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Announcing the 2012 Compassionate Care Leadership Awards

The Coalition for Compassionate Care of California is proud to announce the winners of the 2012 Compassionate Care Leadership Awards. These awards recognize and celebrate the contributions that members of our community have made to palliative medicine and compassionate end-of-life care in California.

The awards will be presented at the CCCC Annual Conference – *Creating a Culture of Compassion* – on February 15, 2012, in San Diego. The Coalition for Compassionate Care of California is a statewide partnership of regional and statewide organizations and individuals dedicated to the advancement of palliative medicine and end-of-life care in California.

George Mark Children's House

San Leandro, California

George Mark Children's House is the first freestanding, independent pediatric palliative care facility in the United States. Co-founded in 2004 by Kathleen Nicholson Hull, a clinical psychologist, and Barbara Beach, a pediatric oncologist, both from Children's Hospital & Research Center Oakland, George Mark Children's House exists to serve families with children who have a serious medical illness and who are seeking family-centered medical care that emphasizes quality of life in a compassionate, supportive atmosphere. They strive to be an extension of the child's own home: a place where kids can be kids and families can be families.

George Mark serves all medically eligible children, from birth to age 21, regardless of a family's ability to pay. The facility provides critical medical care to children while educating and supporting families to effectively manage their children's long-term healthcare needs.

The Coalition for Compassionate Care would like to recognize George Mark Children's House for their work to provide pediatric palliative care that promotes greater health, wellbeing and quality of life for both the child and family, for as long as possible, and often well beyond the generally accepted prognosis.