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NEWS
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Unity Executive Director Appointed to National and State Hospice Organizations

Green Bay, Wis. – August 11, 2009 – Unity, leaders in hospice and palliative care, today announced the appointment of its executive director, Nicole Curran, to the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization’s (NHPCO) Governance Committee and to the position of president-elect for the Hospice Organization and Palliative Experts (HOPE) of Wisconsin.

The NHPCO’s Governance Committee is charged with conducting and overseeing the recruitment, selection and evaluation of board nominees. Committee members are selected by invitation only, unlike the organization’s other national committees which select the membership by election. Curran is one of two representatives from the Midwest to serve on the Governance Committee. Her two-year term runs through 2010.

The HOPE of Wisconsin board is comprised of employees who represent the organization’s hospice provider members. This is Curran’s third term on the board, having served two three-year terms prior to her appointment to president-elect. She will assume the president position in January 2010.

Nicole Curran first joined Unity in 1993 and served as Director of Finance. Since 1998 she has held the position of Executive Director, overseeing operations of the organization’s hospice, palliative and bereavement programs throughout its twelve-county Northeast Wisconsin service area.

Curran holds a bachelors degree in accounting and business and a masters of business administration, and is also a licensed CPA. She resides in Green Bay with her husband, Patrick. They have two children and four grandchildren.



About the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization

The National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO), founded in 1978, is the largest nonprofit membership organization representing hospice and palliative care programs and professionals in the United States. The organization is committed to improving end-of-life care and expanding access to hospice care with the goal of profoundly enhancing quality of life for people dying in America and their loved ones. With headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia, the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization advocates for the terminally ill and their families. It also develops public and professional educational programs and materials to enhance understanding and availability of hospice and palliative care; convenes frequent meetings and symposia on emerging issues; provides technical informational resources to its membership; conducts research; monitors Congressional and regulatory activities; and works closely with other organizations that share an interest in end-of-life care. For more information, visit www.nhpc.org.

About the Hospice Organization and Palliative Experts (HOPE) of Wisconsin

HOPE of Wisconsin is the membership organization representing the licensed hospices in Wisconsin. As a 501(c)(3) organization, HOPE of Wisconsin provides education, legislative influence and partnership opportunities to all individuals and organizations in the state of Wisconsin who influence quality end-of-life decisions and care to strengthen the provision of hospice and palliative care. For more information, visit www.wisconsinhospice.org.

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 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) and the Hospice Organization and Palliative Experts (HOPE) of Wisconsin.

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.