



**PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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***Covenant Hospice receives award for Tuck-in Program***

**Pensacola-** Covenant Hospice received the Award of Excellence in Program Innovation for its Tuck-in Program. The award was presented to Sandra Huster, Director of Volunteer Services at the Florida Hospices and Palliative Care's 2010 Conference, recently held in Orlando. FHPC created the Awards of Excellence program in order to identify, recognize and showcase outstanding and innovative work of programs and individual staff members across the state of Florida.

Covenant Hospice Tuck-in Volunteer Program began in 2008 with just two branches, then quickly grew to all 11 branches by the end of 2008. The program led by volunteers calls patients that reside at home, at weeks end to follow up and prepare the patients for the up-coming weekend. Volunteers ask questions concerning equipment, supplies, medications and pain management. This program helps to ensure Covenant's promise of quality end-of-life care. The Tuck-in Program reduced the number of weekend calls from patients to the Covenant Hospice answering service by 66.4 %.

Covenant Hospice cares for more than 1,200 patients in north Florida and south Alabama and involves over 2,000 volunteers. Covenant Hospice is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing comprehensive, compassionate services to patients and loved ones during times of life-limiting illnesses.