



Sept.16, 2011

**Cutline for Photo:** *Brittany Lakhani, Miss Gainesville Teen USA Pageant Winner and Hospice of Citrus County Volunteer with Anthony Palumbo, CEO.*

**Miss Gainesville Teen USA is a Hospice of Citrus County Teen Volunteer**

LECANTO--Brittany Lakhani, Miss Gainesville Teen USA, has been volunteering with Hospice of Citrus County for almost 2 years. She began after her grandmother was diagnosed with cancer. Brittany looks forward to a career in the medical field and feels she'll benefit from volunteering with the patients and families served by Hospice of Citrus County.

Brittany lives in Dunnellon and is a senior. She is dually enrolled at the College of Central Florida, majoring in Biology. She will graduate with her Associate of Science degree in May 2012 and from high school in June 2012. She hopes to attend the University of Florida medical school and then go to Oxford or Johns Hopkins University and major in Neuroscience. Her goal is to become a Pediatric Neurosurgeon. She

hopes that once she is established in her career she can offer her services to children in the United States who do not have the financial means for needed neurosurgery.

She is on her high school's cross country track team, active in the student government (hoping to be elected President this year), and the Vice President of the National Honor Society at her high school. She values her weekends because she spends that time with her family, which she values greatly.

Brittany volunteers with patients, at community events and at the administrative office. For more information about volunteer opportunities at Hospice of Citrus County, call 352.527.2020, or visit [www.hospiceofcitruscounty.org](http://www.hospiceofcitruscounty.org).

Brittany will compete in the Miss Florida Teen USA Pageant in Miami from Sept 29th through Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>.