



**For Immediate Release**

**CHRISTINE O’CONNOR, RN, CHIEF CLINICAL OPERATIONS OFFICER OF HOSPICE OF THE VALLEY, SAN JOSE CA RETIRES AFTER 19 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE**

**San Jose CA – July 13, 2011** – Hospice of the Valley, San Jose, a leading provider in advancing palliative care at end of life, community grief support and education in Northern California, announced that Christine O’Connor, Chief Clinical Operations Officer has retired after 19 years of dedicated service to the organization. Christine O’Connor, RN, had oversight of the clinical operations of Hospice of the Valley, San Jose CA and was a longtime proponent in advancing palliative care and improving quality of life for individuals and families in Santa Clara County. “Chris’ dedication to our mission was unsurpassed,” remarked Sally Adelus, President and CEO of Hospice of the Valley. “Chris will be solely missed by her colleagues in the hospice industry and her years of service and steadfast leadership have been invaluable,” added Adelus.

**About Hospice of the Valley**

Hospice of the Valley, a leading provider and educator in advancing palliative end-of-life and community grief-care, affirms dignity and hope for those facing serious illness. Hospice of the Valley’s team, experts in palliative and hospice care, is comprised of physicians, nurses, social workers, chaplains, hospice aides, grief counselors, and volunteers who assist patients, their caregivers and families in their end-of-life care and goals. Founded in 1979, Hospice of the Valley is the first not-for-profit hospice and grief care organization to serve the community of Santa Clara County. Hospice of the Valley’s Community Grief and Counseling Center provides individual and loss specific group grief care 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. The Transitions Program, a volunteer-based community service sponsored by Hospice of the Valley and funded by community grants and donations, is designed to enhance the quality of life for individuals and their families facing advanced-illness through emotional support, education, and practical assistance. Additionally, Hospice of the Valley sponsors a community resource website—[seriousillness.org/santaclaracounty](http://seriousillness.org/santaclaracounty)—for caregivers and families who are caring for someone with serious illness. Hospice of the Valley, a member of the California Hospice and Palliative Care Association and the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization, is licensed by the State of California and is Medicare and Medi-Cal certified. Medicare, Medi-Cal and most private insurance plans cover services. Hospice of the Valley is committed to serving its diverse communities and honors all cultures, beliefs, values, and traditions, and provides equitable access to care for all patients and families—regardless of their financial ability. For information, call 408.559.5600 or visit [hospicevalley.org](http://hospicevalley.org).

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