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Alzheimer's Association Honors Hospice of the Western Reserve

Cleveland, OH (May 5, 2009) – Hospice of the Western Reserve was given the Jennifer B. Langston Community Service Award for their partnership with the Alzheimer's Association Cleveland Area Chapter to provide important elements of hospice care to patients in the early stages of the disease.

The goal of the collaboration is to reach a population not yet in need of direct hospice services to ensure that important life closure activities and advance care planning were completed with the informed judgment and awareness of the patient. This program has enabled the organizations to come together to fill a service gap and to provide quality care to individuals with dementia at the end of life.

“It was CEO David Simpson who first approached us about collaborating on a program to bring the essence of hospice programming to people when they are still in the early stages of the disease - and to support their caregivers with information and preparation for the concerns that they may face as the disease progresses,” explained Nancy B. Udelson, Executive Director at the Alzheimer's Association Cleveland Area Chapter. “Staff from each of our organizations worked together for two years to create a unique program to help meet this need.”

Hospice of the Western Reserve was honored during the Alzheimer's Association Cleveland Area Chapter's annual dinner along. The Jennifer B. Langston Community Service award is a tribute to Langston's outstanding services to the Alzheimer's Association and to the community as a member and past president of the board of directors.

Other honorees at the dinner include Marsha Spitz who was recognized with the Arlene L. Ellis Volunteer Service Award and Gary Shamis, CPA, M. Acc. who was given the Champion Award.

About Hospice of the Western Reserve: *Hospice of the Western Reserve is a community-based, non-profit agency providing comfort care and emotional support to seriously ill adult and children and their families, regardless of disease or ability to pay. Care is provided wherever the patient lives: in the home, a nursing facility, our hospice residential facility or a hospital. For more information, visit www.hospicewr.org.*