

Advisory Council on Palliative Care

Minutes

Friday, April 11, 2014

10:00 AM

Connecticut Hospital Association

110 Barnes Road, Wallingford, CT

Present:

Wendy Furniss, DPH; Cynthia Roy, RHHC-Danbury; Renee Manworren, CCMC; Patricia Trotta, VNAHC; Victoria Odesina, UCHC; Diana Cameron, VNA Community Healthcare; Barbara Morrison, YNHH-SRC; Joe Andrews, MD, CT Hospice; James Prota, CT Hospice; Elizabeth Keyes, DPH; Karen Mulvihill, APRN, Danbury Hospice/HPNA; Colleen Mulkerin, MSW, LCSW, Hartford Hospital.

Public: Donna Maria Cortezzo, CCMC-public; Michael Culhane, CT Catholic Conference; Ashley Calabrese, Updike, Kelly & Spellacy; Bryte Johnson, ACS-CAN; Chris Sanarsiero, VITAS Hospice

I. Minutes Approved

- a. Dianna Cameron motioned to approve; Joe Andrews seconded the motion.

II. Approval of "Working Definition"

- a. Victoria Odesina recommended adding to the definition: "throughout the lifespan" and "across various healthcare settings" Discussion reviewed the strategy to adopt best existing national definition as our source as a universal best practice definition. All agreed in principle that both concepts are what we want to embrace in palliative care, although we want to use the same standard definition from the Clinical Practice Guidelines of the National Consensus Project.
- b. Karen Mulvihill motioned to approve working definition and Cynthia Roy seconded the motion.

III. Topics for discussion

1. Survey of Health care entities
 - a. Discussion around best sources for data. Consensus to request information from CAPC and NHPCO.
 - b. Cynthia Roy volunteered to query NHPCO and Karen Mulvihill volunteered to link with the CAPC registry.
2. Public education
 - a. Brainstormed about possible ways to provide education to the public about palliative care. Plan to share resources members were aware of e.g. CAPC and a brochure from Vermont. Discussed need to keep information direct and simple.

Mr. Bryte Johnson (ACS-CAN) recommended that we focus our campaign and think about different audiences we are attempting to reach, e.g. legislators, general public, health care providers, media, etc.

- b. Mr. Bryte Johnson offered perspective from ACS that many states are passing legislation to support palliative care practice. He will link us with that work being done via ACS. He also reports that ACS will likely have resources to support development of a brochure for public education.

3. Speakers for Advisory Council

- a. Suzanne Blancaflor will come in May to brief council on MOLST
- b. Bill Gerish will come to advise council on strategies for Public Education campaign.

IV. Public comment/Misc.

- a. National Healthcare Decision Day is April 16th.
- b. Chris Santarsiero recommended a NPR story on Advance Care Planning out of LaCrosse Wisconsin. It is a town where 90% of the population has advance care plans. The story is called "The town that loves to talk about death"
- c. Request May meeting time change to 9:00 AM. Discussed and agreed to move meeting from 10:00 to 9:00 on May 9, 2014.

V. Meeting adjourned at 11:15 am by Chair Mulkerin.