

## **Central Alabama Hospice & Palliative Nursing Association Chapter Receives Charter**

The national Hospice and Palliative Nursing Association (HPNA) approved an HPNA Central Alabama Provisional Group for Chapter Charter status on January 16, 2014. HPNA is the collaborative and visionary professional hospice and palliative specialty nursing organization.

The Central Alabama Provisional Group for Chapter began after Lynn Vaughn, MSN RN and Pamela Rowland, CRNP attended the 2013 AAHPM/HPNA Annual Assembly in New Orleans and participated in the “How to Start a Chapter” session. The two nurses from Children’s of Alabama Palliative & Supportive Care Team met with Jackie Palmore, RN CHPN and Jackie Westbrook, RN from the UAB Palliative and Comfort Care Unit in May, 2013. The group of four became the Steering Committee for this effort. HPNA members from across Central Alabama were invited to attend the first meeting. There was much enthusiasm from the group at the meeting to form a chapter to provide a voice for hospice and palliative care in central Alabama.

Elections have been held and our Executive Board has representation from hospitals, home health, and hospice. The Executive Board of the HPNA Central Alabama Chapter is as follows:

Lynn Vaughn, President  
Jackie Palmore, President-Elect  
Pamela Rowland, Secretary  
Jackie Westbrook, Treasurer  
Jennifer Geeter-Williams, Membership Chairperson  
Diane Payne, Nominating Committee Chairperson  
Ami Goodnough, Program Chairperson  
Jackie Miles, Communication Chairperson

Anyone with an interest in hospice and palliative is welcome to join! The next meeting will be held on March 20, 2014 at 6:00 pm at the Bradley Lecture Center in the Harbor at Children’s of Alabama. For more information, see [www.HPNA.org](http://www.HPNA.org). We are very excited about forming a Chapter and promoting Hospice and Palliative Care in the state of Alabama!