Talking Points for Missouri Hospice Medicaid Project

- This project was started in 2012, with Missouri MoHealthNet. MHPCA worked closely with our Medicaid Division to review the release of the Medicaid data for Medicaid recipients who died in 2011.
- In 2013, MoHealthNet agreed to release the Medicaid data for MHPCA to study. MHPCA worked with the state’s data provider to assure that no recipient’s information was released and that identifiers were assigned.
- MHPCA began the study with Dr. Cordt Kassner of Hospice Analytics out of Colorado and then Professor Don Taylor from Duke University joined in the study. Dr. Taylor completed the national study on Medicare to show that hospice saves money.
- The information in the study booklet we are providing gives the results and the methods and results for both 2011 and 2012. Please make sure your legislator takes a copy to review.
- MHPCA released the first results in January 2014, by taking to the Missouri Capitol the results of the findings. MHPCA mailed the results across the country to Hospice Association Executives and Presidents, to NHPCO and its Board of Directors, to all our MHPCA members, to MO DHSS and other key individuals.
- In 2015, MHPCA worked with MoHealth.Net to release 2012 data to trend the study that was released in 2014. The two-year trending study was completed in 2015. Again MHPCA mailed out the results across the country and to key stakeholders. NHPCO uses the study as part of its state toolkit for state Medicaid programs.
- **What the data shows us**: Hospice saves Missouri Medicaid money. In 2011, hospice saved a mean 42% over hospital stays and in 2012 hospice saved Medicaid a mean 41% over hospital stays at the end of life.
- **What does this tell us about our Medicaid patients in Missouri**: Our Medicaid program should look closely at recipients with advanced, life limiting illness and seek to make hospice care available as early as is legitimately allowed by the program.