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PRESS RELEASE

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Nancy Hinds Honored with Two Awards

For Immediate Release - Fresno, CA, September 22, 2008 – Hinds Hospice is pleased to announce that Founder Nancy Hinds has recently been recognized by two esteemed organizations for her contributions to the nursing and hospice fields.

On Tuesday, September 16, Nancy was given the Lifetime Achievement Award from the California Hospice and Palliative Care Association (CHAPCA) at their annual conference in San Mateo, CA in recognition of her commitment to promoting access to quality hospice and end of life care. When Nancy opened the doors to her own home in 1981 to care for terminally ill patients, it was the first hospice home in the State of California. Her tireless efforts to help create hospice care legislation opened the door for not only Hinds Hospice to continue to operate, but all other hospice organizations throughout the state.

On September 17, Nancy was inducted into the Central San Joaquin Valley Nursing Hall of Fame during a special lunch ceremony. This prestigious award honors the distinctive career of nurse leaders within the seven county region of the Central San Joaquin Valley: Fresno, Kings, Kern, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, and Tulare. This award is jointly sponsored by the Department of Nursing at California State University, Fresno, Sigma Theta Tau International, Mu Nu Chapter Nursing Honor Society, and the Nursing Leadership Council of the Central San Joaquin Valley. The awards luncheon took place at the Smittcamp House on the campus of California State University, Fresno and was attended by nurses from throughout the Central Valley.

"Nancy serves with ongoing dedication to patients and families who are in need of very special care and devotion. She is an inspiration to all with whom she comes in contact and we are grateful for her everyday" says Jane Lindberg, LCSW, Executive Director of Clinical Services at Hinds Hospice.

Nancy's contribution to hospice nursing began in the 1960's and her work has taken her around the world, including working in war zones and other harsh conditions as a missionary nurse. After moving back to the United States from Ireland following the deaths of her mother and husband, Nancy settled in Fresno with her three young boys and took a

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position at St. Agnes as an oncology nurse. Nancy soon realized she wanted more time with her sons, and began caring for the terminally ill in her home. "I also knew that I had something to offer people. I feel I can relate to people because I have some sense of what they are experiencing," Nancy said.

Nancy's first hospice home on Simpson, in Fresno, had a four patient capacity and was open from 1981 until 1985. During that time, the home served 72 patients as well as their families. Suddenly, unexpectedly, the Department of Health closed down the Simpson home for not having a license to operate. No such license had ever existed in the State of California. Legislation had to be developed that would allow for quality end-of-life hospice care in a hospice home facility. It took almost two years to create the needed legislation and after two years of working with the California legislature, the license for the Congregate Living Facility was established and Nancy at last had a license to operate. During her fight to find legislation in Sacramento, Nancy was forced to sell the Simpson house, take a supervisor job, and move the boys and herself into her father's house. She never gave up believing that the right legislation would be found and worked hard with legislators to create it. In 1987 the second Hinds Hospice home was opened and the rest is history.

Today Nancy Hinds has grown Hinds Hospice to include outpatient care in the three central California counties of Fresno, Madera, and Merced. Hinds also has a Pediatric Hospice program to support families with terminally ill children and provides training of staff at Children's Hospital of Central California; a Center for Grief and Loss that provides extensive bereavement support after a loss to both hospice families and the community at large; a Perinatal Hospice program called "Angel Babies/Bebitos Angelitos" that provides grief support to families who have a pregnancy or an infant diagnosed with a life limiting condition; Multicultural Outreach offering a comprehensive program to the Spanish and Hmong populations; Physician Education that provides residents and medical students from the University of California, San Francisco, and the University of California, Davis formal hands-on training in end-of-life care; Prison Hospice that educates and trains life inmates to provide hospice care for fellow life inmates; and five Thrift Stores that provide discounted items to those in need in the communities served by Hinds Hospice.

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