



**Wednesday, November 7, 2001**

## **NEWS ADVISORY**

For more information, contact:  
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### **Seeking Hope When A Child Dies - A Day of HOPE Conference**

#### **BACKGROUND:**

About 500 children die in Utah annually. About 175 of these deaths are related to life-threatening illness. Utah is one of five states to receive a planning grant from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and Children's Hospice International. The purpose of the grant is to improve services and access to services for children diagnosed with a life-threatening illness and their families. The Utah Department of Health's Promoting HOPE Project (Hospice and Optimal Palliative Efforts), which administers the grant, formed a partnership with other public and private agencies to develop a program that is responsive to the needs of these children and their families. The Department will submit a proposal to the federal government to fund services beginning in 2003.

**WHAT:** At the Day of Hope Conference a statewide plan will be announced to enhance access to care and to improve services for children diagnosed with a life-threatening illness and their families. A new video will be introduced, **Seeking Hope When a Child Dies**.

**WHO:** Parents, medical professionals, home health and hospice agency workers, pediatric care managers, church leaders, bereavement counselors, and state agency specialists.

**WHEN:** November 9, 2001, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** University Park Hotel, 400 Wakara Way

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### **INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITIES:**

Ann Armstrong-Dailey, Founding Director of Children's Hospice International in Alexandria, VA

Paul Brenner, former director of the Jacob Perlow Hospice at Beth Israel Hospital, NYC

Rod Betit, Executive Director, Utah Department of Health

Trisha Beck, Representative, Utah State Legislature

Zohrah Saunders, Promoting HOPE Project Director, Utah Department of Health

Parents of children who may have benefitted from hospice services.

### **CONFERENCE AGENDA:**

8:30 a.m. Ann Armstrong-Dailey

9:00 a.m. Paul Brenner

9:30 a.m. Seeking HOPE when a Child Dies Video

10:00 a.m. Decision-Makers React - Panel

10:45 a.m. Break

11:00 a.m. Overview of HOPE Project by Zohrah Saunders

Lunch

1:15-2:45 Utah Initiatives and Programs

### **SPONSORS:**

Utah Department of Health

Children's Hospice International

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

Primary Children's Hospital

Intermountain Health Care

Community Nursing Services

Family Voices

University of Utah Health Sciences Pediatrics

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