



PROCLAMATION

National Hospice and Palliative Care Month – November 2024

WHEREAS, for more than 40 years, hospice has helped provide comfort and dignity to millions of people, allowing them to spend their final months at home, surrounded by their loved ones;

WHEREAS, the hospice model involves an interdisciplinary, team-oriented approach to treatment, including expert medical care, quality symptom control, and comprehensive pain management as a foundation of care;

WHEREAS, beyond providing physical treatment, hospice attends to the patient's emotional, spiritual and family needs, and provides family services such as respite care and bereavement counseling;

WHEREAS, since its conception, the hospice benefit's holistic approach has helped patients prepare for and face death, and their loved ones carry on supported in the wake of it;

WHEREAS, palliative care improves quality of life and offers relief from pain, can be provided at any time during an illness, and hospices are some of the best providers of community-based palliative care;

WHEREAS, in an increasingly fragmented and broken healthcare system, hospice is one of the few sectors that demonstrates how healthcare can – and should – work at its best for its patients;

WHEREAS, 1.72 million Medicare beneficiaries living with life-limiting illness and their families received care from the nation's hospice programs in communities throughout the United States in 2020;

WHEREAS, hospice and palliative care organizations are advocates and educators about advance care planning that helps individuals make decisions about the care they want;

WHEREAS, the central philosophy of hospice care puts patients first, ensuring a coordinated and person-centered approach to care, protecting patient choice and access to individualized services based on a patient's unique care needs and wishes.

WHEREAS, given our universal mortality, hospice is a valuable benefit for *all* Americans and their loved ones.

NOW, THEREFORE, by the Mayor and Council of the City of Grass Valley, do hereby proclaim November 2024 as National Hospice and Palliative Care Month and encourage citizens to increase their understanding and awareness of care at the end of life, discuss their end of life wishes with their families, and observe this month with appropriate activities and programs.

Dated this 12th day of November 2024

Jan Arbuckle, Mayor

Hilary Hodge, Vice Mayor

Bob Branstrom, Council Member

Haven Caravelli, Council Member

Thomas Ivy, Council Member