

## **Palliative Care Committee Meeting Notes**

Friday, June 5, 2105

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Present: Anne Hinton (co-chair), Christine Ritchie (co-chair), Jeff Newman, Eric Weiss, Ramona Davies, David Zwicky, Anne Hughes, Redwing Keyssar, Nerica Kaufman, Dawn Gross, Rebecca Sudore

Via phone: Sandy Stokes, Terrie Huang, Leyan

DAAS: Melissa McGee

### Announcements –

Anne Hinton thanked Redwing for participation in an aging conference in Redwood City. There were not many participants at the palliative care session. But the group that attended had a lot of questions; there were 8 at the session, but 50 at the Q&A session. There are a lot of questions out there, and there were many urgent questions on resources.

Update on “Being Mortal” grant opportunity. The application deadline was a few days ago. Sandy Stokes put in proposal and Institute on Aging submitted proposal. SF General / Heather Harris decided not to put in proposal. Sandy’s proposal will try to do 3 sites, and may partner with Dignity Health. The classes will be in English, although with a focus on Chinese-Americans.

Anne informed the group that in looking at language in reauthorization of Older Americans Act, there seems to include language about palliative care. The language would support this work.

Suggestion that the group discuss SB 128 / the physician-assisted suicide bill at the next meeting, including issues such as how does it affect our community and implications. Rebecca says we need to have discussion between palliative care and assisted living suicide, and how do they affect each other. How will we participate in managing the discussion? As a palliative care task force, we can facilitate community conversation. Education and conversation has to happen.

Suggest that the group be proactive. Suggest contacting reporters, developing a statement or small blurb. Encourage them to talk to us about what palliative care is and how this fits in with the bill.

Eric says the group needs to take a leadership role on the conversation level. Perhaps convening a conversational forum. Take the opportunity to educate on many levels, and have deep and reflective conversation, moving beyond the personal narrative.

Anne Hughes informs that she has had 3 residents in last month ask about assisted suicide. People may see this as an option to pain management, therefore need to educate public. This issue can create a huge moral dilemmas for folks on both sides.

Christine suggests the role of this group as a convener; and if so, what does that look like. Jeff talks about the principle of do no harm, and in this, everyone should have advanced care planning.

Discussion on whether this issue is too controversial, and may therefore distract from the majority who need advance care planning. Many may want to talk about it but doesn't mean they would choose it.

Media campaigns can twist perceptions, so it important to provide the education and be proactive.

Christine asked that Eric take the lead to come up with a systematic set of questions on this topic. He will come to next meeting with suggestions and a plan to move forward.

Volunteers included Jeff Newman and Ramona Davies. Any others contact Eric.

CA legislation not as thorough as OR legislation. May be more barriers in OR bill than CA.

In OR, following the passage of law, there was an increase in hospice referrals so view this as a positive outcome.

Educate physicians – if requested, refer to palliative care first, and then look at physician-assisted suicide.

Eric will put together a proposal for next meeting

Melissa will check on trainings at the Bethany Center that address palliative care.

Rebecca will connect with reporter, and will work on a journalist seminar on this topic.

#### Review of protocols / membership –

Revised protocols were reviewed, with changes from last meeting included.

Motion to approve and seconded. All in favor and protocols adopted.

(Protocols attached.)

#### Speakers' bureau –

David will develop standard statement from all speakers that will be used to start any presentation. This will include a definition of palliative care and standard information about this group. All felt it would be good for all presenters to start with the same message.

The LTCCC will be kept informed of speaking engagements of this group. Melissa will be compiler of this information. Will keep track of speaking and inform council. Presentations will be vetted by this group if questionable.

Melissa will develop a standardized set statement (from David's information) as palliative care a committee of LTCCC.

Melissa will develop spreadsheet of speaker responses and send to group.

#### Website for group –

Abbie had mentioned some options for a website. Jeff will follow-up with Abbie.

#### Update on short term action items from workgroups –

Community Engagement –

Tool kit group is checking into videos that may be used. Rebecca Sudore has a collection of videos on ACP and treatment choices that are free. Rebecca will check on other options.

Quality and Finance –

David Zwicky presented list of hospitals that are members of the PCQN. The PCQN uses data collection as a benchmarking tool.

PCQN hospital members include:

UCSF

Mt. Zion

Marin General

Santa Clara Valley Medical Center

San Mateo Medical Center

Highland Hospital

Natividad Medical Center

Community Hospital of Monterey Peninsula

Dominican Hospital

St. Mary's Medical Center

SF General Hospital

St. Joseph's Medical Center Stockton

Marian Medical Center

Several others in discussion about becoming members.

Palliative Care training for IHSS workers; BJ, Rebecca and Margy through Zen Hospice have a curriculum around palliative care. They want to repurpose the curriculum with Rebecca's work and others. If anyone else wants to be part of expanded conversation, contact BJ.

Anne Hughes and Redwing want to join.

Heather Harris will be identifying stakeholders for DPH data gathering activity; will discuss at next meeting.

Redwing announced she was part of a panel last week that presented to State Department of Healthcare Services and OSHPD.

They used a case scenario from Anne Kinderman and played out the IDT meeting in 3 different versions, including acute, 2 months prior, and 6 months prior. Wanted to show what happens and nitty-gritty conversations. Good to take on the road. Think this is a clear way of showing what we do.

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Next meeting – Friday, August 7, 2:00 – 3:30pm  
1650 Mission Street, 5<sup>th</sup> floor, Golden Gate room