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CONTACT: Patricia Klein
Public Relations Specialist
Good Shepherd Hospice
www.goodshepherdhospice.org

863-551-3941 (desk)
863-616-2890 (cell)
kleinp@goodshepherdhospice.org

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Chris Bredbenner joins Good Shepherd Hospice as executive director

LAKELAND, FLA. – William Christopher “Chris” Bredbenner has joined Good Shepherd Hospice, Inc. as executive director, effective October 27.

Bredbenner comes to Good Shepherd Hospice from Hernando Pasco Hospice Inc., where he most recently held the position of vice president of Planning and Development. Prior to that, he was director of Development.

“We are very excited to have Chris joining the Good Shepherd Hospice team,” said Kathy Fernandez, president and CEO of HPC Healthcare, Inc. HPC Healthcare is the parent organization of Good Shepherd Hospice. “The patients and families of Good Shepherd Hospice will truly benefit from his experience and expertise.”

In his new position, Bredbenner will oversee the operation of Good Shepherd Hospice, which served more than 4,000 patients in Polk, Highlands and Hardee counties in 2007. The organization is in the process of building a new 12-bed hospice house in Highlands County that will help address patients’ acute pain and symptoms in a home-like setting. Good Shepherd Hospice currently operates the 12-bed George Forsythe Hospice House in Auburndale and a seven-bed hospice unit at Palm Terrace in Lakeland.

Bredbenner graduated from Stetson University with a degree in Business Administration/Marketing and is a certified fund raising executive and a certified hospice administrator. He has also held leadership positions with The Florida Aquarium and the MacDonald Training Center, both in Tampa.

Good Shepherd Hospice embraces its mission to make the most of life by relieving the suffering of patients and their families affected by life-limiting illnesses or end-of-life issues. The organization is a community-based, not-for-profit hospice that has been a part of Polk, Hardee and Highlands counties since 1979. Good Shepherd Hospice received national recognition with a 2008 Circle of Life Citation of Honor and is the only local agency offering hospice programs accredited by the Joint Commission,

which sets the national standards for healthcare accreditation. The United Way of Central Florida partially funds the community programs offered by Good Shepherd Hospice. For more information, please visit the website at www.goodshepherdhospice.org

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