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Mission Hospice Launches New Advanced Care Program

This fall, Mission Hospice is launching a new Advanced Care Program to better serve the needs of patients and families in San Mateo County and surrounding communities.

WHAT:

- The Advanced Care Program will provide medical, skilled nursing and rehabilitation services at home for patients who have serious illnesses but are not yet ready or eligible for hospice care.
- The program will focus on symptom and complex care management.

WHY:

- Our Transitions program provides social work case management and volunteer support to pre-hospice patients. The new Advanced Care Program will complement the Transitions program and will enable us to provide medical and skilled nursing support that many of these patients require. It will allow us to treat patients for the duration of their chronic healthcare issues, which often includes hospice care.
- Many patients feel torn between treatment and hospice care options. With the interdisciplinary team support of these complementary programs, Mission Hospice can serve the holistic needs of patients who are not yet ready or eligible for hospice care.

HOW MUCH:

- Mission Hospice will spend \$100,000 to activate the new Advanced Care Program, which will require Joint Commission accreditation. We will need to provide “free” services for approximately six months in order to become eligible for a home care Joint Commission survey.
- An independent, not-for-profit organization, The Joint Commission accredits and certifies more than 16,000 health care organizations and programs in the United States. Joint Commission accreditation and certification is recognized nationwide as a symbol of quality that reflects an organization’s commitment to meeting certain performance standards.

WHEN:

- Mission Hospice will begin hiring nursing staff in fall 2009, with a goal of achieving certification in spring 2010.

For more information on the new Advanced Care Program, please call Dwight Wilson, Mission Hospice CEO at (650)554-1000.