



**NEWS RELEASE**

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**The HAP Foundation launches to support hospice and palliative care**

*Leading experts focus on education, advocacy, workforce, and research for individuals with serious illness*

The HAP Foundation, an independent nonprofit, launches to provide education, advocacy, workforce development, and research around hospice and palliative care for children and adults. With four decades rooted in direct patient care and experience from legacy hospice organizations, HAP currently focuses on filling gaps from diagnosis to end of life.

The HAP Foundation seeks to fill gaps in the rapidly changing health care landscape to improve the lives of the seriously ill. Fewer organizations now offer community-based education on serious illness and bereavement, nor do they engage in necessary research that affects access to care. HAP is committed to keeping education and resources in the community.

“Nearly 90 million Americans are living with a serious illness, which is expected to more than double over the next 25 years as baby boomers age. A serious or terminal illness diagnosis can be filled with physical and emotional suffering for individuals and their loved ones,” said Joseph Matty, President at The HAP Foundation. “At The HAP Foundation, we believe everyone should have access to relief from pain and mental anguish through palliative and hospice care, which can provide support, dignity, and comfort in the days, weeks, even years before death; and support loved ones through their grief journey after.”

The HAP Foundation serves as an education and training hub on hospice and palliative care with its robust networks of providers, hospital systems, hospices, community organizations, and health care professionals throughout Illinois. The Pediatric Palliative Care program is built on a strong foundation of expert support from practitioners to social workers to ensure seriously ill children have the continuum of care they deserve while also providing grief support to those suffering from child loss. The HAP Foundation’s Community Health Workers canvass the communities where they live engaging in meaningful conversations with their neighbors about serious illness, hospice, and palliative care by utilizing their own lived experiences.

Although everyone experiences death, The HAP Foundation strives to ensure each person can go through end-of-life care in a manner that enables comfort, support and understanding.



[thehapfoundation.org](http://thehapfoundation.org)



*About The HAP Foundation:*

*The HAP Foundation is an independent nonprofit that provides education, advocacy, workforce development, and research around hospice and palliative care for all ages. With four decades rooted in direct patient care, it currently focuses on providing guidance to resources, including grief and bereavement support; educating communities and professionals on hospice and palliative care; and advancing policies that assist individuals and families during end of life.*



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