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Contact: Dustin Lyda
Partnership HealthPlan of California
(866) 828-2301 | press@partnershiphp.org

**PARTNERS IN PALLIATIVE CARE PILOT TO ENHANCE PHC’S OFFERING AND HONORING CHOICES™ PROGRAM**

FAIRFIELD, Calif. – In 2012, Partnership HealthPlan of California (PHC) began the Offering and Honoring Choices™ initiative to ensure that its members and their families are knowledgeable about health care treatment options, empowered to define their treatment goals, and able to make informed choices about the interventions they choose during the last years of life.

In September, PHC will launch its pilot program, *Partners in Palliative Care*, as part of the Offering and Honoring Choices™ initiative. Palliative Care is patient and family-centered care focused on quality of life by anticipating, preventing, and treating suffering. Care includes physical, intellectual, emotional, social, spiritual needs and aiding patient autonomy, access to information, and choice.

“Aligning the provision of care with members’ wishes will support their quality of life and improve the value of care provided by PHC,” said Dr. Robert Moore, Chief Medical Officer at PHC.

Four providers have been selected to participate in the *Partners in Palliative Care* pilot. They are:

- Interim HealthCare in Shasta County
- Napa Valley Hospice and Adult Day Services in Napa County
- Resolution Care in Humboldt County
- Yolo Hospice in Yolo County

These four pilot locations will provide services in the members’ home and over the telephone. Services include: assessment, pain management services, care coordination, access to caregiver support and case management.

**About Partnership HealthPlan of California (PHC)**

PHC is a non-profit community based health care organization that contracts with the State to administer Medi-Cal benefits through local care providers, to ensure Medi-Cal recipients have access to comprehensive, cost-effective health care. PHC provides quality health care to over 530,000 Medi-Cal members. Beginning in Solano County in 1994 PHC now provides services to 14 Northern California counties - Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake, Lassen, Marin, Mendocino, Modoc, Napa, Shasta, Siskiyou, Solano, Sonoma, Trinity and Yolo.

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