

Accomplishments 2023–2024

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.

Creating this change requires systemic change and cross-sector collaboration. Since 1998, CCCC has convened a coalition of thought leaders and frontline healthcare providers across all sectors, government agencies, industry associations, community activists, 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

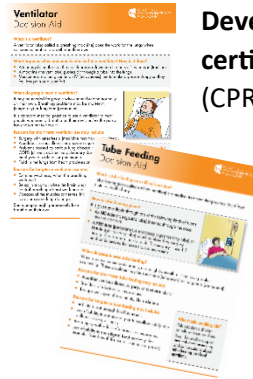
Here is a brief look at accomplishments in 2023 and 2024.

➤ INFORMATION & EDUCATION

Launched 2 highly successful and well-attended two-day **Annual Summits**: 2023, southern California; 2024, northern California, combined attendance >500, plus policy and ethics preconference sessions in 2024.

Delivered **Let’s Talk: Promoting and Engaging in Advance Care Planning** day-long trainings to >150 health plan care managers and other healthcare professionals.

Hosted a four-hour virtual “miniconference” on **Psychedelic-Assisted Therapies in Palliative Care: Emerging Practice and Policy** for a national audience.



Developed a digital option for our certified patient-centered Decision Aids (CPR, ventilation, tube feeding, hydration) for providers to use in patient education.

Delivered **9 webinars on topics related to palliative care** with total attendance >540 (avg ~61 each).

Refreshed and **updated website resources** on advance care planning, palliative care, End of Life Option Act, and other topics.

➤ ADVOCACY

Convened Public Policy Advisory Group 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, including 11 California bills in 2023; 20 California and 12 federal bills in 2024.

Advised Authors and Sponsors of AB-1029 (2023), and AB 2352 (2024) concerning mental health directives, to avoid problematic amendments and focus on creating standalone psychiatric advance directive.

In 2023, supported SB-696, authorizing electronic notary services in California and **in 2024, AB 941**, Psychedelic-assisted therapy; **AB 2075**, Resident Access Protection Act; and **opposed SB 1196**, expansion of the California End of Life Option Act.

Convened **Policy in Practice preconference workshop** at 2024 Annual Summit, inviting speakers from CA Dept of Aging and legislative offices on active bills.

Issued **Position Statement opposing expansions to the End of Life Option Act**, joining many other organizations including Compassion & Choices and the Alliance for Catholic Health Care; bill was withdrawn.

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

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- Coalition to Transform Advanced Care Regulatory Advisory Committee, State Coalitions Workgroup (national)
- Elder and Disability Justice Coordinating Council, California Department of Aging (statewide)
- Multi-County Collaborative to develop and test the feasibility of a Psychiatric Advance Directive for California, legislative workgroup (statewide)
- National Coalition for Hospice & Palliative Care Advocacy workgroup (national)
- National Hospice & Palliative Care Organization Legislative/Regulatory Advisory group (national)
- Patient Quality of Life Coalition (national)
- Sacramento Region Master Plan for Aging Stakeholder Advisory Committee (local/statewide)

➤ FACILITATE SYSTEM CHANGE

Launched **ACP Innovation Award** to encourage and recognize innovative projects to promote advance care planning; received 10 submissions; made award at Annual Summit 2024.

Concluded several-years-long **Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan Learning Communities** to assist providers and health plans in their implementation of SB-1004.

Concluded **PCORI-funded project to build capacity for adoption of the PREPARE advance care planning tool** in healthcare and community-based settings in California.

Concluded development and pilot testing of **advance care planning (ACP) tools, training and resources for California Regional Centers** staff to utilize with clients with developmental and cognitive disabilities as a regular part of the Individual Program Plan process.

Participated in ongoing PCORI-funded **system-wide advance care planning integration project in the UCLA and UCI health systems**.

Participated in **three-state collaborative effort of the Coalition to Transform Advanced Care (C-TAC) and the American Heart Association** working to align clinical and administrative standards and to expand the evidence of effects of delivering interdisciplinary palliative care services to heart failure patients.

➤ POLST ELECTRONIC REGISTRY

Since late 2022, CCCC has served as **Subject Matter Expert to State of California in the development of an electronic registry for POLST**. Much of this work cannot be shared due to confidentiality constraints related to the procurement process, but in general, CCCC has: Provided expertise to the technical requirements of the registry.

Assisted the State in identifying stakeholders among users of the 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.

Begun extensive work to revise, update, and redesign educational materials and trainings to ensure POLST quality in preparation for the registry launch.

Deployed a “POLST Knowledge Survey” to a wide-ranging list of healthcare providers across sectors to identify gaps to inform future educational efforts.

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

➤ DIVERSE PARTNERS & MEMBERS

In 2024, engaged 98 organizational members, 5% increase over 2023.

Regularly circulated newsletter to ~4,000 subscribers; issued intermittent Public Policy update to members only (new in 2024).

Launched 3 online “Communities” for discussion, interaction, relationship building around Advance Care Planning, POLST Providers, Public Policy.

Participated in state and national advisory groups:

- Coalition for Community Long-Term Supports and Services Policy Committee (statewide)
- National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine Roundtable on Quality Care for People with Serious Illness (national)
- National Hospice & Palliative Care Organization Palliative Care Council (national)
- National POLST Collaborative (national, member of Board of Directors)