

**Media Contact:**

Laura Jarosz  
Director of Development  
Unity  
(920) 338-1111  
[ljarosz@unityhospice.org](mailto:ljarosz@unityhospice.org)

**NEWS  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Unity Nursing Staff Members Achieve Hospice and Palliative Care  
National Certification**

**Green Bay, Wis. – October 21, 2009** – Unity, leaders in hospice and palliative care, today announced five additional members of its nursing staff achieved national certification, and three members received recertification, in hospice and palliative care from the National Board for Certification of Hospice and Palliative Nurses.

Promoting professional development is a core value at Unity. Nursing staff become eligible to sit for the certification exam after completing 2,000 hours or having an equivalent of two years experience in the fields of hospice and palliative care. Staff members are certified for a period of four years and obtain recertification through the testing process. Certification in hospice and palliative care indicates expertise in end-of-life care and for Unity ensures quality and consistency of care for its patients.

Unity recognizes the growing demand within the communities it serves for quality, end-of-life care services provided by skilled professionals and takes pride in these members of its nursing staff and the large body of certified staff they join:

- Lisa Hanneman and Kelly Palmer, licensed practical nurses, achieved recognition as Certified Hospice and Palliative Licensed Nurses (CHPLN®).
  - Hanneman (Gillett) provides care to patients in Shawano, western Brown and northern Outagamie counties, and processes referral phone calls in the De Pere office.
  - Palmer (Green Bay) is a Medical Records Nurse for the team covering Door, Kewaunee, eastern Brown and northern Calumet counties.



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

- Unity registered nurses Sharon Bodart, Maribeth Braspennickx, June Henjum, Michelle Krueger, Midge Pelch and Melody Sims-Ohnesorge achieved recognition as Certified Hospice and Palliative Nurses (CHPN®). Braspennickx, Henjum and Pelch earned recertification through the testing process.
  - Bodart (Green Bay) works with patients and families in Green Bay and De Pere.
  - Braspennickx (Howard) is Director of Patient Services, overseeing staff in Marinette, Forest, northern Oconto and western Brown counties.
  - Henjum (De Pere) provides patient care in Shawano, western Brown and northern Outagamie counties.
  - Krueger (Green Bay) oversees Unity's patients at Bellin Hospital in Green Bay.
  - Pelch (Green Bay) serves as Director of Clinical Education for all of Unity's staff.
  - Sims-Ohnesorge (Green Bay) cares for patients in the southeastern part of Unity's service region, covering Denmark and Wayside to the lakeshore of Manitowoc County.

### **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](http://www.unityhospice.org).

###