



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kirsty Griffin, Director of Public Relations
727-845-5707, kirsty.griffin@gulfside.org

GULFSIDE PALLIATIVE CARE CELEBRATES CLINIC REOPENING

NEW PORT RICHEY, Fla. (November 8, 2022) – After more than two years of being closed due to COVID, the Gulfside Palliative Care outpatient clinic has reopened to patients and the community.

The team recently celebrated this step forward alongside the community and Greater Pasco Chamber of Commerce during a Community Open House & Ribbon Cutting event.

During the event, several Gulfside team members spoke about the services and care provided at the Gulfside Palliative Care clinic. Dr. Stephen Leedy, MA, HMDC, FAAHPM, Chief Medical Officer, spoke about the emphasis that the team puts on people, emphasizing the organization’s value of Patient-Centered Care.

“The important part about palliative care is the conversations among the people involved, understanding what the patient wants, understanding what the family wants, and knowing the reasonable choices in terms of care for that patient,” said Leedy. “So no fancy lasers today, no fancy cath labs. Just a bunch of people that really care a lot about the patients we care for.”

While the clinic was closed, the Gulfside Palliative Care team continued seeing patients and providing care over telehealth. Now, the team has transitioned back to providing in-person palliative care at the clinic in New Port Richey to those living with chronic conditions and needing pain management.

“Reopening the clinic allows us to serve a greater number of patients to provide palliative services to those dealing with life-limiting illnesses,” said Lisa Barker, medical director for Gulfside. “Being able to meet in person allows us to be able to better develop relationships with our patients in order to optimize their care.”

Palliative care, often referred to as “comfort care” is specialized medical care for people with serious, chronic illness. It focuses on providing patients with relief from symptoms and the stress of a serious illness - whatever the diagnosis. At Gulfside, palliative care is provided by a team of doctors, nurse practitioners and social workers who work together with a patient’s other doctors to provide an extra layer of support. The goal is to improve quality of life for both the patient and the family.

Gulfside Palliative Care is a business line of Gulfside Healthcare Services, and has been providing non-hospice palliative care since 2009 for those living with a chronic illness. For more information, visit www.Gulfside.org or call 800-561-4883.

About Gulfside Healthcare Services:

Gulfside Healthcare Services is a non-profit organization serving the community for 32 years. Its three lines of business include Gulfside Hospice, offering care for patients at end of life, Gulfside Palliative Care, providing treatment options for those with chronic illness, and Gulfside Home Health, helping patients stay independent through skilled nursing and rehab at home. For more information about Gulfside Healthcare Services, visit www.Gulfside.org or call 800-561-4883.

