

Delaware End-of-Life Workgroup Key Themes and Considerations from Initial Meeting

Collect data from a broad array of sources

- Delaware-specific population health and mortality statistics
- Medicaid population statistics, including for the dual eligible population
- Any available data for DE or nationally around advance care directives
- Catalog palliative care programs underway in DE

Consider care in various settings

- What happens when patients leave the hospital
- Role of home health services
- Increasing age-in-home services/propose tax credit for caring for a senior at home
- Use of the internet/telemedicine in more effective delivery of home care

Cultural Competency and Health Literacy

- Outreach and education efforts should include colleges, churches, senior groups and a wide array of other venues and stakeholders
- Examine 'best practice' initiatives that have been particularly successful at engaging stakeholders across the spectrum (e.g. Biden Breast Health Initiative, colorectal screening)
- Accessibility of final report (include plain language and FAQs)
- Acknowledge the 'taboo' around end-of-life care/advance directives and seek to remove it
- Identify and promote apps and other user-friendly tools and resources available for advance directives
- Ensure communication of the goals of end-of-life and palliative care initiatives
- Advance care directives must be understood and placed in the context of what happens at the patient's bedside
- Provide customizable resources for different audiences
- Elderly health promotion media campaign

Ensure Participation from those Particularly Impacted by this Issue

- Schedule public sessions around paratransit schedule
- Accessibility of meeting locations
- Availability of information in an accessible format
- Allow for submission of feedback via multiple channels (in person, e-mail, written correspondence)
- Address the role of mental health, patients and related services
- Inclusion of Veterans Administration is critical
- Faith community/ministry is often called upon to help when medical system is unresponsive

Distinguishing between palliative and hospice care

- Needs of those with long-term illness/disability versus terminal/acute illness

Provider Certification and Training re: Palliative Care

- What is currently offered
- How many DE providers have received some type of certification
- Curriculum development and training for all levels of provider

Power of Attorney

- People living longer and losing intellectual capacity
- Importance of financial considerations/decision-making power
- Considerations for those designated as a proxy

Children's Issues

- Programs and services for parents of children with serious illnesses
- Pediatric rights

Integration with SIM and other efforts

- Person-centered care/"Right Care at Right Time"
- Palliative care in a value-based payment model
- Sen. Coons Legislative bill re: advance directives for Medicare patients

Comprehensive Institute of Medicine report should serve as a framework for the final report

Clarify physician compensation for completion of advance directives