



For Immediate Release:

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HPNA Celebrates National Healthcare Decisions Day

(Pittsburgh, PA) - HPNA, along with other national, state and community organizations, are leading a massive effort to highlight the importance of advance healthcare decision-making—an effort that has culminated in the formal designation of April 16 as National Healthcare Decisions Day (NHDD). As a participating organization, HPNA is providing information and tools for the public to talk about their wishes with family, friends and healthcare providers, and execute written advance directives (healthcare power of attorney and living will). These resources are available at www.nhdd.org.

“As a result of National Healthcare Decisions Day, many more people in our community can be expected to have thoughtful conversations about their healthcare decisions and complete reliable advance directives to make their wishes known,” said **Sally Welsh, MSN RN NEA-BC, Chief Executive Officer of HPNA**. “Fewer families and healthcare providers will have to struggle with making difficult healthcare decisions in the absence of guidance from the patient, and healthcare providers and facilities will be better equipped to address advance healthcare planning issues before a crisis and be better able to honor patient wishes when the time comes to do so.”

For more information about National Healthcare Decision Day, including useful resources and communication tools please visit www.nhdd.org.

About HPNA

Celebrating its 27th anniversary, with nearly 11,000 members, the Hospice and Palliative Nurses

Association (HPNA) is a national non-profit organization of nursing professionals specializing in the specialty of palliative nursing across the life span continuum. 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 palliative care nursing specialty. To learn more, visit HPNA at www.hpna.org, call 412.787.9301, or email hpna@hpna.org.

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