

Lake Circle of Care
Formerly Hospice Services of Lake County

October 13, 2026

Redbud Healthcare District Foundation
Lake County, California

Subject: Request for Grant Extension and Carryover of Funding into the Next Fiscal Year

Dear Redbud Foundation Board Members,

On behalf of Lake Circle of Care, formerly Hospice Services of Lake County, I am writing to provide an update on our grant-funded community education and bereavement support activities and to formally request permission to carry forward the awarded grant funding into the next fiscal year.

First, I want to express our sincere appreciation for the Foundation's continued support of our organization and the important services we provide throughout Lake County. We recognize the responsibility that comes with receiving grant funding and remain fully committed to fulfilling the objectives outlined in our original proposal.

Unfortunately, due to a combination of circumstances largely outside our control, we were unable to fully implement the proposed activities within the original grant period.

Over the past year, the hospice industry, particularly in California, has experienced significant regulatory changes and increased oversight in response to widespread concerns regarding fraudulent hospice operations. While these changes are intended to strengthen patient protections and accountability, they have created considerable administrative and operational challenges for legitimate nonprofit hospice providers such as ours.

Our organization has devoted substantial time and resources to understanding and implementing new regulatory requirements, strengthening compliance procedures, and adjusting our operations to meet evolving state and federal expectations. At the same time, employee turnover, staffing transitions, and organizational restructuring have required additional attention as we respond to changes in patient census, shorter lengths of stay, and the financial pressures affecting hospice providers throughout California.

Collectively, these circumstances required us to redirect leadership attention and staff resources toward maintaining regulatory compliance, stabilizing operations, and ensuring the continued

delivery of quality patient care. As a result, our ability to advance certain grant-funded activities within the original timeline was affected.

Importantly, *none of the grant funds awarded by the Redbud Foundation have been expended.*

The full amount remains available and has been preserved for its originally intended purpose. We have not redirected these funds to other organizational expenses or programs.

Although implementation has been delayed, our commitment to the project remains unchanged. We have begun taking meaningful steps to prepare the program for successful implementation in the upcoming fiscal year.

We are actively collaborating with local schools and other community partners to identify and secure appropriate locations for our planned educational training and outreach activities. We have also been meeting with school officials to coordinate scheduling, identify opportunities for collaboration, and better understand the needs of students, families, educators, and the broader community.

These discussions are helping us establish stronger partnerships and develop a more coordinated approach to delivering grief education, bereavement awareness, and family support resources throughout Lake County. We believe this additional planning will ultimately strengthen the program's effectiveness, expand community participation, and ensure that the grant funding produces meaningful and measurable outcomes.

Accordingly, we respectfully request that the Redbud Foundation authorize Lake Circle of Care to carry forward the full amount of the unexpended grant funding into our next fiscal year. This extension would provide us additional time needed to complete the activities and objectives outlined in the original grant proposal.

We would be pleased to provide an updated implementation timeline, revised activity schedule, and progress reports demonstrating our efforts to fulfill the grant's intended purpose. We are also willing to collaborate with the Foundation to establish revised milestones and reporting requirements that support accountability and transparency.

Our goal is not to change the intended use of the funding, but rather to ensure these valuable resources are utilized effectively and responsibly to benefit the residents of Lake County.

As we continue our transition to Lake Circle of Care, we remain committed to strengthening our community partnerships, expanding access to grief and bereavement education, and ensuring that children, teens, and families have access to the resources and support they need during difficult times.

We sincerely regret the delay in implementing this project and appreciate the Foundation's understanding of the extraordinary challenges our organization has navigated. We believe that granting this extension will allow us to fulfill the original intent of the award while maximizing its benefit to the community.

Thank you for your continued confidence in our organization and for your longstanding commitment to supporting the health and well-being of Lake County residents. We value our partnership with the Redbud Foundation and look forward to successfully implementing this important initiative.

Sincerely,

Scott McFarland

Chief Executive and Finance Officer

Lake Circle of Care

Formerly Hospice Services of Lake County

Michele Elola

Director of Family and Community Supports

Lake Circle of Care