

Nebraska Hospice and Palliative Care Partnership

Improving Care and Conditions for Chronically and Terminally Ill Nebraskans

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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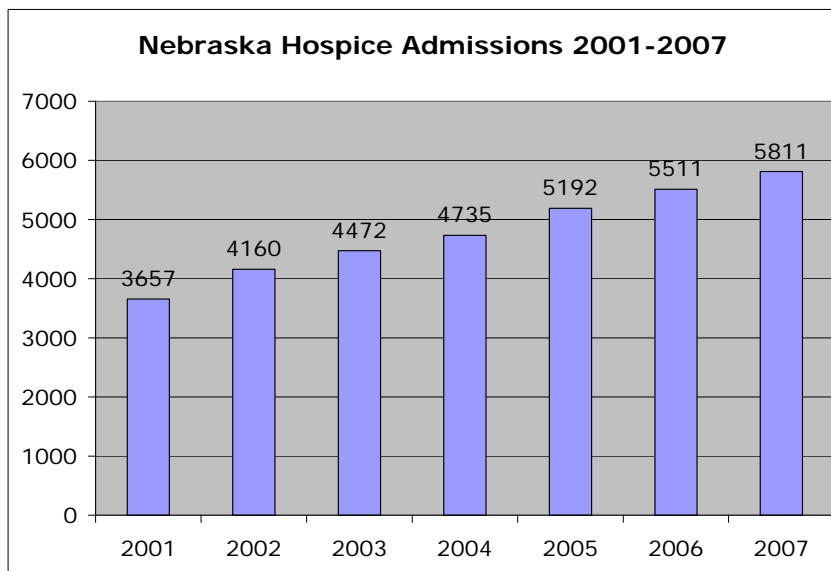
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STATE HOSPICE ASSOCIATION REPORTS GROWTH IN NEBRASKA HOSPICE ADMISSIONS

LINCOLN, NEB. – The Nebraska Hospice and Palliative Care Partnership (NHPCP), announces continuous growth in hospice admissions since 2001. NHPCP’s members, who represent nearly all of Nebraska’s hospices, reported 5,811 hospice admissions in Nebraska in 2007 – up nearly 60 percent from 2001. This increased figure indicates that 45 percent of dying Nebraskans utilized the team-based, patient centered services of hospice last year.

The image below illustrates the growth in hospice admissions.



Hospice provides an interdisciplinary team of a doctor, nurse, social worker, chaplain (if desired), various therapists (as needed), and volunteers. Hospice is 100 percent paid by Medicare, Medicaid, the VA System, and many private insurance carriers for individuals diagnosed by a physician as having six months or less to live who choose to forego further curative treatment.

Hospice helps families and the health care system know and respect the wishes of the terminally ill. Available wherever a dying person calls home—including assisted living and nursing facilities, hospitals, and prisons—hospice assesses and addresses physical, social, spiritual and psychological issues to alleviate pain, symptoms, and suffering and improve the quality of life of those in their last months of life.

“Hospice is widely recognized as the gold standard for end-of-life care,” said Pat Snyder, Executive Director of NHPCP. “As we enter our 25th year as Nebraska’s hospice association, we are encouraged that each year more Nebraskans are benefiting from hospice.”

NHPCP is a collaborative effort of more than 50 organizations with an interest in good care for terminally and chronically ill Nebraskans. Established as a 501(c)3 community betterment non-profit in 1983, NHPCP includes Nebraska hospices, community end-of-life coalitions, and other health and elder-care organizations. Find a hospice in your area at nehospice.org.

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