



**HOSPICE OF THE VALLEY, SAN JOSE HOSTS COMMUNITY SCREENING OF “CONSIDER THE CONVERSATION®” IN HONOR OF NATIONAL HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE CARE MONTH**  
*An illuminating, powerful and inspiring documentary that examines views on a taboo subject: discussions surrounding end of life*

**SAN JOSE, Calif., – October 24, 2011** – Last year more than 1.5 million Americans with serious, life-limiting illness gained help from the nation’s hospice providers. In November, in honor of National Hospice and Palliative Care Month, Hospice of the Valley, San Jose, renowned for its signature programs and services, and for advancing palliative and end-of-life care, community grief and loss counseling and education in Northern California, will host two free community screenings of “Consider the Conversation”, an illuminating, powerful and inspiring documentary that examines views on a taboo subject:

discussions surrounding end-of-life goals and wishes, on Wednesday, November 16, 2011 with the first screening at 2:00pm to 4:00pm and the second screening from 6:00pm to 8:00pm at Hospice of the Valley, located at 4850 Union Avenue, San Jose CA 95124.

“The hope is to engage our community to initiate one of the most important conversations they will ever have with their family, loved ones and physicians about their goals and wishes at the end of life,” said Sally Adelus, president and chief executive officer of Hospice of the Valley. “And ultimately have them document those wishes, so when the time comes, their wishes will be honored and respected.”

The screening of “Consider the Conversation”, the first community viewing in Santa Clara County, is a documentary film that examines multiple perspectives on end-of-life care from patients, family members, doctors, nurses, clergy, social workers, and national experts from around the country. Immediately following the screening, guests will have an opportunity to pose questions to a community panel of end-of-life experts who will offer insights and practical advice.

“As an end-of-life care leader and valued community resource, we also wanted to raise awareness during National Hospice and Palliative Care Month, because many Americans do not realize that hospices are the largest providers of palliative care services in the US,” continued Adelus. “When faced with a serious, life-limiting illness, hospice and palliative care can improve ones quality of life. And there’s a growing body of research that shows hospice and palliative care may prolong the lives of some people who receive care.”

Please join us for this powerful and inspiring program “Consider the Conversation”. To RSVP, call Chelsea Mathis at 408.559.5600 ext. 5464 or email [cmathis@hospicevalley.org](mailto:cmathis@hospicevalley.org) by Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup>. Community members, caregivers, and health, elder and spiritual care providers and the media are encouraged to attend this free program.

“Consider the Conversation” program sponsors include the Cancer Support Community San Francisco Bay Area, Custom Senior Care of Los Gatos, Breast Cancer Connection of Palo Alto, and the Alzheimer’s Association Northern California and Northern Nevada.

For more information about Hospice of the Valley or the “Consider the Conversation” program, visit our website at [hospicevalley.org](http://hospicevalley.org).

**About Hospice of the Valley**

Hospice of the Valley, a leading provider and educator in advancing palliative and end-of-life care and community grief and loss counseling, affirms dignity and hope for those facing serious illness. The Community Grief and Counseling Center provides grief care for adults, teens and children and anyone experiencing a loss. The Transitions Program provides families facing advanced-illness with emotional support, education, and practical assistance. [Seriousillness.org/santaclaracounty](http://Seriousillness.org/santaclaracounty) is a community website resource for caregivers and families. A community nonprofit serving Santa Clara County since 1979, Hospice of the Valley honors all cultures, beliefs, values, and traditions, and is committed to serving its diverse communities, provides equitable access to care for all—regardless of their financial ability. For information, call 408.559.5600 or visit [hospicevalley.org](http://hospicevalley.org).

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