

Media Release

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Contact: Jenni Williams

Phone: 352-271-4655

E-Mail: jwilliams@havenhospice.org

Fax: 352-379-6286

Inside a hospice care center

The comforts of home

(JACKSONVILLE) - An inpatient hospice care center offers all the comforts of home, as well as the compassion and care that patients and families need during an especially challenging time. While most hospice patients prefer to be at home, a care center provides “a home away from home” when patients require more intensive symptom management and pain relief than they can receive at home or in a hospital. It’s also a place where a caregiver who needs a break can trust that a loved one will be in good hands.

At Haven Hospice’s care centers, you’ll find beautiful indoor and outdoor spaces such as sunrooms and courtyards; cozy patient rooms; chapels for reflection; and playrooms to keep children occupied. The families Haven serves tell us how much these care centers mean to them. One family member wrote, “You have the most beautiful and peaceful surroundings any family would want for their loved one.” A young woman who was a child when her grandfather died in Haven’s care wrote: “The playroom became the place I ran to when my feelings became too much for me. I am so grateful for that.”

Inpatient hospice care centers are actually rare both in Florida and nationwide. Only about 300 of the 4,600 U.S. hospice organizations operate freestanding hospice inpatient care centers. Haven’s four hospice care centers have been nationally recognized, and they’re strategically located throughout the state to be as accessible as possible. In Florida, care centers can only be built when the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) has approved them. Last month, ACHA granted Haven Hospice a Certificate of Need to break ground on an 18-bed care center in the Clay County area. Hundreds of people throughout the community wrote letters of support for the project, knowing what a difference a hospice care center can make for their family at the end of life.

The patient care staff plays a large part in making the hospice care center feel like home. The staff is focused on making each patient comfortable, as well as providing needed support for families who are preparing to lose someone they love. Haven’s care centers offer a second home and a sense of community for everyone who enters.

“At Haven, we believe that everyone deserves compassion, care and comfort, especially during life’s final journey,” said Haven Hospice President Tim Bowen. “It’s an honor and a privilege to offer inpatient care centers to enhance the care we provide.”

About Haven Hospice

Haven Hospice is North Florida's expert in end-of-life and palliative care and is one of three 2008 Circle of Life Award® winners nationwide to be recognized as leaders in improving the care of patients near the end of life or with life-threatening conditions. Haven Hospice has also been recognized as a Florida Pacesetter for its leadership in promoting living wills. Haven Hospice has served more than 45,000 patients and families since 1979 and has been licensed in Florida as a not-for-profit hospice since 1980. For more information, visit www.havenhospice.org or call 800-727-1889.

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