haircut, manicure, shave by ICU team or a professional)
- Movie night for the patient and/or family
- Facilitating the patient's participation in a favourite activity (knitting, drawing)
- Providing a coffee maker for the family in a quiet room
- Allowing the patient to have a pillow from home

## Humanizing the Environment outside the ICU

- Allowing medical staff to take the patient outside to enjoy fresh air and sunshine
- Allowing the patient to have a visit at home with the family (if medically feasible)
- Facilitating arrangements for the patient to die at home (if medically feasible)

## **RELIGIOUS RITUALS/CEREMONIES**

### Religious Rituals/Ceremonies in the ICU

- Facilitating last rites by priest
- Timing the withdrawal of life support around holy times/religious holidays
- Honouring family's request for family members to read scriptures and chant at the bedside
- Facilitating the reading of prayers, sacrament of the sick, blessing, and/or anointment by a chaplain
- Facilitating family or friends to say a few words to a religious leader on behalf of the patient

### Religious/Spiritual Ceremonies and Rituals outside of the ICU

- Expediting transfer of the body to an Islamic mosque after dusk
- Facilitating a natural Native Canadian Spiritual Ceremony at patient's bedside

## **OTHER CEREMONIES AND EXPERIENCES**

### Facilitating Meaningful Ceremonies for the Patient/Family

- Providing a birthday or holiday celebration for patient and/or family
- Facilitating specific family traditions
- Facilitating the renewal of patient's marriage vows
- Facilitating wedding of family member at the patient's bedside
- Facilitating wedding of patient to fiancé
- Working with the family to overcome differences about patient's burial location
- Facilitating the spreading of the patient's ashes in a meaningful location

### Providing Other Experiences for the Patient/Family

- Providing resources for the patient to write or update a will at bedside
- Helping to finish unfinished business by a visit or phone call with a disconnected family/friend
- Working with the family to create a Word Cloud
- Providing or facilitating bereavement counseling for spouse/family

## **MEMORIALS AND TRIBUTES**

### Memorials and Tributes for the Patient or on Their Behalf

- Creating a Word Cloud in honour of the patient
- Planting or having a tree planted in honour of the patient
- Holding a breakfast tribute to the patient with the ICU staff and family
- Obtaining a personal religious icon from bedside (as a memoir for family)
- Assisting the patient or family member with writing a letter or recording a video for a loved one
- Holding a toast on behalf of the patient
- Sharing a story about the patient or celebrating them (at patient or family's request) in the media
- Facilitating donation of patient's organs
- Donating blood in memory of the patient
- Making financial donations in memory of the patient
  - A local Conservation Area
  - All Saints of North America
  - McMaster Volunteer Association
  - Covenant House
  - St. Vincent de Paul
  - Trillium Garden
  - Soccer Club
  - Patient's child's education fund

### Paying it Forward in Memory of the Patient

- Assisting a patient's family member to become a hospital volunteer
- Assisting staff to personally inform the family/friends about the patient's death
- Assisting family with finding a home for the patient's pet
- Assisting family to sell patient's wheelchair or other device
- Taking flowers to a family's home
- Sending flowers to a patient's funeral
- Accepting donations in memory of the patient
  - Financial donations made by family/friends to the 3Wishes Program
  - "Happy pill" doll donated by family to attending physician

## **OTHER WISHES**

- Withdrawal of life support immediately to honour patient's do-no-resuscitate directive
- For clinician to continue to make a personal difference in patient's lives
- For the patient to wakeup
- Creation of a brochure or list of potential wishes for the family to look through