



NEWS RELEASE

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Family Hospice and Palliative Care Honored as 2014 Community Champion by UPMC Senior Services

PITTSBURGH – August 4, 2014 – Family Hospice and Palliative Care, Western Pennsylvania's leading, nonprofit hospice provider, has been named the **2014 Community Champion** by UPMC Senior Services and the Aging Institute of UPMC Senior Services & the University of Pittsburgh. The Community Champion recognition is the highest honor awarded to organizations or groups who demonstrate extraordinary leadership in an effort to improve the lives of seniors at UPMC Senior Services, the Aging Institute and beyond.

Family Hospice will be honored at the 6th annual UPMC Celebrating Senior Champions Award Banquet Thursday evening, October 23, at the Omni William Penn Hotel, Downtown Pittsburgh.

"Family Hospice and Palliative Care has provided compassionate end-of-life care to thousands of local seniors and support to their loved ones for more than 30 years," said Deborah Brodine, President of UPMC Senior Services. "Family Hospice is passionate about increasing awareness of advance care planning and treating those they serve with dignity."

"The staff, volunteers and board of directors of Family Hospice are thrilled to receive this honor," said Barbara Ivanko, President and CEO of Family Hospice and Palliative Care. "More than three-quarters of the 3,600 patients we serve each year are 65 or older. Family Hospice cherishes the opportunity to care for these precious members of our community during such a critical time in their life's journey. This award is truly a testament to our amazing team."

The Celebrating Senior Champions event is designed to recognize individuals and groups who champion senior causes in greater Western Pennsylvania, while raising awareness for issues important to seniors. To date, the event has raised more than \$500,000 for the UPMC Senior Communities Benevolent Care Fund. Along with Family Hospice and Palliative Care, UPMC Senior Services is recognizing G. Nicholas and Dorothy B. Beckwith as Grand Champions, and posthumously honoring Margaret Kimmell, Ph.D. as Caregiver Champion.

For more information and tickets to the Celebrating Senior Champions awards banquet, please contact Peggy Van Horn at 412-622-9239 or vanhornpa@upmc.edu.

About Family Hospice

A winner of the American Hospital Association's *Circle of Life* award for innovative care programming, Family Hospice and Palliative Care has been providing compassionate care throughout Western Pennsylvania since 1980. As the area's largest hospice provider, Family Hospice serves nine counties in the region, helping patients make choices about their care, supporting family and friends who are grieving and educating both professionals and the community about end-of-life issues.

Family Hospice is an independent, non-profit, community-based organization accredited by The Joint Commission for meeting specific high-level performance standards and recognized nationally as a pioneer in programs such as Caregiver Training. Through a commitment to quality services, Family Hospice provides a complete continuum of care to patients and families. For more information, visit FamilyHospicePA.org and www.Facebook.com/FamilyHospicePA.