



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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HopeHealth Raises over \$315,000 for Hospice and Palliative Care

The Rev. Janet Cooper Nelson Honored with the Seventh Annual Human Dignity Award



(Left to right: Keith Kelly, HopeHealth Board Chair and Diana Franchitto, President & CEO of HopeHealth, presented The Rev. Janet Cooper-Nelson with her award virtually.)

PROVIDENCE, R.I. –HopeHealth recently brought caregivers, patients, and families together for [Connecting Together: A Celebration of Hope & Gratitude](#). Hosted by NBC 10 anchor Mario Hilario, a longtime friend of HopeHealth, the livestreamed event and fundraiser featured the presentation of the 2020 Human Dignity Award to Brown University’s The Rev. Janet Cooper-Nelson, live music by the Paula Clare Band and powerful stories of hope and dignity.

The event raised more than \$315,000 to support HopeHealth’s hospice and palliative care programs. “This year’s Celebration is all the more meaningful as HopeHealth worked on the frontlines of the COVID-19 health crisis,” remarked Diana Franchitto, HopeHealth President & CEO. “As HopeHealth continues to care for those affected by the pandemic, we were glad to dedicate our virtual gala to both honor our team and share stories of hope and gratitude.”

During the evening, HopeHealth presented the seventh annual Human Dignity Award to Reverend Cooper-Nelson in recognition of her commitment to human dignity at the end of life. At Brown University, Cooper-Nelson examines interfaith collaboration, advocacy, ethics and grief while leading a multi-faith team of associate chaplains and overseeing student religious organizations. She has been a devoted member of the HopeHealth community since 2006, serving on its Board of Directors and chair of its Ethics & Equity Committee.

The Human Dignity Award recognizes leaders who have shown exemplary dedication to the core values of hospice: to offer comfort, compassion and dignity to patients at the end of life and hope and healing to their families. Previous recipients of the Human Dignity Award include Stanley

Aronson, MD, Rabbi Leslie Gutterman, Milton W. Hamolsky, MD, Edward Martin, MD, MPH, Arthur S. Robbins and Fred Schiffman, MD.

“The outpouring of support that HopeHealth received has been incredible and we are deeply grateful for our donors’ generosity,” said HopeHealth Vice President of Philanthropy, Suzanne Fortier. “We couldn’t have done it without our major sponsors, including Swipe for a Cause, Barrett & Singal, Elms Foundation, Coastal Medical, Robbins Properties and many more.”

A full list of sponsors can be found [here](#).

You can watch the online event and contribute by visiting the event webpage at HopeHealthCo.org/ConnectingTogether.”

***About HopeHealth** - For more than a century, HopeHealth has provided high quality, compassionate care to people in various stages of illness to communities in Rhode Island and Massachusetts. Its roots began in home care in 1908 and then in hospice in 1976, coming together as HopeHealth in 2011 providing home care, palliative care and hospice care. As the second oldest hospice in the country and one of the largest not-for-profit providers of palliative and hospice care in New England, HopeHealth has set the gold standard in serious illness and end-of-life care. HopeHealth is the major teaching affiliate for hospice and palliative care of the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University.*

For more information, visit www.HopeHealthCo.org.

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