



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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St. John's Mercy Hospice To Offer Advance Directive Awareness Event

On April 16, St. John's Mercy Hospice is sponsoring an Advance Directive Awareness information table at St. John's Mercy Hospital in the cafeteria on the second floor, to celebrate National Healthcare Decisions Day.

Join other Americans across the country in making future healthcare decisions known to family, friends and healthcare providers. Medical social worker Jennifer M. Derner, MSW, LCSW with St. John's Mercy Hospice will be available from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. to assist you with making your wishes known. Ms. Derner will be available to answer your questions about an advance directive, also known as a health care directive, living will, and a durable power of attorney for health care. Forms and instructions for completion will be available at no charge.

Reasons why you should complete an advance directive:

1. Only way to ensure your wishes are fulfilled if you become incapacitated.
2. Provides clear and convincing proof as required by Missouri law.
3. Utilizes constitutional right to refuse any medical treatment
4. Allows another individual to make decisions and to advocate for your wishes

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5. Relieves family from burden of making difficult decisions
6. Encourages conversation with family members so they know what you will want
7. Assists your healthcare providers in their conversations with your family

For more information about the Advance Directive Awareness Event, please contact St. John's Mercy Hospice at 636-239-7128 or to learn more about National Healthcare Decisions Day please visit www.nationalhealthcaredecisionsday.org

St. John's Mercy Hospital is a member of the Sisters of Mercy Health System.

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