

Valor Hospice News

Current News from Valor HospiceCare
and The Valor Institute for Palliative Medicine



Metro Phoenix Office Opens for Hospice and Palliative Services in Maricopa, Pinal and Gila Counties

On November 1, 2009, Valor's new Phoenix, Arizona office opened to provide hospice and palliative care services.

"With our growth in southern Arizona, our plans were to expand our recognized patient care services into the Metro Phoenix area in 2009," said Joan Weaver, RN, Executive Director & Administrator. "Including our offices in Tucson, Green Valley and Sierra Vista, our new Phoenix office gives us the opportunity to serve over 90 percent of the population of Arizona."

Cynthia Raccio, RN, CHPN, has been appointed Program Director and will direct all day to day patient care and operations activities for the market. "I joined Valor for our innovative philosophy of care, as well as our reputation for a great place to work," said Raccio.

While over 98 percent of hospice care is provided in the home setting, patients will have access to general inpatient and respite care in Valor certified centers.

Patient care will be provided in the metro Phoenix and Casa Grande areas after licensing by the Arizona Department of Health Services. Certification with Medicare and AHCCCS, and Accreditation will be provided by CHAP, the Community Health Accreditation Program. Plans also include services in the Globe area.

Valor has also partnered with the Southwest Hospice Foundation to provide for indigent care, as well as community education and health care staff development.

For further information, please contact Valor at 480.821.8338 or visit www.valorhospicecare.com.



Valor Provides Palliative Medicine Physician Services

Through The Valor Institute for Palliative Medicine and its Valor PalliativeCare Program, Valor currently provides palliative medicine evaluations by Valor physicians at private homes, adult care homes, skilled nursing facilities and hospitals to determine eligibility for the hospice benefit. This special program also provides for consultations to direct evidence-based, pain and symptom management techniques for patients on hospice service and to help educate health care providers on the hospice benefit.

Plans are in development for physician and nurse practitioner palliative care medicine practices. For pre-hospice services, Valor currently refers patients to qualified physicians.

For further information, please contact Valor at 877.615.3996 or visit www.valorhospicecare.com.

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NHPCO Releases 2009 Facts and Figures on Hospice Care

More than 35 percent of patients served in 2008 died in seven days or less reports the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization. This reflects a 4.6 percent increase from 2007, when 30.8 percent of patients had what is considered a short hospice experience. The jump in patients receiving care for a short time is of concern to Valor and NHPCO. Patients receiving care for seven days or less are often unable to take full advantage of the range of benefits that the hospice interdisciplinary team provides. For the full report, please visit www.NHPCO.org or contact us at 877.615.3996.

Valor CNAs Nominated for Exemplary Care

Valor's Certified Nurse Assistants have been nominated for their exemplary care. In a presentation on October 15, 2009 by TLC HealthCare Companies, the ceremony recognized:

- Jennifer Johnson
- Kathleen McBride
- Debbie Prusa
- Leticia Romero
- Krystle Stahl
- Tammy Wells

Under the direction of RN Case Managers, CNA's are an extremely important part of care services to assist with the interdisciplinary team.



About Us

Valor HospiceCare & The Valor Institute for Palliative Medicine provides compassionate, medically-directed holistic care for patients with advanced chronic and terminal illness and support for their families and loved ones. As an academic-based organization, with a focus on exemplary service and a dedication to making the most of every day, join us as we commit to improving end-of-life care, reducing costs to our healthcare system and expanding access to hospice and palliative care in the communities we serve. Valor is State Licensed, Medicare & Medicaid/AHCCCS Certified, CHAP Accredited and affiliates with most commercial insurance plans. Serving over 20 communities in Arizona, our teams currently support Pima, Pinal, Santa Cruz, Cochise, Maricopa and Gila Counties.

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Valor Hospice News is produced to provide the healthcare community and general public with industry information about hospice and palliative care programs and services. Questions or comments? Please e-mail us at info@valorhospicecare.com or call 877.615.3996. Valor Hospice News is published periodically by Valor HospiceCare, LLC. All rights reserved.