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NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Unity Provides Family Grief Support through New Program

Green Bay, Wis. – January 5, 2009 – Unity, leaders in hospice and palliative care, today announced its new monthly program, *Generations—Hope for Grieving Families*, designed to support grieving families with children and teens ages 6 - 18.

Open to the public, *Generations—Hope for Grieving Families*, provides a chance for families to join in activities and discussions designed to encourage individual members to better understand the effects of grief and express their feelings in a safe environment. Facilitated by Unity's professional bereavement counselors and trained volunteers, monthly sessions include complimentary dinner, followed by separate groups held concurrently for parents or guardians, teens and children. The program is held on the third Thursday of each month, from 5:30 to 7:30pm at Unity's De Pere office. The first program will be held on Thursday, January 15th and is open, free of charge, to individuals residing in Unity's 12-county service area: Brown, Calumet, Door, Forest, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Marinette, Menominee, Oconto, Outagamie, Shawano and Waupaca counties. Registration is required by calling Unity at 920-338-1111 or 800-990-9249. Additional information about the program, as well as a full listing of 2009 dates, can be found at www.unityhospice.org.

"We have long been offering bereavement care to families and friends of loved ones on Unity's hospice and palliative programs, as well as the general community, through individual and age-specific grief support programs. *Generations—Hope for Grieving Families* enables us to provide support to the entire family in one place while also acknowledging that young children and teens may experience grief differently than their parents or guardians," comments Lisa De Sieno, Unity's



Director of Outreach. “Children are often exposed to loss of life many times before they become adults. We are here to see them and their parents or guardians through this difficult transition.”

About Unity

Unity, a not-for-profit leader in hospice and palliative care, is a partnership of Green Bay’s three not-for-profit hospitals – Bellin Health, St. Mary’s Hospital Medical Center and St. Vincent Hospital. Unity is a continuation of the former Bellin Hospice program founded in 1977. Unity provides community-based hospice and palliative care, residential hospice care and grief support in twelve counties in Northeast Wisconsin. Unity is a member of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO).

Unity is based in the Green Bay area with offices in Marinette, Shawano and Sturgeon Bay. For more information call (920) 338-1111 or visit www.unityhospice.org.

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