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**HOSPICE OF THE VALLEY HOSTS *LIVE-VIA SATELLITE TELECONFERENCE*
*LIVING WITH GRIEF: BEFORE AND AFTER THE DEATH***

*Program will explore the most current theoretical perspectives on loss and grief
as experienced by persons throughout a life-limiting illness and by survivors after the death*

February 12, 2007 – San Jose CA – Hospice of the Valley will host Hospice Foundation of America's 14th annual teleconference, *live-via satellite*, "***Living With Grief: Before and After the Death***" on Thursday, March 22, 2007 from 10:00am – 2:00pm at the Clarion Hotel in San Jose.

Frank Sesno, an Emmy-award winning journalist and special correspondent with CNN, will moderate the *live-televised* program which features a nationally recognized, multidisciplinary panel of experts who will explore the most current theoretical perspectives on loss and grief as experienced by persons throughout a life-limiting illness and by survivors after the death. Immediately following the satellite broadcast, a local community panel of experts will convene to provide a local perspective.

"This teleconference is ideal for health care professionals who address individual grief and loss in a variety of settings. The panel will explore current research and perspectives on topics such as anticipatory mourning, cultural differences in grief expression, and approaches to grief therapy," said Sally Adelus, executive director of Hospice of the Valley. "The program will offer constructive and invaluable advice to those who are seeking to improve the societal approach to grief and loss at the end of life, before and after the death."

"At the conclusion of the broadcast, attendees will have an opportunity to listen and pose questions to our community panel of experts who will offer insights and practical advice," added Adelus.

National Panel

Moderator: Frank Sesno, *Special Correspondent with CNN*

Panel: Scott W. Bradley, *MSW, CT, CFSP*

Kenneth J. Doka, *PhD, MDiv*

Lorraine Hedtke, *MSW, ACSW, LCSW*

Patricia Murphy, *PhD, APN, FAAN*

Robert A Neimeyer, *PhD*

Robert Washington, *PhD, MDiv*

Local Community Panel

Moderator: Bridget Flynn, *IMFT, ATR*, Director of Bereavement Operations, Hospice of the Valley

Panel: Dale G. Larsen, *PhD*, Professor, Department of Counseling Psychology, Santa Clara University

Revd. Fr. Basil G. Royston, *DMin*, Director of Chaplain Services, O'Connor Hospital

Jim Bronson, *MS, MBA (OD)*, Director of Kara Institute, Kara

Susan Weisberg, *LCSW*, Medical Social Worker, Hospice of the Valley

General admission is \$20.00 per person which includes the program, lunch and local panel discussion. For an additional fee, three Continuing Education credits (3 CEU's) are available for health care providers and professionals through Hospice Foundation of America. RSVP to Hospice of the Valley at (408) 559-5600 and for teleconference info, visit www.hospicevalley.org

Sponsors for the local event include Dignity Memorial Providers: Oak Hill Funeral Home & Memorial Park, Lima Family mortuaries of San Jose, Santa Clara, Sunnyvale, Milpitas and Fremont; satellite, A/V services provided by Westsat Communications of Pleasanton.

News media are encouraged to attend—contact Jeanne Wun, local site coordinator for Hospice of the Valley at (408) 489-6787 (cellular) or jwun@hospicevalley.org

For information about Dignity Memorial, visit www.dignitymemorial.com

For information about Westsat Communications, visit www.westsat.com

For information on Hospice Foundation of America, visit www.hospicefoundation.org

About Hospice of the Valley

Hospice of the Valley (HOV), the oldest community-based hospice in Santa Clara County, has provided compassionate end-of-life care and bereavement support to over 23,000 people since 1979. Affirming life and embracing comfort, dignity and quality of life, HOV provides the patient and family an interdisciplinary team approach to end-of-life care, which includes medical, social, psychological, spiritual, volunteer and bereavement support. HOV's Community Grief Center provides individual and group grief support and is available to anyone experiencing a loss. A Children's Grief Counseling program specializes in age-appropriate counseling for children and teenagers from ages 4 through 18. *Transitions*, a volunteer-based community service program designed to enhance the quality of life for individuals and their families facing life-limiting illness, provides clients with emotional support, education and practical assistance, is sponsored by Hospice of the Valley and funded by community grants and donations. HOV is a member of the California Hospice and Palliative Care Association and the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization and is a United Way agency. Call Hospice of the Valley at (408) 559-5600 and, for *Transitions*, call (408) 559-5610 or visit www.hospicevalley.org

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FACT SHEET

- WHO** Hospice of the Valley locally hosts Hospice Foundation of America's 14th annual teleconference.
- WHAT** "*Living With Grief: Before and After the Death*" Teleconference: Hospice of the Valley locally hosts Hospice Foundation of America's annual *live*-via satellite educational program moderated by Frank Sesno, Emmy-award winning journalist and special correspondent with CNN, which features a nationally recognized, multidisciplinary panel of experts.
- Local community panel discussion immediately follows the *live* broadcast.
- WHERE** Clarion Hotel San Jose, 1355 N. Fourth Street, San Jose CA 95112
- WHEN** 10:00am – 2:00pm – Thursday, March 22, 2007
- WHY** Provides an educational forum in which a multidisciplinary panel of experts will explore current research and perspectives on topics such as anticipatory mourning, cultural differences in grief expression, and approaches to grief therapy. The program will offer constructive and invaluable advice to those who are seeking to improve the societal approach to grief and loss at the end of life, before and after the death.
- HOW** General admission is \$20.00 per person which includes program, lunch and local panel discussion. Three Continuing Education credits (3 CEU's) are available for health care providers and professionals for an additional fee through Hospice Foundation of America. RSVP to Hospice of the Valley (408) 559.5600 or visit www.hospicevalley.org

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