

Accomplishments 2025

COALITION FOR COMPASSIONATE CARE OF CALIFORNIA



The Coalition for Compassionate Care of California works to improve quality of life and care for persons with serious illness and those who care for them.

Our mission is to make conversations about serious illness a part of everyday life and palliative care a part of everyday healthcare. We envision a future where people can live their best lives possible during serious illness.

Realizing this vision requires systemic change and cross-sector collaboration. Since 1998, CCCC has convened thought leaders and frontline healthcare providers across all settings, government agencies, industry associations, community and patient advocacy groups, academic institutions, and members of the public, aligning their interests and efforts toward shared goals.

To achieve our vision, we work across several “ever-green” strategic priorities to:

- *Provide Trustworthy and Objective Information and Education in Focus Areas*
- *Advocate for Quality Care for Patients and Caregivers*
- *Facilitate System Change to Improve Serious Illness Care*
- *Engage a Diverse Network of Strategic Partners and Members*

Here is a brief look at accomplishments in 2025.

➤ INFORMATION & EDUCATION

In preparation for the statewide launch of the POLST eRegistry, based on the findings from the statewide 2024 POLST Knowledge Survey, CCCC created and launched the **POLST Champion Certificate Program**, a comprehensive certificate program to train and support POLST Champions to serve as their organization’s or community’s POLST expert. The program includes 8 online topic modules, 8 setting-specific modules (2 required for the certificate), in-person skills training, exam, and ongoing support, coaching, and refresher education. There were 31 participants in the first cohort of the POLST Champion Certificate Program.

Translated Decision Aids (CPR, Artificial Hydration, Ventilator, Tube Feeding) into additional languages, adding Punjabi, Russian, Tagalog, and Vietnamese to our English, Spanish, and Chinese offerings.



Delivered **Let’s Talk: Promoting and Engaging in Advance Care Planning** day-long trainings to

health plan care managers and other healthcare professionals.

Presented a series of “zoominars” and a two-half-day miniconference on **AI Topics, Tools, and Use Cases in Serious Illness Care** for national attendees, creating a robust suite of content related to AI implementations to improve care and lower administrative burden. All are available for purchase, complete with CE credit.

Created and presented a **community presentation for National Healthcare Decision Day** that was presented to two large public audiences.

Delivered three **webinars on topics related to palliative care** including a members-only Policy and Legislation for Serious Illness Care Update for 2025.

Held our **17th Annual Summit – Hard Problems, New Solutions** in October in Orange County.

Presented workshops and posters at the following conferences:

- CSU Shiley Haynes Institute for Palliative Care National Symposium
- CALTCM Annual Meeting
- Center to Advance Palliative Care National Seminar

➤ ADVOCACY

Convened Public Policy Advisory Council from CCCC membership, including reserved seats for Sustaining Supporters.

Reviewed, monitored, and informed CCCC membership of **important legislative and regulatory activities** affecting serious illness care statewide and at the federal level. Delivered members-only webinar briefings on state and federal policy relevant to our members.

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Participated in **advocacy sign-on letters** with . . .

- **Families USA**, opposing cuts to Medicaid
- **Patient Quality of Life Coalition (PQLC)**, expressing concern over cuts to National Institutes of Health (NIH) staffing and funding and urging protection of funding for palliative care research; supporting reintroduction and passage of the Palliative Care & Hospice Education and Training Act by the U.S. Congress.
- **National Alliance for Care at Home, as member of the National Coalition for Hospice & Palliative Care (NCHPC)**, supporting extension of telehealth flexibilities and reimbursement
- **NCHPC**, supporting protection of Medicaid funding and access to palliative care for children with serious illnesses
- **California Coalition for Long-Term Services and Supports (CCLTSS)**, urging that the Governor's Senior Advisor on Aging, Disability, and Alzheimer's vacancy be filled upon Kim McCoy Wade's departure

➤ DIVERSE PARTNERS & MEMBERS

Expanded membership to >100 organizations and >150 individuals.

Added **three new Board of Directors members**, representing a diversity of geography, professional setting and role, and personal perspectives.

Regularly **circulated newsletter** and event communications to ~4,000 subscribers; issued intermittent Public Policy update to members only.

Represented CCCC in local and national workgroups, task forces, and coalitions to promote and improve serious illness care delivery, benefit design, and legal infrastructures, including . . .

- Coalition to Transform Advanced Care State Coalitions Workgroup (national)
- Elder and Disability Justice Coordinating Council and CalCARES Steering Committee, California Department of Aging (statewide)
- National Alliance for Care at Home Palliative Care Council and Emerging Models & Care Innovations Work Group

- National Coalition for Hospice & Palliative Care Public Policy workgroup (national)
- National Partnership for Healthcare and Hospice Innovation (national)
- National POLST Collaborative Board of Directors and Education Committee (national)
- Patient Quality of Life Coalition (national)
- POLST Technical Advisory Committee, California Emergency Medical Services Authority (statewide)
- Sacramento Region Master Plan for Aging Stakeholder Advisory Committee (local/statewide)

➤ FACILITATE SYSTEM CHANGE

Awarded second **ACP Innovation Award** to encourage and recognize innovative projects to promote advance care planning at the Annual Summit in October, 2025.

➤ POLST ELECTRONIC REGISTRY

In September CCCC's contract with the State of California to serve as **Subject Matter Expert to State of California in the development of an electronic registry for POLST** ended. In connection with this project, CCCC has:

Provided expertise to the technical and operational requirements of the registry.

Assisted the State in identifying and engaging stakeholders among users of POLST across sectors to share insights and recommendations to inform the design of the registry.

Monitored and offered advice on CA legislation related to electronic implementation of POLST.

Revised, updated, and redesigned educational materials and trainings to ensure POLST quality in preparation for the registry launch.

Deployed a "POLST Knowledge Survey" to a wide range of healthcare providers across sectors to identify gaps to inform future educational efforts.

Developed the POLST Champion Certificate Program to address the gaps identified in the Statewide POLST Knowledge Survey.

Served as liaison to National POLST Collaborative and, by extension, POLST coalitions in other states to share best practices.