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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Ninth Annual Compassion in Action Conference to be held on Thursday, March 24, 2016  
*Experts Address Palliative and End of Life Care***

SAN JOSE, Calif., March 2, 2016 – Internationally known palliative, hospice and counseling experts will address the human side of palliative and end-of-life care at the ninth annual Compassion in Action Conference, “*Special Challenges at the End of Life*,” from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 24, 2016 at the Santa Clara University Music and Dance Building, corner of Franklin St. and Lafayette St.

The conference is presented by Hospice of the Valley and the Santa Clara University School of Education and Counseling Psychology. Speakers and topics include:

- **Barbara M. Sourkes, Ph.D.**, Professor of Pediatrics Stanford University School of Medicine - *Food, Toys and Love: An Introduction to Pediatric Palliative Care*
- **Dale G. Larson, Ph.D.**, Professor, Department of Counseling Psychology - *The Human Dimension in Health Care, Challenges of Person-Centered End-Of-Life-Care*
- **Ron Culberson, MSW, CSP, CPAE**, Speaker, Author, Humorist - *Do it Well. Make it Fun*
- **Deborah Grassman, ARNP, CEO** Opus Peace - *Peace at Last: Stories of Hope and Healing for Veterans and Their Families*
- **Dr. Jim McGregor, MD, BSc, DABFP, CAQ** Hospice and Palliative Medicine, HMDC, Senior Medical Director Sutter Care At Home - *Can Anyone Hear Me?*

“Hospice of the Valley is proud to present the most innovative ideas from the nation’s preeminent thought leaders in palliative and end-of-life care at our ninth annual Compassion in Action Conference,” said Jim Ptak, Hospice of the Valley administrator. “The human side of end-of-life care is vital for all caregivers to understand. This year’s conference promises to be inspiring for all who attend.”

## **Registration**

Registration includes breakfast and lunch, along with six continuing education credits. The cost is \$150 per person, or a four-person group discount of \$675. To register, please visit <http://www.suttercareathome.org/giving/compassion-in-action-2016.html>.

For more information, call Leah White, Sutter Care at Home Fund Development Coordinator, at 925-363-4145 or email [whitel@sutterhealth.org](mailto:whitel@sutterhealth.org).

## **Continuing Education Credits**

Sutter Care at Home is an approved Continuing Education Provider by the Board of Registered Nursing (CEP# 1150) to provide six contact hours for nurses, and maintains responsibility for this program and its content. CEU's offered for RN, LVN, OT, SLP, and PT.

## **About Hospice of the Valley**

On September 1, 2015, Hospice of the Valley (HOV) and Sutter Care at Home (SCAH) joined forces to continue a legacy of high-quality programs and services dedicated to those with serious illness or needing end-of life care. This collaboration enhances Hospice of the Valley's ability to continue to provide high-caliber hospice care in the greater Santa Clara County community. Hospice of the Valley honors all cultures, beliefs, values and traditions and is committed to serving its diverse community and providing equitable access to care for all, regardless of financial ability. For more information, call 408-559-5600 or visit <https://hospicevalley.org>.

## **About Santa Clara University**

The School of Education and Counseling Psychology has prepared teachers and instructional leaders to transform their classrooms, organizations, and communities for more than 100 years, and has prepared future counselors, therapists, and mental health professionals to transform lives, organizations, and communities for more than 50 years. Visit <https://www.scu.edu/ecp/>.