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LOCAL FISHING GROUP MAKES \$10K DONATION TO GULFSIDE HOSPICE

LAND O' LAKES, Fla. (February 15, 2022) – The Bay Area Bassmasters made their annual donation to Gulfside Hospice raised through the Ina Mahoney Hospice Challenge, totaling more than \$10,000 to support hospice patients and their families.

Since the challenge began in 2009, the group has donated more than \$61,500 to Gulfside Hospice, with this year's donation setting the record at \$10,281.67 raised during the group's 2021 fishing season. This annual tradition began when Ina Mahoney passed away on Gulfside's service in October 2009. Shortly afterward, the fishing club members rallied around Tom, Ina's husband and president of the Bay Area Bassmasters and started the annual challenge to raise money for Gulfside as a way to say thank you for the care provided to Ina and her family.

"The extraordinary generosity of the Bay Area Bassmasters is truly inspiring," said Carla Armstrong, Director of Philanthropy at Gulfside Hospice. "Each year, their members give above and beyond to raise much-needed funds to help hospice patients."

The Bay Area Bassmasters is the world's largest B.A.S.S Nation "Buddy" Team Tournament Trail Bass Fishing Club. During the Bay Area Bassmasters season, each angler donates a \$1 per pound for each fish that is caught. The club also hosts an annual fundraiser at their club meeting each year in November, raising additional funds through prize drawings. That money is pooled together, and donated to Gulfside after each fishing season.

For information about donating to Gulfside Hospice, contact Carla Armstrong, Director of Philanthropy, at 727-845-5707. Gulfside Hospice is a division of Gulfside Healthcare Services, and provides hospice care to those facing end-of-life illnesses in Pasco County.

About Gulfside Healthcare Services:

Gulfside Healthcare Services is a non-profit organization serving the community for more than 30 years. Its three lines of business include Gulfside Hospice, offering care for patients at end of life, Gulfside Palliative Care, providing treatment options for those with chronic illness, and Gulfside Home Health, helping patients stay independent through skilled nursing and rehab at home. For more information about Gulfside Healthcare Services, visit www.Gulfside.org or call 800-561-4883

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Photo: The Bay Area Bassmasters, a local fishing group, has made their annual donation to Gulfside Hospice for \$10,281.67, making their total more than \$61,500 donated since 2010 from the Ina Mahoney Hospice Challenge. Pictured from left to right: Tom Craigshead, Carla Armstrong, Tom Mahoney, and Pam Hardy.