

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 15, 2003

Contact: Sue Kennedy – 301-322-4156
 or – 301-346-2038
 Jennifer Fenley – 703-684-0330

Children’s Hospice International Founder to Give Keynote Address at the Hospital for Sick Children Conference: *Meeting the Challenges of Pediatric Palliative Care*

Alexandria, VA – Children’s Hospice International® (CHI®) today announced that Founding Director & CEO, Ann Armstrong-Dailey, will be the keynote speaker at The Hospital for Sick Children Conference: *Meeting the Challenges of Pediatric Palliative Care* to be held on Wednesday, May 21, 2003. This one-day conference, presented by The Hospital for Sick Children (HSC), Department of Nursing, will be held at the HSC Conference Center and will feature well-known experts in pediatric palliative and hospice care from around the country. The focus of the conference is end-of-life care for stable, but very sick children.

Armstrong-Dailey will address the “state of science” for pediatric end-of-life care in this country and current trends in the philosophy of such care. She will also bring the audience up-to-date on current healthcare legislative initiatives that CHI® supports. Included in the program will be a video presentation of 12-year-old *New York Times* best-selling author and CHI spokesman, Mattie Stepanek.

The CHI Program for All-Inclusive Care for Children and Their Families® (CHI PACC®) will be discussed by Armstrong-Dailey as an example of how pediatric institutions can develop a “culture” of appropriate end-of-life care for children. CHI PACC® is a program that supports children with life-threatening conditions and their families from time of diagnosis—with hope for a cure—through bereavement, if cure is not attained. The program is currently being piloted in six states and at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

CHI® is an Alexandria, VA-based non-profit organization founded in 1983 to promote hospice support through pediatric care facilities providing community-based programs and resources for children with life-threatening conditions and their families. CHI also provides education, training and technical assistance to the healthcare professionals who care for this patient population. CHI’s website, www.chionline.org—which you are invited to visit—offers information on pediatric palliative and hospice care and an international directory of children’s hospice, palliative and end-of-life programs and organizations.

#