



CHAPTERS
HEALTH® SYSTEM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Chapters Health System and Hospice of Okeechobee Announce
Finalized Affiliation Agreement**

Combined Resources to Provide a Full Continuum of Care for Residents in 11 Counties

TAMPA, FL (August 2, 2019): Chapters Health System and Hospice of Okeechobee jointly announce today the signing of their finalized affiliation agreement. Chapters Health, one of the nation’s premier not-for-profit community-based care organizations, is headquartered in Temple Terrace with current affiliates including Good Shepherd Hospice in Polk, Highlands and Hardee counties; HPH Hospice in Pasco, Hernando and Citrus counties; LifePath Hospice in Hillsborough County; Chapters Health Palliative Care, Achieve Home Care, HPH Home Health, Chapters Health Pharmacy, Chapters Health Staffing and Chapters Health Foundation. Hospice of Okeechobee is a not-for-profit provider of hospice and other end-of-life services for residents living in Okeechobee, St. Lucie and Martin counties. With this agreement and a staff of more than 1,600 and approximately 1,200 volunteers, Chapters Health and its affiliates now combine to annually provide care to more than 20,000 Floridians residing in 11 Florida counties with an average daily census of more than 2,700.

“Chapters Health has an unmatched set of mission-focused services that a great program like Hospice of Okeechobee saw the value in being part of and in doing so ensured their long-term place in the communities they serve,” said Andrew Molosky, MBA, FACHE, CHPCA, president and chief executive officer at Chapters Health. “We’ve put ourselves in a position to offer the communities we serve unique solutions and top-notch clinical services from home health to palliative care to hospice and so much more. The future of Chapters Health is very bright, and changing the way community-based and end-of-life care is delivered.”

“Originally slated to close on September 1, we were thrilled to be able to finalize our affiliation with Chapters Health sooner than expected,” said Frank Irby, Hospice of Okeechobee Board of Directors President. “I am confident that our common, not-for-profit missions guarantees that more patients coping with serious illnesses have opportunities to access compassionate care at a challenging time in their lives. I want the community to know Hospice of Okeechobee will retain its long-established identity and connection to those we serve.”

This affiliation advances the shared goals of:

- Quality of care and services backed by evidenced-based best clinical practices and demonstrating unsurpassed quality of care in the communities they serve.
- Expanding the Chapters Health network of hospice, palliative care and community-based services, providers across three additional Florida counties with shared commitment to quality, service and access.
- Improved stewardship and efficiency through collective purchasing and shared technology, enabling the reinvestment of savings into staffing and care delivery.

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Page 2: Chapters Health and Hospice of Okeechobee Finalize Affiliation Agreement Press Release

About Chapters Health System

Founded in 1983 as a compassionate not-for-profit organization, Chapters Health System provides choices, education and guidance for those affected by advancing age or advancing illness through its managed affiliates: Good Shepherd Hospice, HPH Hospice, LifePath Hospice, and Chapters Health Palliative Care, located in Citrus, Hardee, Hernando, Highlands, Hillsborough, Pasco and Polk counties. In addition, Chapters Health operates Achieve Home Care and HPH Home Health, which serves the home care needs of patients in Hardee, Hillsborough, Pasco and Pinellas counties. To learn more, visit www.chaptershealth.org, like us on [Facebook](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

About Hospice of Okeechobee

Founded in 1983 by Okeechobee residents Paul Buxton (deceased), Fran Syfrett, Dorothy Bulger and others, Hospice of Okeechobee is an award-winning, not-for-profit organization, which has provided compassionate care and support to thousands of local residents and their families in Okeechobee County. The organization was recently named by HEALTHCAREfirst as a 2019 Hospice Honors Elite recipient for the third year and second at the elite level. To learn more, visit hospiceofokeechobee.org and like us on [Facebook](#).