**EVELYN B. AMDUR SOCIAL WORK FELLOWSHIP IN PALLIATIVE CARE**

**Palliative care** provides comprehensive, multi-disciplinary support to patients with serious, life-threatening illnesses and their families. Its primary goals are to alleviate suffering—physical, psychological, social, or spiritual—to improve quality of life, and to help people live their lives to the fullest extent possible even when their disease is incurable. **Social workers**, with their expertise in the psychological and social aspects of illness, family dynamics, and community resources, are critical members of the palliative care team. **Palliative care social work** is an increasingly attractive career option, with demand for well-trained social work professionals increasing nationwide.

The Amdur Fellowship in Palliative Care provides an intensive, one-month internship in palliative care social work under the guidance of one of the nation’s leading academic palliative care programs. Designed for social work students with prior hospital experience who would like to consider professional specialization in palliative care, the Amdur Fellowship includes:

- A one-month palliative care clinical rotation that enables the fellow to spend time with the Palliative Care Programs at UPMC Presbyterian and UPMC Shadyside, as well as with Family Hospice and Palliative Care, one of the largest hospice providers in the region.

- Direct mentoring from of an experienced, master’s prepared clinical social worker, and daily interaction with other disciplines in the palliative care teams at UPMC. (Other disciplines include physicians, nurses, psychologists, music therapists, pastoral care professionals and others).

- Communication and interaction with seriously ill patients and their families and experience in assessing psychological aspects of care.

- Insight into the legal and ethical aspects of the care of seriously ill patients, and the application of social work concepts for potential resolutions to end-of-life decisions.

- An overview of different hospice programs and first hand experience using social work theories in the care process and grief support of the patient and family.

- A final project presented by the fellow at the conclusion of the program, based on a personal interest within his or her one-month experience.

- Applications are due April 10, 2011.

For more information or an application call The Institute to Enhance Palliative Care at 412-647-5700.