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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AUTHOR RESPONDS TO STUDY ON FAITH AND CANCER:

Kennedy Champions Philosophy Behind ‘Hope, Medicine & Healing’

WHAT: A recent study in the Journal of the American Medical Association found that cancer patients who use "positive religious coping," or collaborating with God to overcome illness, are more likely to seek heroic measures in an attempt to prolong life.

Researchers at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston had thought that religious patients would opt for more aggressive care at the end of life, but were nonetheless a bit surprised by the results. The study concluded that pastoral counselors and religious communities should discuss how positive religious coping may sometimes be associated with certain negative outcomes, such as a "poor quality of death."

WHO: **Daniel Kennedy**, co-author of the new book, "**Hope, Medicine & Healing**," and chief executive officer of Oasis of Hope Hospital in Mexico. Since 1993, Kennedy has overseen counseling at Oasis of Hope, developing psychological and spiritual programs for patients that complement the hospital's integrative medical therapy.

Although Kennedy doesn't totally disagree with the study, he says that clinical trials and his own experience have shown him how faith comforts cancer patients and their families, and how it prepares them for death.

WHEN: By appointment

DETAILS: Oasis of Hope Hospital is one of the world's leading institutions in the research and treatment of cancer with integrative therapies, combining the best of conventional and alternative approaches. The hospital, founded by the late Dr. Ernesto Contreras Sr. in 1963 in Playas de Tijuana, Mexico, has treated more than 100,000 patients – 60 percent with cancer – from 55 countries.

NOTE: For more information or to schedule an interview with Daniel Kennedy, contact Steve Yount of A. Larry Ross Communications at 972.267.1111 or steve@alarryross.com.