

# *Media Advisory*

## **For Immediate Release:**

August 13, 2009

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## **Wuesthoff Health System to Break Ground on Hospice House**

*“Dr. Jey Pillai Center for Hospice Care Groundbreaking set for August 28”*

**Brevard County, FL** (August 13, 2009) Wuesthoff Hospice & Palliative Care will hold a Groundbreaking Ceremony on **Friday, August 28, at 10 am**, for the Dr. Jey Pillai Center for Hospice Care.

Wuesthoff Health System closed on a two-acre parcel of land in Rockledge on Eyster Boulevard just east of Huntington Lane in April. The City of Rockledge voted to rezone the property in order for a Hospice House to be built on the site.

The Dr. Jey Pillai Center for Hospice Care will be a 12-bed, 17,400 square foot Hospice House designed with an ‘Old Florida’ theme inside and out. Each private room will have a screened patio overlooking the canopy of oak and pine trees with a memorial walkway and gardens underneath. A front porch with rocking chairs will be sure to provide a serene setting.

“A comprehensive hospice program needs a hospice house because many people who cannot be served at home need an alternative location for their care,” said Judy Powers, Executive Director, Wuesthoff Hospice & Palliative Care. “Unfortunately, traditional clinical settings do not always provide the serene, private environment which will be offered in our Hospice House.”

“The project’s estimated cost is approximately \$5 million. Donors have given \$3.5 million putting us within \$1.5 million of estimated costs,” said Dorothy Allen, President, Wuesthoff Health System Foundation. “Wuesthoff Foundation is reaching out to inspire some very special people in the community to put the final touches on fundraising for the project.”

In addition, naming opportunities for the facility are also available with various foundations, civic clubs and organizations being approached to lend their support.

The event is open to the public; parking will be at McLarty Football Stadium, 1853 Murrell Road, Rockledge. A complimentary shuttle bus will transport attendees to the event.

### About Wuesthoff Hospice & Palliative Care

Wuesthoff Hospice & Palliative Care, the county's first licensed hospice, has been providing compassionate care to our community since 1984. When life matters most, our compassionate team of experts is here to offer a special kind of care to your loved one at the end of life's journey. Patients and families who choose Wuesthoff Hospice & Palliative Care receive the best possible care from a team of experts that includes primary physicians, nurses, social workers, aides, chaplains and volunteers. The care and service we provide is known for its excellence on the local, state and national level.

Wuesthoff Hospice & Palliative Care has served the community for over 25 years and care for more than 16,000 patients and their families. Every day, more than 200 patients receive care from our Hospice staff.