

NORTH FLORIDA HOSPITAL SUPPORT PROGRAM

The Notre Dame Club of North Florida is participating in a national combined Alumni Association and the Notre Dame Senior Alumni Board initiative to assist members of the Notre Dame family. In April 2008 Notre Dame will have a toll free telephone number which will be available 24 /7, 365 days per year. The assistance provided by local clubs like ours is to help the caregiver / family.

Here is how the program works:

The program has two distinct parts – Emergency Room Care, and Pre – Planned Care. An example of Emergency Room Care would be a Notre Dame student traveling through Jacksonville is involved in an auto accident or has a medical emergency. The Hospital calls the parents, in Ohio, who call the toll free number and are connected to our club contact. Our role would be to visit the emergency room and be a local presence until the parents arrive. Pre-Planned care is like specific long term treatments or a transplant scheduled at a local hospital. The member of the Notre Dame family knows exactly when and an idea of how they will be in the Jacksonville area. Our role would be to assist the family with local information (restaurants, stores, providing the caregiver some free time if necessary, etc.).

What the assistance will not provide: medical advice, administering medications, financial assistance, transporting ill patients, involvement in insurance or administrative problems, and staying in intensive care.

How can you help? We need as many volunteers as possible to cover all the potential hospitals in our area. We may get some calls, a few calls, and perhaps no calls, but we need to be ready if we do. Can you help?? If you have ever had a medical situation away from home, you can realize the value of having the access to local knowledge from another Notre Dame person.

Our contact person is Paul Scagliarini '60. Please call or email Paul at 904-880-0333 or goirish60@comcast.net.