

When there's a serious illness in the family, kids need:

- Accurate information about the illness, presented in concrete language that the child can understand.
- An understanding of the cause of the disease (if known) and how the disease is spread, or not spread.
- Assurance that nothing they did, said or wished, caused the disease or can make it better or worse.
- An understanding of the patient's prognosis.
- Permission to ask questions and express feelings.
- Permission to continue to be a child.
- Validation of their feelings.

Additional resources for families facing a severe illness:

Cancer Family Care offers emotional support for people coping with cancer illness and loss

**2421 Auburn Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45219
(513) 731-3346**

**Hospice of Cincinnati
4310 Cooper Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45242
(513) 891-7700**

**Hospice of the Bluegrass – Northern Kentucky
7388 Turfway Road
Florence, KY 41042
(859) 441-6332
(800) 200-5408**