



## **Bayshore Home Health sponsors on-line resource that provides better care for children at the end of life**

**Toronto, Ont., Oct. 7, 2008** – Bayshore Home Health, Canada’s largest provider of home and community health care services, is announcing a \$15,000 sponsorship to fund a new on-line resource called Pediatric Resource Commons. The service will be introduced by the Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association (CHPCA) to help families and health professionals care for children at the end of life.

“Bayshore’s support of this program grew out of our long-standing relationship with the CHPCA and our extensive experience helping palliative patients in communities across Canada,” says Holly Quinn, chief nursing officer for Bayshore Home Health. “This experience has shown us there’s a real need for more information related to children since their palliative care needs are quite distinct from those of adults.”

In addition to the \$15,000 donation, a Bayshore representative sits on the Pediatric Inventory Project Advisory Committee, providing direction to the CHPCA on the development, testing and implementation of the Pediatric Resource Commons.

“The pediatric hospice palliative care community in Canada is relatively small compared to the health centres and services that care for adults at the end of life,” says Sharon Baxter, executive director of the CHPCA. “While there are some excellent resources for pediatric palliative care spread across the country, there’s no central repository. It’s our goal to collect and disseminate this information to provide better services and education for health care professionals, patients and their families.”

The Pediatric Resource Commons will be accessible at [www.chpca.net](http://www.chpca.net) as well as through the Canadian Network of Palliative Care for Children’s web-site at [www.cnpcc.ca](http://www.cnpcc.ca). The site will be available later this month and will provide information on:

- Pain management
- Grief and bereavement
- Symptom management
- Family education and other resources
- Caregiver support
- Medication management
- Nutrition

Information included in the Pediatric Resource Commons reflects the fact that health professionals caring for a dying child are also caring for the entire family. A holistic approach to pediatric palliative care is required that is sensitive to both the child and his or her family.

The Commons will allow health professionals to share resources and will ultimately provide the opportunity for the development of collaborative resources. Users of the Pediatric Resource Commons are able to search and download resources, as well as upload and share resources with other health care professionals across the country.

“While grief accompanies the death of any person, when an elderly person passes away their death is usually viewed as a natural progression of life,” adds Quinn. “This new resource is so important since a child dying is outside of the societal norm and grieving takes a different journey.”

Bayshore Home Health has a long history of working with the Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association. The company has been the national home care sponsor of CHPCA’s “Hike for Hospice Palliative Care” for the past three years and its branches have participated in the event on a national level.

#### **About Bayshore Home Health**

Bayshore Home Health has been enhancing the quality of life, dignity and independence of Canadians in their homes since 1966. Canadian owned and operated, it is the country’s largest provider of home and community health care services, with more than 40 home care offices, 20 community care clinics and 8,000 employees. Its core services are in-home nursing, personal care and home support – which can be purchased directly by individuals and also accessed through government care programs, personal and group insurance plans and workplace safety insurance. Its caregivers deliver more than 5.2 million hours of home care annually to over 57,000 clients. The company also provides nurse/caregiver staffing services, health education programs and treatments in its community dialysis centres. Through its subsidiary, Bayshore Specialty Rx, it offers specialty pharmacy, infusion clinic and pharmaceutical support services to a variety of health care and pharmaceutical organizations. Bayshore Home Health has been a winner of Canada’s 50 Best Managed Companies award since 2006.

#### **About Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association**

The Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association is the national association which provides leadership in hospice palliative care in Canada. The organization offers leadership in the pursuit of excellence in care for persons approaching death so that the burdens of suffering, loneliness and grief are lessened. For more information visit [www.chpca.net](http://www.chpca.net).

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