



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 14, 2008

**SUNRISE HOSPITAL SUPPORTS
NATIONAL HEALTHCARE DECISIONS DAY, APRIL 16**
Facility encourages public to protect themselves with living wills

Las Vegas, NV – Sunrise Hospital & Medical Center is participating in a massive, nationwide effort to highlight the importance of advance healthcare decision-making—an effort that has culminated in the formal designation of **April 16, 2008 as National Healthcare Decisions Day (NHDD)**. As a participating organization, Sunrise is providing information and tools for the public to talk about their wishes with family, friends and healthcare providers, and execute written advance directives (also referred to as healthcare power of attorney and/or a living will) in accordance with Nevada state laws.

At the center of this initiative, the hospital encourages the public to join them on April 16, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. inside the facility's cafeteria to pick up free information about advance care planning and advance directive forms.

“We hope that as a result of National Healthcare Decisions Day, many more people in our community can have thoughtful conversations about their healthcare decisions,” says Lucille Compton, Director of Risk Support Services and member of Sunrise Bioethics Committee. She adds, “It is our wish that fewer families and healthcare providers will have to struggle with making difficult healthcare decisions in the absence of guidance from the patient. It is never easy to see a loved one suffer, and these important documents equip both the patients’ families and the healthcare establishments with tools to honor the patients’ wishes.”

After April 16, the hospital will continue to support this effort. If a patient indicates they do not have an advance directive at the time of admission, they are asked if they wish to formulate one. If they wish to, they are given a copy of the documents and the booklet "Healthcare - Your Right to Decide". Advance Directive forms may be obtained in all admitting areas (in-patient and outpatient).

For more information about National Healthcare Decision Day, please visit www.nationalhealthcaredecisionsday.org.

About Sunrise Hospital

Now celebrating its 50th anniversary, Sunrise Hospital & Medical Center provides the most sophisticated, quality healthcare in Southern Nevada. A Consumer Choice award-winning hospital for 12 consecutive years, the 701-bed acute care facility includes comprehensive inpatient and outpatient services such as The Nevada Neurosciences Institute— the region's first JCAHO-accredited Primary Stroke Center, an ACoS-recognized Comprehensive Cancer Center, an innovative, full-service Breast Center and

specialty services in cardiac, women's health, pulmonology, critical care, complex surgery, and rehabilitation, as well as Level-II Trauma and Emergency care. The hospital has invested millions of dollars in obtaining new technologies such as the daVinci Robotic surgery system, Intraoperative MRI machines, Gamma Knife incision-less brain surgery, and an exclusive Picture Archiving and Communication System designed to assist physicians in retrieving important patient data. Sharing the same campus, Sunrise Children's Hospital provides a parallel suite of highly specialized services to maternal moms, newborns and the youth of the Southwest United States.

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