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**NEWS  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**UNITY RECOGNIZES  
NATIONAL HEALTHCARE DECISIONS DAY, APRIL 16TH**

**Green Bay, Wis. – April 6, 2010** – Unity, leaders in hospice and palliative care, today announced that, along with other national, state and community organizations, it is leading an effort to highlight the importance of advance healthcare decision-making—an effort that has culminated in the formal designation of April 16, 2010, as National Healthcare Decisions Day (NHDD).

As a participating organization, Unity is providing information and tools for the public to talk about their wishes with family, friends and healthcare providers, and execute written advance directives (healthcare power of attorney and living will) in accordance with Wisconsin state laws. These resources are available at Unity's website [www.unityhospice.org](http://www.unityhospice.org) under the "Resources" section.

"As a result of National Healthcare Decisions Day, many more people in our community can be expected to have thoughtful conversations about their healthcare decisions and complete reliable advance directives to make their wishes known," said Nicole Curran, Unity's Executive Director. "Fewer families and healthcare providers will have to struggle with making difficult healthcare decisions in the absence of guidance from the patient. Healthcare providers and facilities will be better equipped to address advance healthcare planning issues before a crisis and be better able to honor patient wishes when the time comes to do so."

For more information about National Healthcare Decisions Day, please visit [www.nationalhealthcaredecisionsday.org](http://www.nationalhealthcaredecisionsday.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](http://www.unityhospice.org).

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