

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** Contact: Kim Antley 281-409-6953

## Houston Hospice Elects Healthcare Executive as Board Chair

HOUSTON (May 9, 2023) – Al Gatmaitan was elected to a three-year term as chair of the board of directors of <u>Houston Hospice</u> in March.

Gatmaitan, who has a doctorate in health services administration and is a fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives, has a unique perspective on the role hospice plays in end-of-life care. He said it is a holistic way of caring for not only the patient but the family and is anything but last-minute nursing care.

"Al brings the right combination of expertise and

leadership to our board," said Rana S. McClelland, president and CEO of Houston Hospice. "His experience as a visionary healthcare executive is an asset to Houston Hospice."

As chair, Gatmaitan plans to continue building on the foundation of his predecessors by working with the board and senior leadership to strike the fine balance of providing the highest level of quality care while meeting the myriad regulatory and financial requirements and challenges facing the hospice industry. Additionally, he wants to be a workplace of choice in the Texas Medical Center and continue attracting and retaining experienced medical and professional staff.

Gatmaitan lauds the contributions of the nonprofit's volunteers and donors, who complement and enhance the clinical teams so they are fully able to care for every aspect of a patient's needs and provide for the family's comfort. "It is a phenomenal endorsement of an organization if you can rally both donors and volunteers," said Gatmaitan. "I am so appreciative of the value they bring to Houston Hospice. It's a testament to the good work we're doing and I am inspired to be of service."

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## **About Houston Hospice**

Founded in 1980, Houston Hospice is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing quality, end-of-life care to patients and their families throughout 13 counties in Southeast Texas. We offer an interdisciplinary team-led approach that includes physicians, nurses, chaplains, social workers, hospice aides, bereavement counselors and volunteers. We provide the appropriate level of comfort care in a setting the patient calls home or in our freestanding inpatient unit. Our holistic view of hospice care is enhanced by the extensive knowledge and expertise of our staff, specialized educational opportunities and community outreach efforts. Houston Hospice is a member of the Texas Medical Center. For more information, visit: houstonhospice.org.