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November Is National Hospice and Palliative Care Month

(GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA) – November is National Hospice and Palliative Care Month and hospices across the country are reaching out to raise awareness about important end-of-life care issues for people coping with a life-limiting illness. Every year, more than 1.65 million people living with a life-limiting illness receive care from hospice and palliative care providers in this country. Not only do these highly-trained professionals provide quality medical care, they also work to make sure patients and families find dignity, respect and love during life’s most difficult journey.

“Hospice is well known for providing expert pain and symptom management,” said Pat Soenksen, president and CEO. “Our care is compassionate and coordinated, though not focused on curing a disease. Hospice and palliative care programs combine the highest level of quality medical care with the emotional and psychosocial support that families need most.”

Although a cure may no longer be the patient’s goal, Hospice and Palliative Care of Greensboro’s (HPCG) interdisciplinary team still works to provide healing for the mind and spirit, while offering meaningful support, guidance and resources to patients and their families. Essential to the hospice philosophy is actively listening to the patient’s beliefs and wishes and then honoring and incorporating those personal goals into an individualized care plan. Hospice reaffirms the essential dignity of every person, regardless of age, health or social status. We believe every human life deserves to be treated with the utmost respect and care.

“Hospice allows people to spend their final months surrounded by family and loved ones at home, wherever home may be,” said Soenksen. “Eighty-five percent of HPCG’s patients are admitted to care while residing in their home, long-term care or assisted living facilities, while 15 percent are admitted to our very own hospice home – Beacon Place.”

HPCG, a nonprofit organization serving Guilford County and surrounding areas for more than 33 years, is situated on an eight-acre campus at 2500 Summit Avenue. HPCG provides physical, emotional and spiritual support for children and adults faced with a life-limiting illness, as well as their caregivers and families. For more information, contact HPCG at 336.621.2500 or www.hospicegso.org.

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