2012 New Investigator Award Recipient Announced by HPNA

PITTSBURGH, PA, MARCH 26, 2012— The Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association (HPNA) is pleased to announce that Karen Kehl, PhD RN ACHPN® FPCN, is the 2012 HPNA New Investigator Award recipient. The HPNA New Investigator Award recognizes an HPNA nurse at the beginning of his or her research career who has performed superior research focused on clinical care, professional development or the advancement of hospice and palliative nursing. The award was presented to Dr. Kehl during a ceremony on March 10, 2012 at the AAHPM/HPNA Annual Assembly in Denver, Colorado.

Dr. Kehl has held positions in palliative care and hospices since 1989. She was the 2009 recipient of the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Foundation Certification Grant, a College of Palliative Care Research Scholar in 2008-2009 and received recognition as a KL2 Scholar, Clinical and Translational Science Award at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Additionally, as an HPNA member volunteer, Dr. Kehl is a current reviewer for the Journal of Hospice and Palliative Nursing (JHPN) and the Journal of Palliative Medicine (JPM) journals and serves as a member of the Scientific Sub-committee for the AAHPM/HPNA Annual Assembly (2007-2011).

Additionally, Dr. Kehl has received funding from the National Center for Research Resources, National Institutes of Health from 2007-2011. Dr. Kehl’s many years of experience as both a clinician and an educator are generating new and exciting research ideas in the field of hospice and palliative nursing care. Dr. Kehl is currently an Assistant Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Nursing in Madison, Wisconsin.

“Dr. Karen Kehl and her exceptional research is beyond worthy of this prominent distinction,” said Joanne Reifsnyder, PhD ACHPN®, President of the HPNA Board of Directors. “On behalf of the
entire HPNA Board of Directors and our nearly 11,000 members, we congratulate Dr. Kehl and thank her for an undeniable dedication to the field of hospice and palliative nursing.”

About HPNA

Celebrating its 26th anniversary in 2012, with nearly 11,000 members, the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association (HPNA) is a national non-profit organization of nursing professionals specializing in end-of life care and pain management. Its mission is to lead the way to promote excellence in the provision of palliative nursing care through leadership development, education and the support of research in the field. Established in 1986, HPNA is the only nursing organization of its kind. It is part of the Alliance for Excellence in Hospice and Palliative Nursing which includes the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Foundation and the National Board for Certification of Hospice and Palliative Nurses. Together, the organizations are working to lead the way in the advancement of the rapidly growing and increasingly important hospice and palliative care nursing specialty. To learn more, visit HPNA at www.hpna.org, call 412.787.9301, or email hpna@hpna.org.

The Hospice and Palliative Nurses Foundation supports research and education for nurses and healthcare team members working in end-of-life care and serves as the fundraising arm of HPNA. Please visit, www.hpnf.org, for contribution and donation information.

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