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CCCC Activities

Join CCCC Workgroups on October 8

CCCC's Public Engagement, Long Term Care, and Developmental Disabilities Workgroups will meet on Thursday, October 8, in Sacramento. All CCCC members are invited to attend. For more information, contact [Suzanne Richards](#).

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Christina Johnson Joins CCCC Staff

CCCC would like to welcome Christina Johnson who will be serving as project manager for CCCC's work focused on improving care toward the end of life in skilled nursing facilities. Christina brings extensive experience in communications, event management, public relations, and community outreach.

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CCCC Receives Grant from Archstone Foundation

The Archstone Foundation has awarded CCCC a \$15,000 grant to develop a three-year strategic fund development plan and increase CCCC's long-term sustainability.

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Public Policy

Legislative Resolution for 2009 Health Care Decisions Week

Senator Lois Wolk has introduced [Senate Concurrent Resolution 55](#) to establish October 25-31, 2009, as Health Care Decisions Week in California.

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Health Reform and Advance Care Planning

Currently, there are several federal bills directly addressing advance care planning. They include:

- [Senior Navigation and Planning Act – S 1251](#) and [HR 3172](#);
- [Advance Care Planning and Compassionate Care Act – S 1150](#) and [HR 2911](#);
- [Life Sustaining Treatment Preferences Act – HR 1898](#); and

Conference: Caring for the Elderly – Moving From Science to Compassion

ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Hospice-Hospital Palliative Care Programs
- 2nd Annual Women in Pain Conference
- Practical Aspects of Palliative Care
- Bridging the Gaps in Pain Care
- CAPC national Level I/II Seminar

RESOURCES

- Mastering Communication with Seriously Ill Patients
- Sharing the Care: The Role of Family in Chronic Illness

Contact Us

www.finalchoices.org
info@finalchoices.org

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- [Advance Directive Promotion Act – HR 3253](#).

The Center to Advance Palliative Care has developed a public policy page [<http://www.capc.org/health-reform-and-palliative-care>] to provide tools and links to help inform the debate about health care reform and advance care planning.

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Events

Celebrate CACCC's 4th Anniversary & Fundraiser

Join in and celebrate the Chinese American Compassionate Care Coalition's (CACCC) 4th anniversary at the Autumn Festival Celebration. Guests will enjoy an afternoon of performances, refreshments, a silent auction and raffle.

For more information, including sponsorship opportunities and donations, [click here](#).

Date: October 25, 2:00 – 5:00 pm

Location: Saratoga Community Center, Saratoga

Cost: \$50 (this includes a \$30 tax-deductible contribution)

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Announcements

Two California Hospitals Honored with Circle of Life Award

St. John's Regional Medical Center, Oxnard, and St. John's Pleasant Valley Hospital, Camarillo, received a [Circle of Life](#) citation from the American Hospital Association (AHA) for innovation in palliative and end-of-life care.

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Google Creates Online Repository for Advance Directives

In collaboration with the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO), [Google Health](#) has added a new feature that enables users to download a free, state-specific advance directive and store the scanned documents securely online.

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Education Co-sponsored by CCCC

California Culture Change Coalition's Regional Collaboratives

The California Culture Change Coalition is now accepting applications from skilled nursing facilities to join one of five Regional Collaboratives. Collaborative activities include quarterly learning sessions, the development and monitoring of action plans, and interim monthly support meetings that provide opportunities for mentoring and mutual problem solving.

Sponsors: California Culture Change Coalition & CCCC

Date: Begins September 2009

Locations: San Diego, Stockton, Oakland, Palo Alto, and Sacramento

Cost: \$999 per year per facility for entire team

Each nursing home is encouraged to send a team of four to six staff members. Lunch and CE credits are included. Discounts are available for multiple facilities from the same corporation. For more information, visit www.calculturechange.org.

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Capacity: What Is It? How Do We Assess It? What Happens When We Lose It?

Presenters from a wide range of disciplines will examine the difficulties that surround the issue of capacity, focusing on financial, medical, cultural, legal and ethical issues.

Sponsors: Institute on Aging & CCCC

Date: September 16, 8:30am – 4:30pm

Location: The Event Center at St. Mary's Cathedral, San Francisco

Cost: Early Bird price until August 28, \$110 – plus CCCC members receive a 5% discount. Enter the discount code COSPONSOR when registering.

For more information, [click here](#).

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Compassionate Care Conference: Caring for the Elderly – Moving From Science to Compassion

An opportunity for those in elder-care to meet and discuss current trends and best practices. Dr. Dennis McCullough, author of *My Mother, Your Mother: Embracing Slow Medicine*, is key note speaker.

Sponsors: Coda Alliance, O'Conner Hospital Clergy & CCCC

Date: October 15, 8:00am – 3:00pm

Location: O'Connor Hospital, San Jose, CA

For more information, [click here](#).

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Additional Educational Opportunities

Hospice-Hospital Palliative Care Program

This [audio conference](#) will showcase how hospitals are increasingly looking to their local hospices as natural partners with whom to begin or enhance hospital palliative care initiatives, and as a medium to bridge acute inpatient care and services in non-hospital settings.

Sponsor: Center to Advance Palliative Care

Date: September 17, 10:30 -11:30 am

Cost: \$89 per phone line or \$99 for one phone line plus the audio

conference CD-ROM.

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2nd Annual Women in Pain Conference

Over 500 women in pain, caregivers and healthcare providers will gather to help empower women as healthcare advocates.

Sponsors: [For Grace](#) & Healthy African American Families

Date: September 18

Location: California Science Center, Los Angeles

Cost: Free; pre-registration is required by September 11

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Practical Aspects of Palliative Care

A [three-day course](#) designed to offer physicians and other clinicians the information and skills needed to provide high-quality, specialist-level palliative care to patients with life-threatening illnesses in a variety of practice settings.

Sponsors: Harvard Medical School

Dates: October 9-11

Location: Royal Sonesta Hotel, Cambridge, MA

Cost: \$790

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Bridging the Gaps in Pain Care

The 20th [Annual Meeting](#) of the Alliance of State Pain Initiatives brings together leaders involved in efforts to address the challenges that impede effective pain control.

Sponsor: Alliance of State Pain Initiatives

Date: October 23 – 25

Location: Hyatt Regency, San Francisco

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CAPC National Level I/II Seminar

Intensive and highly practical two and a-half day [seminar](#) provides comprehensive training in all aspects of planning, implementing and expanding a hospital-based palliative care program.

Sponsor: Center to Advance Palliative Care

Dates: October 22-24

Location: Omni Hotel at CNN Center, Atlanta, GA

Cost: "Early Bird" rate of \$900 (individual) will be available through September 15, 2009.

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Resources

Mastering Communication with Seriously Ill Patients

[This book](#) by Anthony Back, MD, Robert Arnold, MD and James Tulsky, MD defines the specific communication tasks involved in talking with patients with serious and life-threatening illness and their families.

Topics include delivering bad news, transitions to palliative care, discussing goals of advance-care planning, existential and spiritual issues, family conferences, medical futility and more.

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Sharing the Care: The Role of Family in Chronic Illness

This new [report](#) released by the California HealthCare Foundation draws together a broad range of research findings, case studies, and resources to assist patients, their families and health care providers to maximize the benefits of family involvement in chronic care support.

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Newsletters are available on the CCCC Website (www.finalchoices.org) in pdf format for anyone who is having trouble reading this email version.