

## Hospice of the Nature Coast Recognizes its Local Social Workers



### **PHOTO CAPTION:**

Hospice of the Nature Coast social workers (from left) Janet Bessent, Jason Denis, Janet Greene, Janet Moore and Erika Suarez.

HIGH SPRINGS, Fla. – In concert with the 27<sup>th</sup> annual National Professional Social Work Month celebrated in March, Hospice of the Nature Coast has recognized the contributions of five social workers dedicated to part of its 11-county service area of north-central Florida.

Working in various hospice settings, social workers Janet Bessent, Jason Denis, Janet Greene, Janet Moore and Erika Suarez help patients with life-limiting conditions effectively deal with and prepare for the transitions they are facing. They serve patients in Alachua, Bradford, Dixie, Gilchrist, Levy and Union counties.

Among their contributions to the plan of care established for each patient, these professionals ensure that patients and their families have access to the resources and support needed during some of the most difficult days of their lives. In doing so, after listening to the choices of patients and their families, they take on the tasks of searching through available government programs, handling mountains of paperwork, and coordinating the multitude of activities which result in an all-encompassing approach to patient care and guidance.

“In partnership with our staff of medical professionals, patient care associates, and spiritual and emotional counselors, our social workers concentrate on simplifying complicated issues, removing barriers, minimizing confusion and worry, and enabling patients and families to enjoy their time together free of unnecessary distractions and frustrations,” explained Regional Manager David Dingus.

Bessent, Greene and Moore are graduates of the University of Florida; Denis received his education at Santa Fe College, St. Leo University and Capella University; and Suarez earned her degree at Long Island University.

Hospice of The Nature Coast, a program of Hospice of Citrus County, Inc., licensed in 1985, is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing comprehensive, compassionate end-of-life care to terminally ill patients and support to their families. It also conducts grief support programs for adults and children who have experienced a loss.