



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT
Caroline Witherspoon or
Brooke Jones
Becker Communications, Inc.
(808) 533-4165

HOSPICE HAWAII WELCOMES TWO NEW CHAPLAINS

HONOLULU (Oct. 26, 2012) – Hospice Hawaii has hired two new chaplains, Rev. Nayer Taheri and Chaplain Jessica Knutzen. Together, they will direct Hospice Hawaii's Patient and Family Services.

Rev. Nayer Taheri

Rev. Taheri is an ordained Unitarian Universalist minister and has been serving pediatric and adult patients in both hospital and hospice settings for over 15 years. Prior to joining Hospice Hawaii, Rev. Taheri served as part of the Pediatric Palliative Team at Seattle Children's Hospital. She previously held chaplain positions with Providence Hospital of Seattle and Harborview Medical Center. She has presented at numerous conferences and has also lectured at the University of Washington Bothell and Edmonds Community College. Rev. Taheri was born and raised in Tehran, Iran, and moved to the United States with her son in 1994. She studied at the Starr King School for the Ministry in Berkeley, California.

Chaplain Jessica Knutzen

Chaplain Knutzen brings 10 years of ministry experience to Hospice Hawaii. She is a clinically certified chaplain and holds a master's degree in Divinity, Worship, Theology and the Arts from Fuller Theological Seminary. Chaplain Knutzen completed her Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) residency in Hawaii at Queens Medical Center and Hawaii State Hospital, where she provided emotional and spiritual care to patients and families. Prior to that, she lived in California and served at the Arcadia Methodist Hospital, First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood, Fuller Theological Seminary, Iglesia Fuente de Vida, Ojai Presbyterian Church, Point Loma Nazarene University, and the First Presbyterian Church.

[About Hospice Hawaii](#)

Serving the community since 1979, Hospice Hawaii specializes in providing comprehensive, interdisciplinary care to patients with life-limiting illnesses and their families in the comfort of their own homes. Hospice Hawaii also offers care in a home-like setting in Kailua. Created by the community and governed by a local board of directors, Hospice Hawaii strives to meet the physical, emotional, psychosocial, and spiritual needs of patients with quality end of life care. For more information about Hospice Hawaii, visit www.hospicehawaii.org.

#