

# **Palliative Care and Quality of Life Interdisciplinary Advisory Council**

November 14, 2014 Meeting Minutes

## **Members Present:**

**Linda M. Dziobek, R.N.**, Chair, Partnership to reduce Cancer in Rhode Island; **Rev. Marie Carpenter**, Director of Eldercare Ministries, American Baptist Churches of Rhode Island; Chair of the Advisory Council, **Dr. Edward V. Martin, M.D., MPH**, Medical Director, Home and Hospice Care of Rhode Island; **Dr. Angela Taber, M.D.**, Palliative Medicine Physician, Miriam Hospital and Rhode Island Hospital; **Dr. Joan M. Teno**, Professor of Health Systems, Policy and Practice, Brown University School of Public Health.

## **Members Not Present/ Excused:**

**Jean Anderson, R.N.**, CEO, Visiting Nurses Service of Newport and Bristol Counties; (excused)  
**Nancy Roberts, MSN, R.N.**, President and CEO, VNA of Care New England Health System

## **Staffing the Advisory Council:**

**Manuela Raposo**, Comprehensive Cancer Control Program, Rhode Island Department of Health

## **Members of the Public Present:**

**Jim Wellsey**, Roger Williams Medical Center

**Joseph Dziobek**

**Susan Roberts**

**Arthur Plitt**, HHCRI

## **Present from Rhode Island Department of Health (HEALTH):**

**C. Kelly Smith, MSW**, Comprehensive Cancer Control Program, Rhode Island Department of Health

**Twila McInnis, RN**, Board of Nursing, Rhode Island Department of Health

## **Minutes:**

### **1. Introductions, Roll Call and Establishment of a Quorum (Chair)**

Dr. Martin welcomed and thanked the Council Members and Members of the Public. Manuela Raposo then called roll (results above). Dr Martin reported out on the following:

- a. There is a vacancy on the council
- b. The website will take some time but we will continue to work on it.

### **2. State of the State :** Dr. Joan Teno provided the following information

- 12 out of 15 RI hospitals have some sort of palliative care program
- Total 2617 consults were done in the last year and only on 6.4 FTE's for total team
- Only one program is officially JAHCO certified-Roger Williams Hospital
- Still need to compile information on the Veterans Hospital, Hasbro and Roger Williams
- Vast array of resources for a small state, great strides in five years
- Dr Teno will write up a narrative and submit to the Council
- Dr Teno suggests looking at aggregate data. i.e. admissions, readmissions, live discharges, etc.
  1. Dr Teno will pull data for 2012

### **3. MOLST and Current Care**

- Comfort One is ending with MOLST as a replacement.
- The public needs more education on MOLST
- Comfort One works, why not continue it as a complement to MOLST
- Letter will be drafted to Dr Fine advocating for continuing with Comfort One
- No more Comfort One bracelets are being produced.

The Council then discussed the profile of the person that should fill the current vacancy:

- We will check the law to confirm who is missing
- Diversity is needed- ethnic and gender

#### **4. Updates:**

Rev. Marie Carpenter reported that the state council of churches got a grant from CTACH for religious professionals. It will be a train the trainer for people that go into the highways and byways. March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015. There will be workshops on ethics, legal, science, spiritual, etc; all morning event.

#### **5. Next steps:**

- a. Dr Martin will draft letter on Comfort Care for Dr Fine and circulate
- b. Report back on meeting with attorney

#### **6. Topics for Future Consideration at Meetings:**

- a. Dr. Joan Teno will report on more data- 2012 hospice data
- b. Report back on meeting with Jane
- c. Setting goals
  - i. Urging hospitals to pursue JAHCO certification
  - ii. Public education: webpage
- d. Webpage content discussion
- e. Discuss vacancy

#### **7. Public Comments**

- Jim thanked the council for their engagement in this work and suggested Susan Cisneros, social worker for the vacancy.
- Susan Roberts suggested reaching out to Rick Harris for suggestions to fill vacancy. She also suggested including putting in a sunset clause for the Comfort One bracelets in the letter to Dr Fine.
- Arthur Plitt stated that he serves on the Governors commission for disabilities and he would be happy to look at the legislature and ensure language isn't discriminatory towards elders. He urged consideration of reiki and acupuncture in integrated care of palliative care practices
- Kelly Smith announced on behalf of Brenda DiPaolo that age for cervical cancer screening has been changed to age 21.

#### **8. Future Meetings**

The Advisory Council members will meet every other month, on the last Friday of the month, from 3:30pm to 4:30pm. Next meeting will be January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 4:24pm. (Minutes reported by Manuela Raposo)