

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Hospice of Palm Beach County Opens the Hospice and Palliative Care Unit at Pinecrest Delray

West Palm Beach, FL (November 16, 2006) — Hospice of Palm Beach County announces the opening of its sixth inpatient unit, the Hospice and Palliative Care Unit at Pinecrest Delray, located at Pinecrest Rehabilitation Hospital in Delray Beach, on December 4, 2006. In response to an increased need for hospice services in the southern part of the county, Hospice of Palm Beach County will now provide short term acute care for its patients and families in the 14 bed unit, operated by its full time hospice and palliative care team. The 9000 square foot inpatient unit features 12 private rooms and one semi-private room, a family room, kitchen and counseling rooms, all in homelike surroundings. “Our mission is to provide end-of-life care to everybody in Palm Beach County who needs and wants it,” said Hospice of Palm Beach County’s Clinical Medical Director Richard S. Levene, DO, FAAHPM. “Having a hospice unit in a medical facility gives us access to the high-tech and sophisticated medical diagnostic testing and treatment modalities that are available in an acute care hospital,” Levene said.

The six inpatient units, along with contract beds in other area facilities, supplement services Hospice of Palm Beach County provides in homes, nursing facilities or assisted living facilities allowing patients to remain close to family and friends. “We’re there to serve every community and every family,” said Dave Fielding, President and CEO of Hospice of Palm Beach County. “I am pleased that our southernmost interdisciplinary team, located in Boca Raton, now has access to our inpatient unit in Delray Beach, for their patients and families.”

“We are pleased Hospice of Palm Beach County is expanding services here at Pinecrest Rehabilitation Hospital. The unit provides another comprehensive medical service for our patients and the south Palm Beach

County community," said Pinecrest Rehabilitation Hospital's Chief Operating Officer, Ruth Stewart.

A ribbon cutting and open house at the Hospice and Palliative Care Unit at Pinecrest Delray located at 5360 Linton Boulevard in Delray Beach are scheduled for Monday, December 4, 2006 from 4pm-6pm.

About Hospice of Palm Beach County: *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 for information.*

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Hispanic Patient Care Teams*

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

About Pinecrest Rehabilitation Hospital: *Pinecrest Rehabilitation Hospital, part of Tenet South Florida, is a 90-bed rehabilitation hospital located at 5360 Linton Boulevard in Delray Beach. The hospital has been serving the rehabilitation needs of the Delray Beach community since 1986. In addition to inpatient rehabilitation, Pinecrest also offers a comprehensive outpatient program. Services include physical, occupational, speech and hand therapy; general rehabilitation; stroke, traumatic brain and spinal cord injury; and neurological programs. Pinecrest Rehabilitation Hospital is fully accredited by the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, the nation's oldest and largest hospital accreditation agency, and the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF). To learn more about Pinecrest Rehabilitation Hospital, visit www.pinecrestrehab.com.*

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