Community Hospice

For Immediate Release

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Community Hospice Selected to Join Palliative Care Action Community Collaborative

MODESTO, CALIF., February 20, 2013 – Community Hospice, a community-based, nonprofit hospice provider serving the Central Valley since 1979, has been selected to participate in a Palliative Care Action Community collaborative established by the California HealthCare Foundation (CHCF).

This one-year learning collaborative will support and strengthen existing efforts to build effective, sustainable community-based palliative care (CBPC) services. Community Hospice will share implementation strategies, experiences with different clinical models, and outcomes with peers who have a common vision of increasing access to quality CBPC in California.

Patients with chronic medical conditions, such as congestive heart failure, who are in decline but are not yet eligible for hospice, could benefit from palliative care, a form of care that addresses a patient's physical, emotional, social and spiritual needs.

"Palliative care focuses on education, independence and patient choice," remarked Carolynn Peterson, RN, MSN, AOCN, CHPCA, Community Hospice vice president/chief clinical officer. "This symptom relief care bridges a gap in our current healthcare system and expands the longstanding mission of Community Hospice, to provide compassionate and quality care and education to those with a serious illness. It is an exciting opportunity."

Participation in this collaborative will reinforce Community Hospice's implementation and expansion of community-based palliative care for patients in need in the Central Valley.

About Community Hospice

Since 1979, Community Hospice has provided comfort and care for terminally ill patients and their families in the Central Valley, regardless of ability to pay. Community Hospice also provides bereavement and grief support to anyone in the community. For more information, please call (209) 578-6300 or visit www.hospiceheart.org.

About the California HeathCare Foundation

The California HealthCare Foundation works as a catalyst to fulfill the promise of better healthcare for all Californians by supporting ideas and innovations that improve quality, increase efficiency, and lower the costs of care. For more information, visit www.chcf.org.

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