



Media Contact:

Mathew Gulick
Capital Caring
mgulick@capitalcaring.org
(o) 703-712-4869
(c) 202-285-5500

Hospice Celebrates Impact of Volunteers During National Volunteer Week

World-class care could not be provided without support from 1,000 community volunteers

FALLS CHURCH, VA (April 25, 2017) – Capital Caring, the mid-Atlantic’s largest nonprofit hospice and palliative care provider, is pleased to celebrate the enormous impact of its community volunteers during National Healthcare Volunteer Week, April 23-29. These dedicated individuals of all ages give more than 80,000 hours of their time in support of the more than 6,300 men, women, and children who come to Capital Caring for advanced illness care every year in Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and Washington, DC.

“Volunteers have always been at the heart of hospice,” explains Malene Davis, Capital Caring’s President and CEO. “In fact, when Capital Caring was founded 40 years ago, it was with a cadre of volunteer nurses, doctors, and community supporters. Though they are not paid a salary, the value of their time, knowledge, and passion is immeasurable.”

The Medicare Hospice Benefit, administered by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), mandates that at least five percent of all patient care hours be provided by trained volunteers, underscoring the importance of community support for all hospice programs. Capital Caring exceeds this requirement every month.

“Each patient’s journey is unique and it’s my job as a volunteer to help them navigate their final transition,” remarked Kaitlin, a volunteer in Capital Caring’s Washington, DC, neighborhood. “I

**** More ****

truly hope that my patients have received as much love, support, faith and guidance from me, as I have from them.”

###

ABOUT CAPITAL CARING

For 40 years, Capital Caring’s mission has been to simply improve care for those facing life-limiting illness through direct support of patients and their families, public education, and advocacy. Since its founding by committed volunteers in Northern Virginia, Capital Caring has provided hospice, palliative care, and counseling to nearly 110,000 individuals and their families. Nearly 750 employees and 1,000 volunteers provide these services to almost 1,300 moms, dads, and kids every day in Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and Washington, DC. As one of the nation's oldest and largest non-profit providers of hospice and palliative care, Capital Caring supports all those who need care, regardless of their ability to pay, and is proud to provide nearly \$3 million in charitable care to families in need annually.