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A Few Good Men: Male Volunteers Needed at Regional Hospice

(Danbury, Conn.)— Regional Hospice and Home Care (RHHC) is seeking male volunteers in Fairfield, New Haven, and lower Litchfield counties. Volunteers provide companionship and support to hospice patients and their families in the patient's home, or in the *Center for Comfort Care and Healing* located at 30 Milestone Road in Danbury. They do not provide medical or personal care. Volunteers are matched with patients according to their interests and personalities, and consistently report that their time spent volunteering is rewarding. The time commitment is flexible.

Veteran volunteers are especially needed to work with veteran patients as part of RHHC's participation in the *We Honor Veterans* program. The special bond that exists between those who have served their country can promote life review and healing at the end of life.

Larry O'Toole, who has been volunteering with RHHC for several years, reports that volunteering, "absolutely, beyond a shadow of a doubt, has changed my life." He states,

"people say it must be sad, and I want them to know it isn't. It is very powerful and fulfilling."

Volunteers are provided with comprehensive training that equips them to effectively and comfortably help those in need. The next Family Support Volunteer Training takes place at the Center over 4 days:

- Monday, September 19th 9 am to 4 pm
- Tuesday, September 20th 1 pm to 5 pm
- Wednesday, September 21st 9 am to 4 pm
- Thursday, September 22nd 9 am to 3 pm

"The last good thing a person may have happen to them is a hospice volunteer," states Mary Beth Hickey, Volunteer Director. Hickey has connected thousands of volunteers with patients and sees firsthand the powerful impact that a caring volunteer has at the end of a person's life.

Anyone interested in volunteering should fill out an application online at <u>https://regionalhospicect.org/volunteer/</u>. For more information, please contact Mary Beth Hickey, Volunteer Director at (203) 702-7415 or by email at <u>MHickey@RegionalHospiceCT.org</u>.

Regional Hospice and Home Care's team of experienced clinicians have been providing physical, emotional, spiritual and bereavement support to children, adults and their families through our palliative and hospice care programs for the past 35 years. Regional Hospice and Home Care is a nonprofit, state-licensed and Medicare-certified home health care and hospice agency. Now, with the opening of our new private-room, specialty hospital for palliative and end-of-life care — the Center for Comfort Care & Healing — Regional Hospice and Home Care can bring that same hope and compassionate care close to home and under one roof.

For more information, visit <u>www.RegionalHospiceCT.org</u>. Follow us on twitter: <u>@RegionalHospice</u>. Like us on Facebook: <u>www.facebook.com/RegionalHospiceandHomeCare</u>. ###