



Hospice & Palliative Care Association of New York State  
119 Washington Ave., Ste. 302  
Albany, N.Y. 12210  
(518) 446- 1483  
HPCANYS.org

**November 29, 2022**

### **Statement by the Hospice and Palliative Care Association of New York State**

An article published yesterday by [ProPublica](#) and digitally released in [The New Yorker](#), *How Hospice Became a For-Profit Hustle*, outlines multiple instances of fraud targeting the Medicare hospice benefit. The examples in this article represent the worst of greed in healthcare, but in no way represent the excellent care thousands of New Yorkers have received from their local hospice. Hospice in New York has been and continues to be a trusted source of care at one of the most difficult times in life. We are proud that 95% of New York State's hospices are not-for-profit, and that the two for-profit hospices in the State have an excellent care record.

The Hospice and Palliative Care Association of New York State (HPCANYS,) as the member organization representing mission-driven, community-based end-of-life providers, has been well-aware of the growing problem of fraudulent and harmful practices by some for-profit and private equity-backed providers across the nation. HPCANYS has recognized the dangers of venture capitalists in hospice. The Association has alerted the NYS Legislature, Governor and DOH of the risks and provided recommendations for policies needed to assure the continuation of quality hospice in New York State. The Governor now has the opportunity to sign A.8472 (Gottfried) / S.9387 (Krueger), which would prohibit the establishment of additional for-profit hospice providers in New York State.

HPCANYS believes this article provides an opportunity to continue the much-needed dialogue with Governor Hochul, the Legislature, the Department of Health, and Hospices regarding securing the future of this critical and essential healthcare service. The abuses detailed in the article call for a reform of the hospice benefit that can reduce the opportunities for fraud and abuse, and also build a stronger pathway for advanced illness and end-of-life care providers. The advocacy efforts of our Association and its members will continue to focus on engaging in dialogue with the Executive, Legislature, and the Department of Health to offer a better care experience for patients and their families.

We look forward to the ongoing work with our partners in government to promote patient choice and access to quality hospice and palliative care for all with a life-limiting illness.

**Contact:**

Jeanne M. Chirico, MPA  
President/CEO

Cheryl A. Kraus, JD  
Director, Government Relations and Policy

*The Hospice and Palliative Care Association of New York State (HPCANYS) is the only statewide association that exclusively represents the State's licensed hospice providers and palliative care providers, as well as individuals and organizations concerned with care for patients at the end of life. Hospice care is a team-oriented approach to expert medical care, pain management, emotional, and spiritual support expressly tailored to the patient's needs and wishes. Our vision is that all persons who are seriously ill receive a full spectrum of care to maximize their quality of life according to their own values, goals, and preferences.*