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**Hospice of Michigan to Honor Veterans during
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service Luncheon**

Jan. 16 event is also part of We Honor Veterans program

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. (Jan. 11, 2017) –[Hospice of Michigan](http://www.hospiceofmichigan.org) will recognize veterans during a Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service luncheon on Monday, Jan. 16 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Senior Neighbors, located at 333 Division Ave. South in Grand Rapids.

AMVETS personnel and Kent County Commissioner Harold Mast will present approximately 20 veterans, representing each of the military branches, with a certificate and an American flag pin to honor and thank them for their service. The informal ceremony will also include a Posting of the Colors, displaying flags representing the United States Army, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard. The pinning ceremony is part of the [We Honor Veterans](http://www.hospiceofmichigan.org) program.

As part of the program, Commissioner Mast will read a proclamation from the City of Grand Rapids and Mayor Rosalynn Bliss honoring Hospice of Michigan, AMVETS and Senior Neighbors for their service to veterans and seniors.

“Veterans have given so much of their lives to protect the lives of others. Hospice of Michigan is proud to give back by serving them during the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service,” said Margaret Howard, Grand Rapids representative for Hospice of Michigan.

More than 50 seniors are expected to attend the luncheon which will be served by local business and community leaders, Grand Rapids Community College nursing students, as well as Hospice of Michigan staff and volunteers. Additionally, each table will be decorated with floral arrangements created by Hospice of Michigan flower volunteers.

HOM is a participant of the We Honor Veterans program, a partnership between the Veterans Administration and the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO). The program was developed to enhance care for veterans at end-of-life and includes educational and ceremonial elements.

Participating hospice organizations receive training to recognize and treat the unique needs of military families, provide access to community resources, and facilitate cooperation between VA health agencies and hospice services. As a Level Four We Honor Veterans partner – signifying the organization has met the highest standards set by the VA and NHPCO for this national program – HOM has trained its care teams in 48 counties across Michigan.

For general information about HOM or its involvement with We Honor Veterans, please visit www.hom.org.

About Hospice of Michigan

A nationally recognized leader in end-of-life care, Hospice of Michigan is the original – and largest – hospice in the state. The nonprofit cares for nearly 1,800 patients each day, raising more than \$5 million each year to cover the cost of care for the uninsured and underinsured. HOM offers a broad range of services to enhance the quality of life at the end of life, including community-based palliative care and pediatric care programs. HOM provides grief support and counseling, caregiver education and support, and education programs for physicians and health care professionals through its research, training and education arm, the Hospice of Michigan Institute. In January 2016, HOM joined forces with Arbor Hospice and Palliative Care, strengthening the mission of nonprofit hospice in Michigan to ensure patients and their caregivers receive the highest quality of care. For more information, call 888.247.5701 or visit www.hom.org.

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