



**Media Contact:**  
Sue Kratochvil  
Communications Manager  
Sutter Care at Home  
(916) 286-8248  
kratocsl@sutterhealth.org

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Hospice of the Valley Serves Veterans in the *We Honor Veterans Program*  
*Hospice Support Services offered to Veterans and their Families***

**SAN JOSE, Calif., Nov. 10, 2015** — Not-for-profit Hospice of the Valley proudly supports veterans to thank them for their service and sacrifice to our country.

Hospice of the Valley's commitment to ensuring veterans in Santa Clara County gain access to quality end-of-life care received validation when the organization achieved Level 3 status with the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization's [\*We Honor Veterans Program\*](#).

"The *We Honor Veterans Program* encourages cooperation and collaboration among organizations serving veterans to improve their end-of-life experience," said Jim Ptak, Hospice of the Valley administrator. "Hospice of the Valley meets the unique needs of veterans by linking them to all of the services and resources they are entitled to receive. It is our mission to serve veterans in Santa Clara County with the dignity that they deserve."

Hospice of the Valley offers many support services to veterans, including determining their benefits; developing unique care plans guided by the patient's and family's wishes; providing expert in-home care, support and training to maintain the patient's independence and dignity; counseling for physical or psychological trauma; and thanking and recognizing veterans for their service.

Additionally, Hospice of the Valley's *Veteran to Veteran Program* provides trained veteran volunteers to accompany and guide the community's veterans and their families, as they reflect on their life stories and move toward a peaceful end-of-life experience. Veteran volunteers have a unique ability to relate to and connect with veteran patients and their families due to their common life experiences. Volunteers provide companionship and camaraderie to fellow veterans; recognize and thank veterans for their service to our country; and share memories to help veterans find peace with their past. If you're a veteran interested in volunteering or know of



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a veteran needing end-of-life support, call Hospice of the Valley at 408-559-5600 or visit [www.hospicevalley.org](http://www.hospicevalley.org).

### **About Hospice of the Valley**

On Sept. 1, 2015, Hospice of the Valley and Sutter Care at Home 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 and palliative care in the greater Santa Clara County community. Hospice of the Valley will continue to serve the residents of Santa Clara County with the same not-for-profit mission and values as they integrate with Sutter Care at Home. Celebrating 36 years of community service, Hospice of the Valley maintains its name, programs and broad outreach to diverse communities.

Since 1979, more than 35,000 friends and neighbors in Santa Clara County have received compassionate care and grief support from Hospice of the Valley. In 2014, Hospice of the Valley staff made nearly 40,000 visits to patients and families. Hospice of the Valley also provides a community resource website for patients and families at [www.seriousillness.org/santaclaracounty](http://www.seriousillness.org/santaclaracounty). 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 [www.hospicevalley.org](http://www.hospicevalley.org).