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In 1984, I went to work for Visiting Nurses and Hospice of San Francisco as the Assistant Director of Development, under the direction of Norma Satten, the Director of Development. Hadley Hall was the Executive Director. Within six months, Hadley came to Norma and me and said the agency would be developing an AIDS hospice in a vacant convent in the Castro—

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at the Most Holy Redeemer Church. He said that I was to oversee the renovation of that convent into a licensed residential hospice facility. That became a long and arduous project with many challenging twists and turns.

Libby Denebeim, who was on the Board of California Pacific Medical Center (CPMC) oversaw the capital campaign. She brought together the gay community, the CPMC community, and the Catholic Church, which was a major accomplishment. What became known as Coming Home Hospice rode the crest of a wave to be the most visible and loved AIDS project in San Francisco at that time. Hadley had a vision and nothing got in the way of that vision. Coming Home Hospice opened in 1987 as the first AIDS hospice facility in the USA. It was an honor to work with such a visionary leader.

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Bill Haskell