

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@hpsc.com

**Hospice of Palm Beach County's Jimmy Smith Named
Nurse of the Year**

WEST PALM BEACH (May 22, 2007) - Hospice of Palm Beach County's Jimmy Smith, RN, BSN, was recently honored as Nurse of the Year at Palm Healthcare Foundation, Inc.'s Annual Nurses Celebration Dinner at The Breakers-Palm Beach. Smith, who was also the recipient of the Extra Mile Nursing Distinction Award, was the only nurse recognized for this prestigious honor. "I was just overwhelmed, surprised, humbled and very honored that I received this recognition from my colleagues, students and patients' families," Smith said.



Jimmy Smith receives Palm Healthcare Foundation, Inc.'s Nurse of the Year award
PHOTO COURTESY: Lucien Capehart Photography

Jimmy Smith works as an inpatient nurse at Hospice of Palm Beach County's Charles W. Gerstenberg Center. A nurse for 15 years, he has been with Hospice of Palm Beach

County for the last seven years. There, he has also volunteered his time mentoring nursing interns. “I just really enjoy working at Hospice of Palm Beach County, and nursing is a wonderful field,” he said. “That’s the message I want to share with future nurses.”

“This distinction is extremely well deserved by Jimmy,” said Jackie Lopez-Devine, Hospice of Palm Beach County Director of Patient Care. “We are honored to have him on our team and are inspired by his mentoring and compassionate style of practice.”

Palm Healthcare Foundation’s Nursing Distinction Awards are given to outstanding nurses in our community nominated in recognition of their exemplary commitment to caring and extraordinary dedication to excellence in professional nursing. Five additional Hospice of Palm Beach County nurses were recognized including Ursula Bennett, RN, Rachael Good, RN, Chief Operating Officer Terri Guzman, RN, BSN, MSM, Owen O’Neill, RN, and Donna White, CNA.

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 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

###