

UNITY PROCLAMATION

National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization Board of Directors Resolution

One Voice Serving All Patients and Families

WHEREAS, hospice and palliative care providers across this great nation are unified by a common mission to provide the highest quality end-of-life care and support to patients and families facing serious and life-limiting illness;

WHEREAS, our strong commitment to that mission and the people we serve transcends all differences in how we are structured, the size of our organizations, the programs we offer, and where we provide care;

WHEREAS, we reaffirm our collective belief in the essential dignity of every person, regardless of age, health, or social status, and our commitment to serving patients and families wherever they are with the utmost respect and care;

WHEREAS, all providers as well as the many professionals, supporters and more than 400,000 volunteers that are at the heart of each organization, will neither let our differences stand in the way of the provision of quality care nor allow disagreements to erode the philosophy of care that has been the hallmark of hospice and palliative care for more than three decades;

WHEREAS, we acknowledge that our maturing field will evolve in different ways in different regions of the country and that we will not allow challenges brought forth by such changes to compromise our strength as a united community;

WHEREAS, last year, more than 1.4 million Americans living with life-limiting illness received care from hospice and palliative care programs in communities throughout the United States and the people we serve look to us to provide comfort, compassion and care;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Board of Directors of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization, by virtue of the authority accorded this governing body, do hereby publicly proclaim NHPCO 's commitment to preserving the unity of the hospice and palliative care community and emphasize NHPCO's mission as a leadership organization providing services and expertise to all providers who share our vision of quality, thereby ensuring that all those in need of care and support will be assured of the best that humankind can offer.

Approved this 21 day of October, 2008.

Board of Directors
National Hospice and Palliative Care
Organization