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Contact: Bonnie Franklin: bfrankli@ramapo.edu or Rosa Diaz-Mulryan: rmulryan@ramapo.edu

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Contact: Diana Alspach, 201.684.7625
dalspach@ramapo.edu

LIVING WITH GRIEF®: BEFORE AND AFTER THE DEATH
Ramapo College of New Jersey to Host Hospice Foundation of America's
14th Annual Teleconference

(Mahwah) – Ramapo College of New Jersey will broadcast the 14th Annual National Bereavement Teleconference Thursday, March 22 from 1:30 to 4 p.m., in Room SC-138 on the college campus. Professionals and community members are invited to attend; admission to the broadcast is free. A half-hour discussion facilitated by college faculty and staff will follow the teleconference.

Each year the Hospice Foundation of America (HFA) presents this nationally recognized distance-learning program, live via satellite and webcast to more than 125,000 people in 2,000 communities. For more than a decade, this educational program has been instrumental in educating health care professionals and families on issues affecting end-of-life care. The program provides an opportunity for a wide variety of professionals--including doctors, nurses, funeral directors, psychologists, educators, social workers and bereavement counselors--to share and exchange ideas and obtain continuing education credits.

“Before and After Death” will explore the most current theoretical perspectives on loss and grief as experienced by persons throughout a life-limiting illness and by survivors after the death. The panel, moderated by Frank Sesno, professor of media and public affairs at The George Washington University and special correspondent with CNN, will focus on areas where understandings of grief have been challenged.

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The panel consists of noted authorities including Scott W. Bradley, MSW, CT, CFSP from the Center for Life Transition and Bradley & Son Funeral Homes, LLC; Kenneth J. Doka, PhD, Mdiv from The College of New Rochelle; Lorraine Hedtke, MSW, ACSW, LCSW from VITAS Innovative Hospice Care; Patricia Murphy, PhD, APN, FAAN from UMDNJ - University Hospital; Robert A. Neimeyer, PhD from the University of Memphis, and Robert Washington, PhD, MDiv from Montgomery Hospice.

Dr. Kathleen L. Fowler, a professor at the college who is certified in thanatology and is Ramapo's site coordinator says, "The Hospice Foundation of America's annual teleconference is always a rich resource for professionals and for families trying to learn more about grief and loss. The School of Social Sciences and Human Services of Ramapo College is fortunate to be able to act as a site for this teleconference again this year."

The teleconference is produced by Hospice Foundation of America, a not-for-profit organization, which acts as an advocate for the hospice concept of care through ongoing programs of professional education, public information and research on issues relating to illness, loss, grief and bereavement.

For more information, please call Diana Alspach at 201.684.7625.

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