

# 40 years Hospice of Lansing



Dr. James LaBerge, DO, MMDC

**DR. JAMES LABERGE** currently serves as the Medical Director for Hospice of Lansing and Stoneleigh Residence. With his Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine from Michigan State University, Board Certifications in Family Practice, as well as Hospice and Palliative Care, and over 13 years of Hospice Medical Director experience, Dr. LaBerge brings a wealth wisdom and compassion to his patient care. He enjoys working with aging patients during this sensitive time in life both in hospice and at his current family care practice in Okemos. He has over 30 years of experience in family practice.

Dr. LaBerge is an enthusiastic member of the community. He has presented to the AARP Caregiving Forum and through his past military service as the Chief Medical Officer in the Navy. When not working for his patients or participating in his community, Dr. LaBerge enjoys spending time with his wife of 43 years, their 3 daughters, and 5 grandchildren.

## WHEN ASKED ABOUT BEING A HOSPICE PHYSICIAN:

*“ Doctors have phrases they use when it becomes clear a patient isn’t going to get better. Early in my career, I admit I used them too. But something always bothered me about telling a patient I could no longer help.*

*You and I both know that it simply isn’t true.*

*My first hospice patient taught me so much; especially that quality of life is more important than the quantity.*

*For 10 years, caring for hospice patients was the focus of my medical career. I consider working with hospice patients and their families my personal calling.*

*I am a passionate advocate for hospice care and the new Medical Director of Hospice of Lansing and Stoneleigh Residence.*

*My first day on the job, I could tell that Hospice of Lansing and Stoneleigh Residence were different. I’d never worked in the non-profit sector before and I was amazed by the latitude that is available to make compassionate choices with our time and talents. I have spent countless hours talking with family members who are struggling to make decisions regarding the care of their loved one. I even make house calls and still carry my black medical bag! ”*

