Oral Remarks Made by Ron Crawford in Support of Heart-N-Soul's Petition Received by NC DHHS-DHSR on 7/20/23

My dad was rushed to the hospital on April 29, 2023 (my birthday). After a few weeks in the hospital, and a rehabilitation facility, his health began to decline quickly. When it was brought to the attention of my family that my father would need to receive hospice care, we did not know what to do. I'd never been part of a decision for a loved one so close that had terminal ramifications. While my dad was being treated at the hospital, we were given a list of hospice providers. We spoke to several, however, none of them stood out for the right reasons. For several years, when I heard the word "hospice" I immediately envisioned a swift end to my loved one's life compounded by extreme isolation. I had several reservations about the process and if we would find the right team to support my family.

My daughter was about to graduate from North Carolina A&T and my family was headed to Greensboro for the event. I contacted Heart N Soul Hospice and began communicating with Meredith consistently. My sister (Sheryl) and I spoke to her on several occasions. Meredith was very informative, transparent, and eagerly willing to answer all our questions. She explained in detail upfront what the care for my father would look like and the frequency of care each week. I was still out of state when they began working with him and my mother. My mother had nothing but glowing remarks regarding the level of care that he was given and the enthusiasm of the staff to serve.

When I came to Nashville a few weeks later to care for my dad, I had the opportunity to witness firsthand how the staff at Heart N Soul got to know my dad personally and build a relationship with him. He and my mom looked forward to the visits from Kadijah, Jennifer, Jenna, and Kylan. My family was given such a strong sense of peace and love from your staff that went way beyond my expectations. Not only did we feel as though he was properly being cared for, but we also felt cared for as well through every step of his journey before he transitioned. I would strongly recommend Heart N Soul Hospice to anyone looking for superior care for their loved ones during the final stages of their life.