

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Contact:**

Sue Deakin, Senior Director of Community Affairs  
Hospice of Palm Beach County  
(561) 227-5145 (office); (561) 324-1418 (cell)  
[sdeakin@hpbc.com](mailto:sdeakin@hpbc.com)

### **Hospice of Palm Beach County Honored for *Five Wishes***

**West Palm Beach, FL-October 24, 2006**—Hospice of Palm Beach County has received national recognition for promoting advanced care planning by Aging with Dignity, a private, non-profit organization and advocate for dignified care of the elderly and physically-challenged. Florida Governor Jeb Bush joined Aging with Dignity founder, Jim Towey, to commend 10 Florida organizations as Pacesetters and five national as Innovators, for their roles as leaders in distributing Aging with Dignity's advanced directive tool *Five Wishes*. Paul Malley, President of Aging with Dignity, announced that Hospice of Palm Beach County was the top 2006 Florida Pacesetter, sharing, "We filled an order of 30,000 copies of *Five Wishes* for Hospice of Palm Beach County and less than three weeks later received a request for an additional 30,000 copies in English as well as more in Spanish. Their outreach efforts are remarkable." Gov. Bush said, "The success of *Five Wishes* shows that people want to talk about care at the end of life in terms that are meaningful and relatable." *Five Wishes*, the most popular advanced directive in America, was created by Aging with Dignity a decade ago. It is easy to use, easy to understand, and allows people to make important end-of-life decisions before a health crisis by facilitating communication among families, patients, and health care providers.

Hospice of Palm Beach County is available to present *Five Wishes* to anyone. To schedule a presentation at your business, civic group, organization, or place of worship, contact Barbara Casuso at (561) 227-5146. Complimentary copies of *Five Wishes* are available upon request.

**About HPBC:** *Hospice of Palm Beach County offers a wide range of services and educational programs designed to meet the special needs of patients and*

*families faced with advanced illness. Expert physical, emotional and spiritual care is provided wherever the patient is - the home, skilled nursing or assisted living facility, hospital or hospice inpatient unit, including the C.W. Gerstenberg Hospice Center in West Palm Beach, the Bethesda Memorial Hospice and Palliative Care Unit at Bethesda Memorial Hospital, the Hospice and Palliative Care Unit at Good Samaritan Medical Center, the Hospice and Palliative Care Unit at Palm Beach Gardens Medical Center and the Jay Robert Lauer Hospice and Palliative Care Unit at JFK Medical Center. The organization also offers full bereavement support to Hospice families and anyone in the community in need. Hospice of Palm Beach County's focus is on quality of life. The organization is sensitive to and respectful of religious, cultural and personal beliefs. Contact Hospice of Palm Beach County toll free at 888-848-5200 or visit the website [www.hpbc.com](http://www.hpbc.com) for information.*

*Licensed since 1981*

*JCAHO Accredited 501(c)(3) Not-for-Profit Organization*

*Accredited as a Jewish Hospice by the Palm Beach County Board of Rabbis, Inc.*

*Hispanic Patient Care Teams*

*Serving all of Palm Beach County - Boca Raton to Tequesta, the Glades to the Beach*

**Over 28 years as Palm Beach County's Leading Provider of Hospice Care**

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