



Contacts: Tammera Ryan (254) 399-9099 tryan@chot.org
or Laurie Esposito (817) 989-3246 lesposito@chot.org
Mandy Sharp (254) 751-4070 ext. 2246 <a href="mailto:mailt

Providence Hospice Place, Waco's first inpatient hospice facility, now open on campus of Providence Healthcare Network

New 6000 square foot unit opens doors during National Hospice and Palliative Care Month

(Fort Worth and Waco, Texas)... In partnership with Providence Healthcare Network, Providence Hospice has opened Waco's first inpatient hospice facility located within St. Catherine Center at Providence Park, a senior living community and division of the Providence Healthcare Network.

Providence Hospice Place features eight patient rooms designed to meet the specific needs of the terminally ill, their families and loved ones.

The opening of Providence Hospice Place coincides with <u>National Hospice and Palliative Care Month</u>. Recognized across the country, November honors the dignity hospice care can provide patients, and the care providers who make it possible.

"Inpatient units offer a peaceful, homelike environment," remarked Andrea Green, Chief Executive Officer of Community of Texas/Providence Hospice. "Providence Hospice Place has unrestricted visiting hours, large private rooms with sleeper sofas, a family room with a small kitchen and coffee bar, and comfortable spaces for family to gather and be close.

A family member shares their experience with inpatient hospice care: "When my wife, Karen, suffered the final decline from her liver cancer, she was admitted to the intensive care unit. While the folks at the hospital did their best, it was an awful feeling to have her separated from me and our family in a sterile room with only limited visits and no real privacy. I could do nothing to help her. When she was transferred to the hospice inpatient unit everything changed. I was able to become her co-host, welcoming family and friends to visit, share hugs, pray, or whatever we chose to do in a warm, loving environment during her final days."

"We are pleased to be a partner in bringing Providence Hospice Place to fruition. It offers specialized hospice staff that care for the unique needs of terminally ill patients and their families in a compassionate, comfortable environment," said Michael Olmstead, VP of Long-term Care Services Providence Healthcare Network.

"We hope this November, during National Hospice and Palliative Care Month, we can help raise awareness of the many benefits of hospice care," continued Mrs. Green. "The opening of Providence Hospice Place fills a critical need in the Central Texas area for this type of specialized care."

About Community Hospice of Texas and Providence Hospice

Founded in 1995, affiliates Providence Hospice and Community Hospice of Texas are licensed by the Texas Department of Human Services to provide hospice care to terminally ill patients in North and Central Texas. As 501(c) (3) non-profit organizations, they collectively are the largest non-profit hospice in the state. Community Hospice of Texas headquarters are in Fort Worth. Visit the website: www.chot.org. Providence Hospice headquarters are in Waco. They are online at: www.providencehospice.org.

About Providence Healthcare Network

A member of Ascension Health, the nation's largest Catholic non-profit integrated health system, Providence Healthcare Network is dedicated to spiritually centered, holistic care, which sustains and improves the health of individuals and communities. Beginning in 1905 as Waco's first hospital, Providence today has over 2,300 associates, physicians and volunteers. Our 650-bed system, encompassing Providence Health Center, Providence Park, Providence DePaul Center, and a network of outpatient clinics and facilities, offers the most comprehensive continuum of care for Central Texans throughout their lifetime. Nationally recognized for quality care, Providence is a Joint Commission Certified Level II Primary Stroke Center, an Accredited Chest Pain Center with PCI designated by the Society of Chest Pain Centers and has been recognized by HealthGrades to be among the top five percent in the nation for emergency medicine. They are online at: www.providence.net.

About Providence Park

Built in 2003, Providence Park is a division of the Providence Healthcare Network and provides independent living, assisted living, long-term and sub-acute care for residents based on individual needs in a Christian environment. They are on the web at: www.providencepark.net.

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