



January 08, 2018

Attn: Kat Casabar
Community Health Promotion Specialist
County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency

Re: Resolution for The Elizabeth Hospice to become a Live Well San Diego Partner

Dear Ms. Casabar,

This resolution, approved by Jan Jones, president and CEO of The Elizabeth Hospice is intended to serve as our pledge to become a County of San Diego Live Well Partner and thereby exhibit and actively support The Live Well San Diego principles in the three areas of: building better health, living safely and thriving.

The Elizabeth Hospice is the oldest and largest non-profit hospice and palliative care provider in San Diego County. Our mission is to enhance the quality of life for those nearing the end of life's journey and for those who are grieving. We take into consideration the medical, physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the patient as well as the needs of their family. Since 1978, we have cared for more than 95,000 patients and their families.

We welcome all who need our service regardless of gender, age, ethnicity, religion, disease or ability to pay. Our comprehensive programs and services focus on: 1) Pain and symptom management; 2) Perinatal and Pediatric Hospice Care; 3) Palliative Care for those living with chronic or serious illness; 4) Veteran services and outreach to meet the unique needs of our veterans; and 5) Bereavement and counseling programs for patients, family members and loved ones, and the community-at-large.

The staff at The Elizabeth Hospice help patients and their families create a plan to *live well*, through comprehensive services that focus on the physical, spiritual, emotional, and social needs of patients and their loved ones. We help to make the most of each moment for as long as life lasts for our patients and their loved ones. Our staff listen to their concerns, needs, and desires to understand their wishes for care and living. By understanding one's goals and wishes, the patient and hospice team give the patient control and quality of life, as defined by the patient.

All of the physicians and nurse practitioners that work for The Elizabeth Hospice are certified in hospice and palliative medicine, as well as a majority of our field clinicians. Our medical expertise in the field of hospice and palliative medicine is sought out by institutions for higher learning including UC San Diego, CSU San Marcos, Palomar College, and SDSU. In particular, The Elizabeth Hospice has an established physician fellowship program in partnership with UCSD medical students and geriatric fellows. Participants take part in interactive daily interdisciplinary team (IDT) meetings and patient visits with palliative care and hospice teams which includes physicians, nurse practitioners, registered nurses, social workers and chaplains. The fellows learn to identify and address patients' physical, medical, emotional and spiritual needs.

Rady Children's Hospital is a partner with The Elizabeth Hospice in providing compassionate care to their population impacted by a serious or life-limiting illness, and who wish to be cared for at home. Through the Elizabeth Hospice Perinatal and Pediatric Hospice Program, our specially trained team members collaborate with the clinicians at Rady Children's Hospital to provide services tailored to

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The Elizabeth Hospice

each child. Through educational and support programs, parents are given the tools to confidently care for their child at home. The Elizabeth Hospice offers the only Pediatric Hospice Program in San Diego County.

The Elizabeth Hospice is also proud to partner with Palomar Health, to improve the care of palliative care patients in North San Diego County, served in its District. The organizations combine their expertise and experience in this medical specialty to create an unprecedented inpatient and community-based Palliative Care Program with Palomar Health, enhancing the quality of life for community members living with a chronic or serious illness.

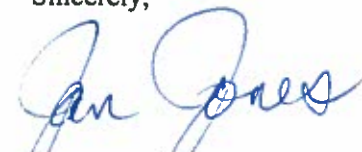
Nationally, The Elizabeth Hospice is a Level 4 Partner – the highest distinction awarded – in the *We Honor Veterans* program, sponsored by the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization, and supported by the Department of Veterans Affairs. The Elizabeth Hospice is also an active member of the San Diego County Hospice Veteran Partnership (SDCHVP), a coalition of local hospices with a mission to improve access to hospice care for veterans. The SDCHVP works in collaboration with the San Diego VA Healthcare System. In addition, The Elizabeth Hospice was recently honored by the national Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Association as an *Outstanding Employer of the Year*, for supporting the recruitment and retention of military veterans in the workplace. Furthermore, The Elizabeth Hospice is a partner with the Live Well San Diego Military Veterans Resource Center, with offices in the North Inland and South Bay locations.

Our community outreach efforts include providing bereavement counseling to those impacted by illness, grief or loss regardless of the type of death or loss experienced including children who participate in specialized counseling at no cost. Our counseling extends into 11 school districts. The Elizabeth Hospice strives to reach out to families from underserved communities who may not have resources or easy access to grief support and counseling. This includes at [Camp Erin® San Diego](#), an overnight weekend camp at no charge. This annual weekend summer camp is open to children and teens ages 6 to 17 who are grieving from the death of someone close to them. This free camp experience combines traditional, high-energy camp activities with grief support and education.

The Elizabeth Hospice staff volunteer their time in the community such as at Stand Down, Wreaths Across America, Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure, and Survivors of Suicide Loss (SOSL) Walk in Remembrance with Hope. The Elizabeth Hospice also provides intergenerational activities for teens and seniors to learn from each other. Teen volunteers meet with hospice patients to create Living Legacy projects such as photo collages and recording life experiences and stories via video.

The Elizabeth Hospice looks forward to integrating the Live Well San Diego principles into our efforts as we serve the San Diego community.

Sincerely,



Jan Jones, RN, BSN
President and CEO
The Elizabeth Hospice

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