

## **Hospice Dufferin and Bethell Hospice Team up to Improve Access to Palliative and Community Care Services in Dufferin County**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Orangeville, ON (August 14, 2024)** – Dufferin County hospice palliative care, grief and bereavement, and community services will come together to be hosted under one hospice provider for all of Dufferin and Caledon, as of October 1, 2024. The transition of community care services to Bethell Hospice will begin this month and continue until the official transfer on October 1. The aim is to create one point of access for those with palliative care needs living in Dufferin County, Caledon and surrounding areas.

Working with Ontario Health on the next steps, the integration of services will include a seamless transition of care for all current Hospice Dufferin clients to the well-established services at Bethell Hospice. This change will allow for a more cohesive care delivery model across the Dufferin/Caledon community, ultimately improving client care for those who require palliative and community care services in the area.

“Hospice Dufferin and Bethell Hospice have played a vital role in connecting people and families across Dufferin-Caledon to high-quality palliative care services” said Sylvia Jones, MPP for Dufferin–Caledon. “By creating one point of access to palliative care, Bethell Hospice will continue to provide comfortable and dignified end-of-life care for patients and their loved ones closer to home.”

Hospice Dufferin Executive Director, Maureen Riedler, states “Hospice Dufferin proudly celebrates a 40-year legacy of delivering exceptional palliative and bereavement care. This milestone is a testament to the unwavering dedication of our volunteers, staff, and donors. United by shared values and a common vision, we are confident that our integration of services with Bethell Hospice will enhance the quality of palliative care services in our region.”

Margaret Paan, Executive Director of Bethell Hospice, comments, “Bethell Hospice is honoured to provide palliative care services for the Dufferin community. We look forward to partnering with the existing volunteers and donors to ensure critical hospice services and community programs continue to be available close to home.”

The board of directors of both hospices are committed to a vision of excellence in quality palliative and community care services in Dufferin County and Caledon and are fully engaged and supportive of the integration of services.

Hospice Dufferin would like to extend an invitation to the local community to join them at a public event scheduled to take place at Hospice Dufferin on Tuesday August 27 between 5:30 –7:30 p.m. to celebrate the rich history and legacy of the hospice. Kindly RSVP using the following link: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/hospice-dufferin-tickets-972442270007>



**Hospice Dufferin** provides services in the County of Dufferin for individuals and their families living with a life-limiting illness from diagnosis to end of life to bereavement. Our goal is to help our clients and their families to live life fully. The delivery of our programs and services are made possible through the support of a small, dedicated staff and many volunteers. For more information on Hospice Dufferin, visit <https://hospicedufferin.com>

**Bethell Hospice** provides compassionate, respectful 24-hour care in our hospice residence in Inglewood, ON to enhance the quality of life for individuals facing a life-limiting illness and their families. Hospice services are an essential component of our health care system, focusing on individualized care and comfort. Bethell Hospice also offers a range of community programs and services for individuals still residing in their own homes. Dignity and comfort are the cornerstones of care at Bethell Hospice. We welcome people of all backgrounds, cultures, and religions.

All services and programs are provided at no cost. There are no fees to stay at Bethell Hospice, or to participate in any of our community programs, and no one is ever denied care due to their financial situation. Bethell Hospice is a proud partner in the Hills of Headwaters Collaborative Ontario Health Team. For more information on Bethell Hospice, visit <https://bethellhospice.org/>

**Media Contact:**

Kelly Stronach  
Senior Manager Marketing and Communications  
905-838-3534, extension 2249  
416-720-7345 (cell)  
[kstronach@bethellhospice.org](mailto:kstronach@bethellhospice.org)