ELIZABETH J. LATIMER PRIZE in PALLIATIVE CARE

The Division of Palliative Care, Department of Family Medicine, McMaster University, is pleased to welcome nominations for the 2nd Annual Elizabeth J. Latimer Prize in Palliative Care to recognize excellence and innovation in palliative care within our local region. This prize is awarded in honor of Dr. Elizabeth J. Latimer, pioneer and internationally renowned Palliative Care physician and educator.

Dr. Latimer began her career in the late 1970’s at a time when very few people acknowledged palliative medicine as a distinct area of care. In 1982, she established the first Hamilton area palliative care consult program at the Henderson Hospital. She is also the past founding chairman of the Section of Palliative Care of the Ontario Medical Association. Today Dr. Latimer enjoys an extremely productive career. She provides clinical care with the Hamilton General Hospital palliative care consult team. She is a Professor in the Department of Family Medicine, Division of Palliative Care, providing education to undergraduate, postgraduate, and continuing health professionals.

Dr. Latimer is well-published in the fields of palliative care, symptom control, ethical and cultural issues, and health care delivery in end-of-life care. She has written two supportive care handbooks for patients and families. Dr. Latimer has received multiple awards for her work in palliative care. These include the Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association Award of Excellence in Palliative Care and the 2004 OMA Section of Palliative Care Award of Excellence in recognition of her contribution to palliative care on local, regional, and national levels.

It is in this spirit of pioneering, innovation, and “trail blazing” that the recipient of the Elizabeth J. Latimer prize demonstrates perseverance in an area of end-of-life care that has resulted in the advancement of palliative care in our region. He/she models compassionate, gentle, and comprehensive palliation to patients and their families in the clinical setting while fostering continued growth and advancement of end-of-life care education in academic centres.

The Elizabeth J. Latimer Prize will be awarded on March 4, 2010, at the Division of Palliative Care’s Second Annual Lectureship in Palliative Care at McMaster University, Health Sciences Centre. What makes this prize special is that it will be awarded by Dr. Latimer herself. This prize provides an opportunity for us to honor not only our dear colleague, Dr. Latimer, for the pioneering work she has done but also other clinicians whose work continues to pave the way for continued growth and improvement of end-of-life care in our region.
Nominations are welcomed until **February 5, 2010**, and must include a brief biography of the candidate as well as the nominee’s eligibility for this award with particular reference to their innovative endeavors in end-of-life care. Practitioners of all disciplines in palliative care are eligible, as well as candidates who have been nominated previously for the Elizabeth J. Latimer Prize. Please direct your nominations to:

Nominations Committee, Elizabeth J. Latimer Prize in Palliative Care  
c/o Mary Ruth Crabb, APN Palliative Care  
Henderson Hospital  
Hamilton Health Sciences  
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