

PROCLAMATION



WHEREAS, all people are encouraged to learn about options for care – options like hospice and palliative care – before they are confronted with a healthcare crisis and to share such wishes through appropriate advance care planning activities;

WHEREAS, hospice and palliative care empower people to live as fully as possible, surrounded and supported by family and loved ones, despite serious and life-limiting illness;

WHEREAS, hospice and palliative care bring patients and family caregivers the highest quality care delivered by an interdisciplinary team of skilled professionals that includes physicians, nurses, social workers, therapists, counselors, health aides, spiritual care providers and others who make the wishes of each patient and family a priority;

WHEREAS, advance care planning involves making decisions about the healthcare an individual would want to receive if he or she were facing a serious or life-limiting illness or if they were unable to speak for themselves;

WHEREAS, through pain management and symptom control, caregiver training and assistance, and emotional and spiritual support, allowing patients to live fully up until the final moments, surrounded and supported by the faces of loved ones, friends, and committed caregivers, hospice and palliative care focus on quality of living;

WHEREAS, each year, hospice saves Medicare more than \$2 billion by providing solutions for physicians, care to patients and comfort to families anywhere, at any time.

WHEREAS, every year more than 1.65 million Americans living with life-limiting illness, and their families, received care from the nation's hospice programs in communities throughout the United States;

WHEREAS, more than 430,000 trained volunteers contribute 19 million hours of service to hospice program annually;

WHEREAS, hospice and palliative care providers encourage all people to learn more about options of care and to share their wishes with family, loved ones, and their healthcare professionals;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GENE F. MCGEE, Mayor of the City of Ridgeland, Mississippi do hereby proclaim November, 2016 as

NATIONAL HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE CARE MONTH

and encourage citizens to increase their understanding and awareness of care at the end of life and to observe this month with appropriate activities and programs.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this the
_____ 14th _____ day of _____ November _____ in the year of
our Lord, _____ 2016 _____ .



GENE F. MCGEE, MAYOR