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## **NEWS RELEASE - For Immediate Release**

**(Toronto, ON - June 22, 2010)** - Hospice Toronto is pleased to announce that it has been awarded the prestigious Vital Ideas grant from the Toronto Community Foundation. The Vital Ideas grant supports and recognizes organizations that are making outstanding contributions towards improving the quality of life in Toronto. Vital Ideas is one of three Community Foundation grant streams made possible through the strategic community endowment called the Vital Toronto Fund.

"We are extremely honoured to be recognized by the Toronto Community Foundation for our innovative work in Toronto's diverse, multicultural communities and awarded this prestigious grant", said Dena Maule, Executive Director. "The Vital Ideas grant is not only a testament of the work of our professional staff, but also of the growing number of highly dedicated volunteers who work tirelessly to provide in-home hospice care and support to members of their community in their own language and culture."

"Vital Idea grants strengthen our community by providing financial support to high-impact initiatives that enable organizations to expand their reach throughout the Toronto community", said Toronto Community Foundation's President & CEO Rahul Bhardwaj. "Our ability to be a leader in our community depends on innovative organizations such as Hospice Toronto."

Hospice Toronto will use the Vital Ideas grant to work in partnership with local social agencies and their networks to engage people living in Toronto's diverse, multicultural communities to address and find solutions to complex healthcare issues relating to seniors living in the community, with community-based volunteers.

Vital Ideas grants are intended to support high-impact initiatives that improve the quality of life in Toronto in issue areas identified in Toronto's Vital Signs®. A Vital Idea is a program or project that has been piloted or is currently in operation that helps make Toronto a better place to live, work, and learn and grow. The Vital Ideas grant stream is unique in that it provides grants of up to \$30,000 for strategic activities beyond direct programming. The funding enables these proven, effective organizations to expand their reach, share their experience and better sustain their impact. The investment in these strategic activities is meant to be a one-time investment in building capacity of not-for profits.

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Founded in 1988, Hospice Toronto is a not for profit, volunteer-base organization providing home hospice palliative care and support for people living with a life threatening illness, and their families, at no charge. To learn more about our work, please visit [www.hospicetoronto.ca](http://www.hospicetoronto.ca).

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