

SECU Members Pledge Support for New Wake County Hospice Facility

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Raleigh, NC – State Employees' Credit Union members, via the SECU Foundation, have pledged \$250,000 to assist in the construction of a freestanding inpatient hospice facility for Hospice of Wake County. The pledge is a matching gift to Hospice of Wake County's "Building Partners in Caring" capital campaign. With plans to begin construction before the end of the year, the proposed facility consists of three buildings – a 19,000 square foot Hospice House, a 26,000 square foot community/administrative building and a 1,000 square foot spiritual sanctuary. The Hospice House will have 14 acute care beds, six residential beds and a space dedicated for families including a kitchen, family room and playroom for children. The community center will feature a state of the art bereavement center and will provide space for community education programs, for children to take part in play and art therapy sessions and for adults to participate in counseling programs.

Michael D. Blanchard, Vice President of Development for Hospice of Wake County states, "This generous pledge by SECU members will help make it possible to build a permanent home for Hospice of Wake County, and allow us to deliver tender medical care to patients in a facility that is specifically designed for end of life. Thanks to the SECU Foundation and SECU members for truly being our partner in caring."

David King, SECU Foundation Board of Directors Chairman comments, "The SECU Foundation was founded on the basis of 'People Helping People' and hospice epitomizes this philosophy, serving patients at the end of their life and their families. The pledge grant for Hospice of Wake County will give families even greater resources to deal with the medical and emotional aspects that come with the anticipated loss of a loved one. Many of our members have been touched by hospice care, so this is a very fitting project for the SECU Foundation. We are happy to assist with this effort."

About SECU and the SECU Foundation

SECU is a non-profit financial cooperative owned by its members. SECU has been providing the employees of the State of North Carolina and their families with consumer financial services for more than 70 years. Currently serving nearly 1.5 million members, SECU provides services through 220 branches, over 990 ATMs, two call centers and a website – www.ncsecu.org. The SECU Foundation, a 501c (3) charitable organization funded solely by the contributions of SECU members, promotes local community development in North Carolina primarily through high impact projects in the areas of education, health and human services. Copyright © 2008 **CarolinaNewswire.com** All rights reserved.