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PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Make Your Wishes Known

(Southwest, Michigan) March 25, 2009 –Hospice at Home and its local partners are providing the community with an opportunity to learn about and complete an advance directive as part of National Healthcare Decisions Day.

Advance directives are legal documents that allow you to convey your decisions about end-of-life care. It provides a way for you to communicate your wishes to family, friends and health professionals to avoid confusion in the future.

Please join Americans across the country, your family, friends and neighbors, to make your decisions known during one of the following events. Qualified staff will provide education, assistance, and advance directive forms:

- April 8 anytime from 6:30 – 8:30 pm at Westwood's of Niles, 1211 Stateline Road, Niles
- April 15 anytime from 11:45 am – 1:45 pm at Buchanan Area Senior Center, 131 South Oak St., Buchanan
- April 16 anytime from 10:30 am – 12:30 pm at Greater Niles Senior Center, 1109 Bell Road, Niles
- April 16 anytime from 1:30 – 3:30 pm at Brentwood of Niles, 1147 S 3rd St, Niles

“As a result of this information, many people in our community can be expected to have thoughtful conversations about their healthcare decisions and complete reliable advance directives to make their wishes known,” said Debbie Hayes, Community Relations Representative, Hospice at Home. “Fewer families and

healthcare providers will have to struggle with making difficult healthcare decisions in the absence of guidance from the patient, and healthcare providers and facilities will be better equipped to address advance healthcare planning issues before a crisis as well as to honor patient wishes.”

Hospice at Home is the non-profit community hospice focusing on the patient and family regardless of the patients' diagnosis, treatment choices, or ability to pay. It provides quality care to people adjusting to living with a serious illness, facing death, anticipating the death of a loved one, or healing their grief after the death of a loved one. Hospice at Home places an emphasis on the emotional, social, and spiritual needs of those who need care and those receiving support services. Serving Berrien, Cass, Van Buren, and Allegan Counties, the care is coordinated by a team of physicians, nurses, home health aides, social workers, spiritual care counselors, bereavement coordinators, and trained volunteers. Extending this care, Lory's Place, a bereavement and education center that builds hope and strength for every grieving family, is available to anyone in Southwest Michigan or Northern Indiana.

For more information contact Hospice at Home at 269-429-7100 or 1-800-717-3811, or go to www.hospiceathomecares.org. or visit www.nationalhealthcaredecisionsday.org.

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