

PRESS RELEASE

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Houston Hospice Poised for Continued Growth Under New Leadership *Commitment to Community Remains*

HOUSTON (March 5, 2026) – Mark Hayes has been named president and CEO of [Houston Hospice](#) by its board of directors.

Hayes has a Master of Business Administration with a concentration in health care administration and brings a background of strong operational performance and measurable clinical excellence in end-of-life and post-acute care. His industry expertise with multi-state operations spans publicly traded, nonprofit and privately held organizations. Most recently, he was senior vice president of operations for Florida and Georgia at VITAS Healthcare.



“Houston Hospice has cared for Southeast Texans for generations, and we are excited for Mark to build on our nonprofit legacy of quality, compassionate and holistic end-of-life care for patients and families when they need it most,” said Al Gatmaitan, executive chair of the Houston Hospice board of directors. “Patients, families and caregivers are at the forefront of every decision we make.”

As president and CEO, Hayes’ focus is multi-faceted:

- Serving more patients by providing better access to end-of-life care and raising awareness about its benefits
- Advocating for effective regulatory oversight to protect vulnerable patients from fraud
- Increasing collaborations with other Texas Medical Center member organizations

Hayes will champion the staff and nonprofit culture of Houston Hospice while ensuring the organization remains an employer of choice in the world's largest medical complex. He begins April 6.

“By joining Houston Hospice, I am able to fulfill a personal calling,” said Hayes. “I’m excited by the opportunity to lead in a setting where compassion, service and community are daily commitments with a lasting impact.”

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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.