

**NEWS RELEASE
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For more information contact:
Amy Koch, Executive Director

Phone: 812.682.4675
Email: cford.adm@gmail.com

**CHARLES FORD RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES OF NEW HARMONY
TO PROVIDE HOSPICE CARE IN AN INDIANA, ILLINOIS REGION**

New Harmony, Ind. – February 28, 2023 - The Charles Ford Retirement Communities of New Harmony board of directors is announcing its intent to expand services to include hospice care throughout the service area, specifically a designated radius in Indiana and Illinois. Currently, Charles Ford is an independent, not-for-profit, assisted living retirement community, located on Main Street in New Harmony, Indiana.

The hospice care exploratory study advanced to a 12-month accreditation phase with a unanimous decision made by the Charles Ford board of directors at its February meeting. During the six-month market study and hospice planning process, the board's Alternative Services Committee sought the services provided by the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO) and Community Health Accreditation Partners (CHAP), along with the expertise of Hope Realized Coaching, LLC, in partnership with Staci Krueger, RN CHPN. According to the Charles Ford board president, Nathan Maudlin, "Each firm we consulted provided us with specific expertise in the exploration and development of a state-of-the-art hospice care program."

Amy Koch, the long-time executive director of Charles Ford Retirement Communities explained: "By extending our services of assisted living and adding the new service of hospice care, we will answer a specific need for more personalized, intimate, compassionate care in the market radius we've defined.

"In recent years," Koch continued, "hospice care delivery has become nearly robotic as large corporations and insurance companies have acquired local and regional organizations to gain synergies toward the bottom line. Through our new endeavor, Charles Ford will continue its tradition of delivering more personalized, elevated services as we expand those characteristics and deliver end-of-life palliative care that's focused on the comfort that can be depended upon when it's provided by compassionate, highly qualified health care professionals."

"Above all," Koch said, "Charles Ford is known for a unique culture that reflects its ongoing mission to preserve and enhance an individual's personal dignity and respect while delivering exceptional care. These qualities will continue within our assisted living facility and be extended throughout the region in our hospice care program."

The Charles Ford Retirement Communities of New Harmony is committed to providing quality residential living services in residential surroundings, for individuals who need supportive care. To preserve and enhance a resident's personal dignity and individuality, to promote and encourage independence, and to provide quality of life, while receiving professional assistance with personal and health care needs.