



Hospice of the Valley, San Jose and Santa Clara University School of Education and Counseling Psychology presents the 7th annual conference *Compassion in Action: The Power of Narrative Medicine* – March 28

SAN JOSE, Calif. – March 13, 2014 – Leading national and internationally known palliative and end-of-life care experts will come together to address the importance of communication, stories of forgiveness and loss, and the creative healing of laughter and play in the field of palliative and end-of-life care and offer the power of the narrative to enhance patient and family care and inspire conference attendees on Friday, March 28. *Compassion in Action: The Power of Narrative Medicine* is presented by Hospice of the Valley, San Jose and the Santa Clara University School of Education and Counseling Psychology. Endorsed by the California Hospice and Palliative Care Association, this inspiring signature conference, in its seventh year, will take place from 8:30 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. with a reception from 5:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M. at the Center of Performing Arts, Recital Hall, Santa Clara University, Santa Clara.

“Every year, *Compassion in Action* brings together cutting-edge ideas in the care of patients and families living with serious illness,” said Dale Larson, PhD, a national leader in end-of-life care and professor in the Department of Counseling Psychology at Santa Clara University. “This will be an insightful and invigorating day,” added Dr. Larson. “Our historic and scenic campus is an ideal setting for such a meeting of mind and spirit.”

This year’s distinguished faculty features **Betty Ferrell, RN, PHD, MA, FAAN, FPCN, CHPN**, who was recently named one of the 30 most influential leaders in hospice and palliative medicine by the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine, and **Marcia Lattanzi-Licht, MA, RN, LPC**, an internationally known educator and grief therapist. Also featured is **BJ Miller, MD**, executive director of Zen Hospice Project. Zen Hospice is an organization bridging the spiritual and humanitarian approaches to end-of-life care. An award-winning inspirational speaker **Matt Weinstein** will join the conference faculty as the nation’s foremost authority in the use of fun and humor in healing. And **Rakhi Yadav, MD**, is the medical director of Palliative Care Center Silicon Valley, the first independent, community-based, licensed outpatient center of its kind in California for seriously ill patients and their families. The Center is a division of Hospice of the Valley.

“We are extremely pleased to convene preeminent thought-leaders in palliative and end-of-life care for this year’s conference to not only examine best practices, but to connect medicine to the narrative of the human experience,” said Sally Adelus, president and chief executive officer of Hospice of the Valley. “We have an esteemed panel of experts who will provide their respective insights on stories of practice in palliative and end-of-life care to facilitate participants’ understanding of narrative medicine.”

This year's *Compassion in Action* faculty and panel include:

- [Sally Adelus](#), President & CEO, Hospice of the Valley and Palliative Care Center Silicon Valley and [Dale G. Larson, PhD](#), Professor of Counseling Psychology, Santa Clara University – Conference Chairperson
- **Betty Farrell, RN, PHD, MA, FAAN, FPCN, CHPN**, Professor and Director, Nursing Research, City of Hope Medical Center – *Stories of Forgiveness at the End of Life* and *The Global Imperative of Palliative Care*
- **Marcia Lattanzi-Licht, MA, RN, LPC**, Educator, Psychotherapist, Boulder, CO – *Giving Grief Words: The Changing Narrative of Loss*
- **BJ Miller, MD**, Executive Director, Zen Hospice and Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine at UCSF – *I Could Die Today: The Aesthetic Potential of Palliative Care*
- **Matt Weinstein**, Emperor, Playfair, Inc. – *What Bernie Madoff Couldn't Steal From Me* and *The Healing Power of Laughter and Play*
- **Rakhi Yadav, MD**, Medical Director, Palliative Care Center Silicon Valley and Hospice of the Valley

Who should attend: Physicians, nurses, social workers, marriage and family therapists, health care providers, and hospice volunteers are encouraged to attend.

To register visit: hospicevalley.org/professionalcia. **For more information**, contact Amy Ramsey, special events manager, at Hospice of the Valley at 1.408.559.5600 or email: aramsey@hospicevalley.org.

Cost: \$125 includes all-day conference with panel discussion, light breakfast, lunch and reception, and six (6) continuing education credits.

Continuing Education: Hospice of the Valley is approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing, Provider Number 04462 and the California Board of Behavioral Sciences, Provider Number 712 for 6 (six) contact hours for nurses, social workers, and marriage and family therapists. Hospice of the Valley is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. CMEs will be provided for physicians by the California Hospice & Palliative Care Association. Hospice of the Valley maintains responsibility for this program and its content.

About Santa Clara University

Santa Clara University School of Education and Counseling Psychology (ECP), founded in 1964, has sought to balance theory and practice that forms and educates future clinicians and leaders. ECP's curriculum is based on solid theoretical traditions balanced by cutting edge theory, research, and skills development. For information, visit scu.edu/ecp.

About Hospice of the Valley

Hospice of the Valley is a nonprofit organization in Silicon Valley that provides serious illness and end-of-life care programs and services, including palliative and hospice care, grief counseling for adults, children and families, and emotional support, education and practical assistance. The organization also provides individual counseling and loss-specific support groups to anyone who has experienced a loss. Established in July 2013, the Palliative Care Center Silicon Valley, the first independent, community-based, licensed outpatient center of its kind in California for seriously ill patients and their families, is a division of Hospice of the Valley. Hospice of the Valley also provides a community resource website for caregivers and families at seriousillness.org/santaclaracounty. Serving Santa Clara County since 1979, 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 hospicevalley.org.

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