

Gilchrist Names Jessica Gabbard as Chief Clinical Officer

HUNT VALLEY, Md., January 6, 2021

Gilchrist, Maryland's largest provider of serious illness and end-of-life care, today announced that it has named Jessica Gabbard, RN, BSN, MSN, CHPN, as Chief Clinical Officer, effective January 4, 2021. As part of Gilchrist's executive management team, Gabbard will lead hospice clinical operations and direct the clinical practice of Gilchrist's programs and services. She will oversee a staff of more than 300 hospice and counseling employees.

Gabbard comes to Gilchrist with more than 10 years of experience in the hospice industry, holding multiple roles in clinical operations, strategic planning, quality improvement and nursing. Most recently, she was the National Director of Hospice & Palliative Care Operations at Trinity Health at Home, in Livonia, Mich. In that role, Gabbard oversaw service delivery and strategic direction for all hospice and palliative programs. She managed a \$15 million annual budget for seven regions, achieving significant clinical, operational and financial improvements.

Prior to that role, Gabbard served as a hospice consultant for Hospice Advisors, where she assisted three hospice organizations in start-up operational planning, including implementation of a lean management system of continuous improvement.

"We are thrilled to have Jessica join Gilchrist as the Chief Clinical Officer," said Catherine Hamel, President of Gilchrist. "She has a rare combination of business acumen, clinical expertise and enthusiasm that will help strengthen and guide our hospice programs as Gilchrist continues to grow. Jessica brings a level of thought leadership and innovation that will further enhance our reputation of excellence in patient care."

Gabbard holds a master's degree in nursing from South University and a bachelor's degree in nursing from Baker College of Flint. She is currently enrolled in a joint MBA/MHA degree program at South University and serves on the board of Harbor Hospice in Muskegon, Mich. She is a Certified Hospice and Palliative Care Nurse.

ABOUT GILCHRIST

Gilchrist is a nationally recognized nonprofit leader in serious illness and end-of-life care. With elder medical care, counseling and hospice, we help people at every stage of serious illness live life to the fullest and make informed choices about their care. Since 1994, the organization has served thousands of individuals throughout Central Maryland—in homes, in skilled nursing and residential care

communities, and at our three inpatient hospice centers in Towson, Howard County and Baltimore. Gilchrist is accredited by CHAP (Community Health Accreditation Partner), is a recipient of the Circle of Life award from the American Hospital Association, and is part of GBMC HealthCare, which received the prestigious Malcolm Baldrige Quality Award in 2020. For more information about Gilchrist, visit www.gilchristcares.org.

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