



Hospice & Palliative Care
of Westchester

**Amoruso & Amoruso, LLP and NorMet Hospital Association Host
Multi-Provider Coordination of Care Conference**

White Plains, NY – (June 28, 2010) – *Coordination of Care from Hospital to Home or Nursing Home*, a conference which recently took place at the Law Offices of Amoruso & Amoruso, LLP, featured experts from a variety of disciplines in the healthcare arena. The experts covered such topics as safe patient transition, health care reform, the use of hospice in long term care and patient rights, to name a few. The event was co-sponsored by NorMet Hospital Association and Amoruso & Amoruso, LLP.

Panelists included Kate Colburn, M.A., Executive Director of Hospice & Palliative Care of Westchester; Debora LeBarron, Director of Continuing Care at Health Care Association of New York State; Mary Frances Barrett, CEO, Hebrew Hospital Home of Westchester; Mary H. Gadowski, R.N., B.S.N., Director of Community Education for Visiting Nurse Services in Westchester; and Michael J. Amoruso, Esq., Amoruso & Amoruso, LLP. Neil Abitabilo, President of NorMet Hospital Association, served as panel moderator.

The goal of the conference was to present discussions about roles and needs of various providers in establishing a coordinated continuum of care for patients. Panelists provided an overview of the new Federal and State policies, including problems with the implementation of those policies.

“Often the discharge process is abrupt, leaving patients and their loved ones unprepared for the stressful reality of long term care, resulting in poor discharge decisions and increased hospital readmissions. Quality of care can no longer be defined solely as treatment. Instead, health care providers should consider a more comprehensive discharge planning process that will not only ensure a safer discharge to a home care or nursing home setting, but also will integrate compassion for the family and provide guidance to plan for long term care costs,” said Amoruso.

Panel moderator Neil Abitabilo said, “Acknowledging a shared commitment to patient care, we hope to establish new policies that will eventually impact patient care as well as the financial stability and public perception of every healthcare provider.”

Hospice & Palliative Care of Westchester is located at 311 North Street, Suite 204, White Plains, NY. For additional information, visit www.hospiceofwestchester.com or call 914.682.1484.

About Hospice & Palliative Care of Westchester: Hospice & Palliative Care of Westchester is a private, not-for-profit healthcare agency that provides skilled, compassionate and comprehensive end-of-life home care to patients with any diagnosis and gives support to their families and loved ones.

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