



LEADERS IN HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE CARE
A caring not-for-profit partnership of Bellin Health, St. Mary's and St. Vincent Hospitals

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Unity's Medical Director Elected to Wisconsin Cancer Council
Steering Committee**

Green Bay, Wis. – January 31, 2007 – Unity, a not-for-profit leader in hospice and palliative care, today announced the election of Dr. Rance Hafner to the position of chair-elect for the Wisconsin Cancer Council Steering Committee. Hafner, Unity's Medical Director, began working with the Wisconsin Cancer Council in 2003 to increase understanding of and access to palliative care services. Palliative care is a specialty that focuses on the relief of suffering and the improvement in quality of life across the spectrum of an illness.

Promoting palliative care is one of six major goals of the Council which include: cancer prevention, screening and detection, treatment, quality of life, and data collection and reporting. In his role as chair-elect Hafner assists in providing leadership and oversight of the Wisconsin Cancer Council and implementation of the State Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan.

The Wisconsin Cancer Council is comprised of health professionals, cancer survivors, and cancer control advocates from regional and statewide organizations and institutions*. The council's mission is to develop and coordinate a comprehensive cancer control program in Wisconsin.

Hafner is certified as a palliative care physician from the American Board of Hospice and Palliative Medicine (ABHPM), a member of the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), the American Medical Association (AMA), the Medical Society of Wisconsin, and the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine (AAHPM).

*Wisconsin Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan 2005-2010



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About Unity

Unity, a not-for-profit leader in hospice and palliative care, was established through the creation of 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 hospice, palliative 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 Green Bay, Wisconsin, with offices in Marinette, Shawano and Sturgeon Bay. For more information call (920) 494-0225 or visit www.unityhospice.org.

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