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**NEWS**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Unity Provided Nearly \$1.4 Million in Charity Care in 2010**  
**Annual Report Available Online**

**Green Bay, Wis. – May 2, 2011** – Unity, leaders in hospice and palliative care, today announced it has issued its annual report to the community, disclosing 2010 program activity statistics and charity care expenses accrued in providing palliative, hospice and bereavement care throughout Northeast Wisconsin.

In 2010, nearly \$1.4 million in charity care was provided in the care of individuals using Unity's services. The reimbursement structure for the Medicare hospice benefit does not cover the full cost of care: labor, supplies, medication and bereavement services for loved ones. Unity further supports the community through its palliative care program, room and board assistance at its hospice residence, and bereavement care for the general public, all of which are not reimbursed by Medicare.

Unity cared for 2,245 patients through hospice and palliative services and an additional 6,556 people through bereavement care in 2010. Two-thirds of the patients served were cared for at home, while almost one-third were cared for at nursing homes and assisted living facilities in Unity's 12-county service area. Unity's hospice residence, the Jack and Engrid Meng Residence, was home to 143 patients. The total number of people served is a 13% increase over 2009. As the baby boomer generation ages, we anticipate Unity's patient census continuing to increase, as will the coinciding need for charity care.

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“Our patient census and the charity care we provided increased in 2010,” states Nicole Curran, Unity Executive Director. “Serving patients and their loved ones during such an important time in their life is an honor entrusted to our employees and volunteers. We anticipate an increased patient census in 2011 and ask the community to continue to support the patients in our care through their generous gifts.”

To view a copy of Unity’s 2010 annual report, including a listing of people honored or memorialized with a donation, or to contribute to Unity’s 2011 appeal, visit [www.unityhospice.org](http://www.unityhospice.org) or call Unity at 800-990-9249.

### **About Unity**

Unity is a not-for-profit provider of community-based hospice and palliative care, residential hospice care and grief support in 12 counties in Northeast Wisconsin. Unity is a member of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO) and the Hospice Organization and Palliative Experts (HOPE) of Wisconsin. Unity 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 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](http://www.unityhospice.org).

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