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PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



LOCAL HOSPICE OFFERS BEYOND CARE TRAINING

(South Haven, Michigan) March 18, 2008 – Hospice at Home in South Haven (formerly known as South Haven Area Hospice) is offering a new level of training for volunteers and staff. Funded through a mini-grant from Van Buren County United Way, the Beyond Care program is an innovative and creative series of sessions that addresses how stress and pain for individuals living with a life-limiting illness, as well as their caregivers and families affect their quality of life.

People attending the training will learn practical skills for relaxation and stress release that work quickly and easily. The training will give helpful ways to provide appropriate mental and emotional support to patients with life-limiting illnesses. It will educate medical staff, social workers, and volunteers about what they can do to support patients beyond the physical level by providing tools for patients, caregivers, and families about many ways they can help themselves feel at peace more quickly and completely.

The sessions take place on Mondays, May 5, 12, 19, and June 2 from 2:30 – 4:30 pm at Peace Lutheran Church. These are not duplicate sessions. Each session will bring additional information and tools. Space is limited, please RSVP to Beth Fones, Volunteer Coordinator at 269-637-3825.

Reverend Debra Basham will conduct the training. She is a Certified Healing Touch Practitioner and Licensed Master Practitioner and Trainer of

Neurolinguistic Programming. She leads workshops in Prepare for Surgery/Heal Faster™ and is an ordained interfaith minister of Reunion. Rev. Basham was the founding Director of the Holistic Alliance, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting holistic approaches to physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual health. She is a professional member of Associated Bodywork and Massage Professionals (ABMP).

Hospice at Home is the non-profit community hospice focusing on the patient and family regardless of the patients' diagnosis, treatment choices, life expectancy, or ability to pay. It provides quality care to people adjusting to living with a serious illness, to people facing death, to people anticipating the death of a loved one, or to people 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 whom 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 269-637-3825 or 1-800-717-3811, or go to www.hospiceathomecares.org.