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**VistaCare Announces Plans for New Inpatient Hospice
Care Unit at Carillon *LifeCare*™ Community**
16 -bed inpatient hospice unit scheduled to open in mid-2006

(Lubbock, TX) – VistaCare today announced plans to develop a 16-bed inpatient hospice unit, to be known as the “VistaCare Center at Carillon.”

The VistaCare Center at Carillon will be Lubbock’s only inpatient hospice unit. It will be located on the fourth floor of Carillon House, on the main campus of Carillon Senior *LifeCare* Community. Development of this new inpatient unit is expected to begin later this month, with a projected opening date of mid-2006.

According to Jesse Jantzen, Executive Director of Carillon, this relationship between VistaCare and Carillon will provide an extension of the services available to residents of the *LifeCare* Community, as well as a way to better serve the needs of families throughout the region. Jantzen added that the availability of the hospice unit will allow Carillon residents and their families the peace of mind that comes from knowing they won’t have to look anywhere else for a complete continuum of healthcare services.

Anah Kral, Executive Director of VistaCare Hospice in Lubbock, agreed. “When you look at our community, it’s clear that we need additional palliative care resources in order to better serve the acute needs of our patients,” Kral said. “The inpatient setting of the VistaCare Center at Carillon will bring these resources to Lubbock for the first time.”

Carillon will provide ancillary services, such as patient dietary and housekeeping, allowing VistaCare to focus on the physical and emotional needs of the patient and family. The Carillon campus is also ideally located in close proximity to Lubbock’s major hospitals, which will facilitate patient access to the inpatient unit and easily accommodate visits by family members.

VistaCare is one of the largest providers of hospice services in Texas, with 17 program locations, including Lubbock. VistaCare also operates programs in 13 other states, caring for approximately 5,400 patients each day.

“This collaboration makes good clinical sense,” said Dr. Cynthia Jumper, VistaCare Medical Director. “When I consider the needs of our community and the way in which we can make a real difference in the lives we touch, I am confident that this is the right thing to do.”

ABOUT VISTACARE

Founded in 1995, VistaCare has built a national reputation for excellence and compassion in end-of-life care. VistaCare is one of the country's leading hospice providers, caring for more than 5,400 patients and families each day throughout programs in 14 states, including 17 locations throughout the state of Texas. VistaCare believes in providing care wherever a patient calls home – whether it's a personal residence, nursing home, assisted living facility, hospital, or other residence of choice – and VistaCare prides itself on an "open access" philosophy of care that provides exceptional end-of-life care to all eligible patients, without exception.

ABOUT CARILLON LIFECARE COMMUNITY

For 30 years Carillon has been dedicated to our mission of providing an exceptional *LifeCare*[™] lifestyle to seniors throughout West Texas. As the only *LifeCare* community in Lubbock, we take pride in our friendly, professional and dedicated staff who make this all possible. Located on 25 acres, close to many conveniences, our not-for-profit organization is self-owned and led by a Board of Directors consisting of local business leaders. A variety of individual residences – apartments, cottages and villa homes –allows you to choose the lifestyle that's best for you.