

Media Contact:
Laura Jarosz
Director of Development
Unity
(920) 338-1111
ljarosz@unityhospice.org

**NEWS
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

LIVING WITH GRIEF®: DIVERSITY AND END-OF-LIFE CARE

Unity to Host Hospice Foundation of America's 16th Annual Teleconference

Green Bay, Wis. – April 13, 2009 – Unity, leaders in hospice and palliative care, announces their hosting of a teleconference that will examine how diversity influences end-of-life decision making and the impact that culture has at the time of death and during bereavement. The teleconference will broadcast Wednesday, April 29, 2009, from 12:30pm to 3:00pm at the F.K. Bemis Center at St. Norbert College, De Pere, Wisconsin. Open to the general public, the teleconference is geared to a wide variety of professionals – including doctors, nurses, funeral directors, psychologists, educators, social workers and bereavement counselors – and enables them to share and exchange ideas and obtain continuing education credits. There is no charge for attending the teleconference. Advanced registration is required by calling Unity at 920-338-1111. Nicole Priestaf Selner, Unity's Assistant Director of Outreach, is available for more information.

Each year the Hospice Foundation of America (HFA) presents a nationally recognized distance learning program, live via satellite and webcast, to more than 125,000 people in 2,000 communities. For more than a decade, this annual educational program has been instrumental in educating health care professionals and families on issues affecting end-of-life care.

This year's 16th Annual National Bereavement Teleconference on "Diversity and End-of-Life Care" will help professionals acknowledge how their own cultural values and assumptions influence the delivery of care. The program will also discuss the challenges that may occur when cultural considerations cause ethical concerns or moral distress. Moderated by Frank Sesno, Professor of Media and Public Affairs at The George Washington University and Special Correspondent with



CNN, the program will include a panel of noted authorities, including: **Samira K. Beckwith**, President and CEO of Hope Hospice and Community Services; **Sandy Chen Stokes**, Executive Director, Chinese American Coalition for Compassionate Care; **Kenneth J. Doka**, Professor of Gerontology, Graduate School of the College of New Rochelle; **Wanda H. Jenkins**, Bereavement Services Manager, Vitas; **Richard Payne**, Director, Institute on Care at the End of Life, Duke University; **Paul Rosenblatt**, Professor, College of Education & Human Development, University of Minnesota; and **Carlos Sandoval-Cros**, Rev., St. Simon's Episcopal Church, and psychiatrist, private practice.

The teleconference is produced by Hospice Foundation of America, a not-for-profit organization, which acts as an advocate for the hospice concept of care through ongoing programs of professional education, public information and research on issues relating to illness, loss, grief and bereavement.

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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