



NEWS RELEASE

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HOPE HOSPICE AWARDED ACCREDITATION FROM THE JOINT COMMISSION

DUBLIN, CA - October 24, 2011 – Hope Hospice has earned The Joint Commission’s Gold Seal of Approval™ for accreditation by demonstrating compliance with The Joint Commission’s national standards for health care quality and safety. The accreditation award recognizes Hope Hospice’s dedication to continuous compliance with The Joint Commission’s state of the art standards.

Hope Hospice underwent a rigorous unannounced on-site survey earlier in the year during which Hope Hospice was evaluated for compliance with standards of care specific to the needs of patients, including infection prevention and control, leadership and medication management.

Established in 1988, The Joint Commission’s Home Care Accreditation Program (which includes evaluation of and specific standards for hospice agencies) accredits more than 5,600 organizations. The Joint Commission’s standards address the hospice organization’s performance in specific areas, and specify requirements to ensure that patient care and services are provided in a safe manner. The Joint Commission develops its standards in consultation with health care experts, providers and researchers, as well as measurement experts, purchasers and consumers.

"In achieving Joint Commission accreditation, Hope Hospice has demonstrated its commitment to the highest level of care for its patients," says Peter P. Wong, MD, Medical Director. "Accreditation is a voluntary process and is an objective and systematic way to evaluate the quality and safety of our patient care."

"We are pleased that The Joint Commission has recognized the high quality patient care provided by Hope Hospice. We use The Joint Commission accreditation process as just one more checkpoint in our standard of excellence as we work with patients and family members," says

Larry Lakes, Chief Executive Officer. We are honored to have earned this accreditation from the Joint Commission

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About Hope Hospice

Hope Hospice is a regional community-based organization providing compassionate care, insight, and guidance as families navigate through the end-of-life process. The team of hospice and palliative care professionals provides state-of-the art methods of pain and symptom control to maximize quality of life while also providing emotional support for patient and family members. Hope Hospice serves families in Alamo, Blackhawk, Castro Valley, Diablo, Danville, Dublin, Livermore, Pleasanton, San Ramon, Sunol and the surrounding communities in the East Bay of San Francisco.

About the Joint Commission

Founded in 1951, The Joint Commission seeks to continuously improve health care for the public, in collaboration with other stakeholders, by evaluating health care organizations and inspiring them to excel in providing safe and effective care of the highest quality and value. The Joint Commission evaluates and accredits more than 18,000 health care organizations and programs in the United States. An independent, not-for-profit organization, The Joint Commission is the nation's oldest and largest standards-setting and accrediting body in health care. Learn more about The Joint Commission at www.jointcommission.org.