

CompassionNet - Caring for Children and Families

A Holistic Approach to the Family's Quality of Life

Reaching beyond the traditional medical model of care, CompassionNet focuses on improving services and support for children with life-threatening illnesses.

This unique program assists seriously ill children to live as normally as possible, concentrating on alleviating their suffering and keeping them at home during the course of their disease. Case managers also provide families/guardians of these children access to resources that sustain effective coping and positive family dynamics.

CompassionNet case managers address a family's specific concerns and needs in the same way medical teams treat a child's particular disease/condition. The program partners with community-based organizations to identify needs that can be met in the home/community and to arrange or purchase services, many provided by volunteers or donated.

Introduced by Excellus BlueCross BlueShield-Rochester Region, CompassionNet has already expanded into the Syracuse, Utica, and Southern Tier regions. The program is also offered by Univera Healthcare in the Buffalo region. Enhancing Existing Health Care

CompassionNet does not supercede health insurance coverage. Rather, it enhances covered medical care with social and support services and items that improve the child's and family's quality of life. We provide services throughout the course of an illness, regardless of outcome. Families who accept palliative or "supportive" services are not expected to give up curative or life-prolonging treatments for their children.