



2021 Palliative Care Summit:

Working Together: Forging the Future of Serious Illness Care

Daily Schedule

Tuesday, June 22, 2021

11:30 am – 11:50 am

OPENING/WELCOME

Judy Thomas, JD, CEO, Coalition for Compassionate Care of California

11:50 am – 12:50 pm

KEYNOTE | Last But Not Least: Embracing Elderhood and Reimagining Life

Louise Aronson, MD, MFA, Professor, University of California San Francisco, Division of Geriatrics

It is often said that the problem with old age is that it ends in death. Of course, the same can be said for life itself. But what if how we talk about and approach aging and death creates many of the problems we blame on those essential life phases? What if instead we tackled them, in language and practice, much as we already manage childhood and adulthood? And what if how our health care system handles aging explains most of what we need to know about the system's failure to be compassionate and caring in both life and death? In this presentation, Dr. Aronson will present her vision of our current practices and how we might improve care for people of all ages.

12:50 pm – 1:50 pm

GENERAL SESSION | Increasing Access to Community-Based Palliative Care: Three States' Approaches

Kathleen Kerr, Kerr Health Analytics; Vicki Buchda, MS, RN, NEA-BC Vice President, Care Improvement, Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association; Jeannette G. Kojane, MPH, Executive Director, Kōkua Mau

Access to community-based palliative care has increased slowly but steadily in recent years. State-wide initiatives and state policies have had an impact, as well as the efforts of public and private payers, care providers and philanthropic support. Learn about some of the innovative approaches undertaken

in Arizona, Hawaii, and California as state innovators share their approaches, lessons learned, and insights.

1:50 pm – 2:10 pm

BREAK

2:10 pm – 3:10 pm

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

B1 | The Impact of Advance Care Planning in the Acute Setting

Douglas Wilson, MD, FAAFP, Providence Queen of the Valley

Advance care planning in the acute care setting presents unique challenges. *The Common Good AHCD* is an advance directive developed to meet the needs of patients' families and clinicians in the acute setting and ease people into thinking about life after a serious health event. It provides "just-in-time" education needed for serious decisions, and allows specific actionable decisions. It also allows for a distinction between desired care "if something serious happened to me tomorrow," and care desired if one's life situation were different in the future. Learn about how *The Common Good AHCD* was utilized in the inpatient setting at Queen of the Valley Hospital in Napa, including best practices and lessons learned for advance care planning in the acute care setting, and the important impact of community support.

B2 | Between a Rock and a Tender Place: Unique Dynamics of Pediatric Palliative Care

Rev Susan A Cosio, MDiv, BCC, Sutter Medical Center, Sacramento

Pediatric palliative care is a growing and important specialty. But it is not without its challenges. The complexities of caring for critically ill and sometimes dying children and their families can create a milieu rife with ethical dilemma, moral distress, complex family/cultural dynamics, and the potential for compassion fatigue and burnout. This session will help participants identify the path to resilience in the face of ongoing challenge and suffering. Learn to identify the challenges and risks for healthcare professionals who work in pediatric palliative care, while also exploring avenues for compassion satisfaction, professional fulfillment and team success. We will examine pathways to greater resilience through improved team collaboration, meaning-making, remembering our purpose, and reviving the sense of awe and wonder we often see in our pediatric patients. Participants will be encouraged to create a "plan of care" for themselves and their team.

B3 | What's Going on Nationally with POLST?

Amy Vandembroucke, JD, Executive Director, National POLST

National POLST has been working with state leaders to increase consistency among POLST programs, making POLST easier for patients and providers to use. This session will include a short overview of how national policies and standards are created and will feature updates on National POLST projects and activities, including: new quality assurance materials, the National POLST Technology Guide and information about the new POLST Clinical Document Architecture (CDA) being developed this year; national POLST form adoption/adaptation activities; a rural outreach project testing education and telehealth based on lessons learned during COVID; and current rural outreach activities.

B4 | Best Practices in Palliative Dementia Care

Maribeth Gallagher, DNP, PMHNP-BC, FAAN, Hospice of the Valley, Phoenix, AZ

Although the number of persons living with dementia continues to rise, our health care system does a poor job of serving their needs for specialized support and expertise. For this reason, Hospice of the Valley (HOV), a large community based non-profit hospice in Arizona with a hospice census of 2,000 and a palliative care census of 1,000, developed the Supportive Care for Dementia (SCD) program. The goal of the program is to improve care and quality of life for persons living with dementia, and to provide support and education for their families and professional caregivers in order to help persons living with dementia reside in a community-based setting for as long as possible. The program also focuses on options to avoid costly and potentially distressing interventions, including ER visits and hospitalizations. This session will provide an overview of Hospice of the Valley's Supportive Care for Dementia program, its core components, and a case study.

B5 | Grant-funded Free Palliative Care Telehealth Service for People with COVID Disease Burden

Chikal A. Patel, MD, Optum/United Health Group; and Leah J. Jones, MD, Tucson Medical Center

The Covid-19 pandemic highlights the overwhelming need for expanded palliative care services. The presenters of this session developed a palliative care telehealth program to address the issues of access and availability for palliative care support across Arizona and especially in underserved communities. The intention of this session is to share the development process and best practices of the program, as well as interpret data gathered from telehealth consults.

B6 | ACP Innovations in Community Outreach, including Faith and Diverse Communities

Hope Young, Advance Care Planning Coordinator, Kōkua Mau; and Susie Lee, RN, BSN, Kōkua Mau

Kōkua Mau started the “Let’s Talk Story” program in 2016 and added a full time Advance Care Planning Coordinator, Hope Young, in 2017. Learn how the coalition grew the “Let’s Talk Story” program to a state-wide campaign to raise awareness and understanding the value of Advance Care Planning through partnerships with community organizations including senior clubs, faith communities, senior centers, and workplace wellness initiatives. Learn how COVID changed the face of Advance Care Planning, and review qualitative data from previous in-person survey analysis.

3:10 pm – 3:30 pm

BREAK

3:30 pm – 3:50 pm

INTERACTIVE | Drumming for Mindfulness

Jana Din

Learn about drumming as a mindfulness practice and experience guided shamanic journeying, similar to guided meditation, while listening to a healing drum beat.

3:50 pm – 4:00 pm

CLOSING COMMENTS | Wrapping Up the Day – Looking Forward to Tomorrow

Judy Thomas, JD, CEO of the Coalition for Compassionate Care of California

RECEPTION | Art & Music