

Agenda

chicago 2026
summit
quality in action

****This agenda is being finalized and may be subject to change. Updated Feb 17, 2026****

MONDAY, APRIL 27

7:00-4:00 PM	Pre-Summit Field Trips - <i>Space is limited and filling quickly.</i>
1:00-7:00 PM	Registration
1:00-2:30 PM	Board Meeting
3:00-4:30 PM	Innovation Roundtable
5:00-6:30 PM	Welcome Reception - <i>Offsite location. Venue to be announced.</i>

TUESDAY, APRIL 28

7:30 AM	Registration
7:45 AM	Continental Breakfast
8:00 AM	Summit Kickoff <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Diana Franchitto, President and CEO, HopeHealth, Board Chair, NPHI• Mary Kay Sheehan, CEO, Lightways Hospice and Serious Illness Care• Tom Koutsoumpas, Founder & CEO, NPHI• Carole Fisher, President, NPHI
8:10 AM	Quality in Action <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tom Koutsoumpas, Founder & CEO, NPHI• Carole Fisher, President, NPHI
8:30 AM	Keynote: Dr. Whyte, CEO, American Medical Association
9:15 AM	Three Member Spark Rounds: Dementia Care
9:30 AM	Presentation of the NPHI Healthcare in Action Innovation Award <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accepted by: Ab Brody, Founder, Aliviado Health, NYU School of Nursing.• Keynote: <i>The Courage to Evolve: Why Innovation is the New Standard for Excellence in Serious Illness Care</i>
10:00 AM	Networking Break
10:30 AM	Panel Session: Driving Quality and Consistency: NPHI Pediatric Care Patient & Caregiver Guide <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Allison Kuchar, VP, Pediatric Services, Chapters Health System & Executive Director, Children's Programs, Capital Caring Health• Elizabeth Rocha, AVP, Pediatrics and Nursing Practice, NorthStar Care Community• Third panelist TBA – awaiting confirmation

11:15 AM	<p><i>Moderated by: Dr. Cameron Muir, Chief Medical & Innovation Officer, NPHI</i></p> <p>Plenary Session: Care Management Update – An Interdisciplinary Endeavor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ellen Fink-Samnick, Principal, EFS Strategies <p><i>Introduction: Robin Shultz, VP for Member Programs and Engagement, NPHI</i></p>
11:45-1:00 PM	Lunch
1:00 PM	<p>Keynote: Professor Richard Harding, Executive Dean, Faculty of Nursing, Midwifery & Palliative Care at King's College London</p>
1:45 PM	Networking Break
2:15-3:30 PM	<p>Breakout Sessions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hospice Regulatory Audit Insights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Howard Young, Partner, Morgan, Lewis & Bockius, LLP 2. Rural Provider Collaborative: Unique Perspectives of Rural Providers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ TBA 3. Showcase! <p>(3 short, focused segments highlighting ideas, tools, and innovations relevant to members)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Unlikely Partners Making an Impact Together <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kent Anderson, CEO, Ohio's Hospice • Patrick Miller, CEO, NorthStar Care Community ○ The Silent Financial Drain: Rethinking DME's Impact on Hospice Margins <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hall Thorp, Co-Founder & Chief Strategy Officer, Qualis ○ Defensible Documentation in the Age of AI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michelle Barlow, Director of Clinical & Regulatory Excellence, Homecare Homebase 4. Leading Practices in Governance for Today's Hospice Boards: Empowering Boards to Increase Engagement and Drive Productivity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Steve Smith, CEO, Association Management Center (AMC) 5. Global Care/ Impact – Title of presentation TBA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lacey Ahern, Director, Global Partners in Care ○ Richard Harding, Executive Dean, Faculty of Nursing, Midwifery & Palliative Care at King's College London ○ John Mastrojohn III, President & CEO, Center for Hospice Care
3:30 PM	Break
3:45-5:00 PM	<p>Breakout Sessions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hospice Regulatory Audit Insights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Howard Young, Partner, Morgan, Lewis & Bockius, LLP 2. GIP Best Practices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ed Martin, MD, MPH, Chief Medical Officer, HopeHealth 3. Innovative Strategies in Education: Gamification, AI, and Learner Engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Donna Fahey, Director of the Boccolini Institute at Samaritan 4. Home Based Primary Care & Current Strategies with Care Delivery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hank Ross, MBA, FAAHCM – Board President C6, American Academy of Home Care Medicine (AAHCM) ○ Kristofer L. Smith, MD, MPP, Co-founder, President and CMO Ruby Health 5. Sales, Marketing, & Communications Collaborative – title & topic TBA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Presenter TBA shortly

6. **Creating Sustainability: Leveraging our Organizational Strengths**
 - Presenters TBA shortly

5:00-6:00 PM

Happy Hour

6:30-8:00 PM

Chief Medical Officers & Medical Leaders Gathering

6:30-8:00 PM

Chief Financial Officers Gathering

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29

7:30 AM

Continental Breakfast

8:30 AM

Opening Announcements

- NPHI Leadership

8:40 AM

Keynote: Dr. Oz has been invited or another senior CMS leader in his place

9:00 AM

Member Spark Rounds: Service Line Diversification

9:15 AM

Panel Session: Service Line Diversification (final title & speakers TBA)*Moderated by: Ray Quintero, Senior Strategic Advisor, NPHI*

9:45 AM

Networking Break

10:15 AM

Panel and Discussion: Articulating Value Using the Quality Dashboard

11:00 AM

Plenary Session: NPHI Policy and Strategy Update

- Quin Lyons, Policy Analyst, NPHI
- Ethan McChesney, Senior Policy Director, NPHI

12:00-1:30 PM

Lunch & Networking for Collaboratives**CEO Working Lunch**

1:30 PM

Keynote: Yes, And: Improvisation as a Superpower

- Kelly Leonard, VP of Creative Strategy & Innovation, Second City

2:15 PM

Panel Session: Program Integrity Developments & NPHI Resources

- CPI Deputy Director(s)
- Member Listening Session attendees from CMS Site Visit

Moderated by: Ethan McChesney, NPHI, Senior Policy Director

3:00 PM

Plenary Session: A Song for You

- Emily Cavanagh, Singer, Songwriter, Founder, A Song for You

Introduced by: Deb Shumway, Executive Director, Hospice of the Valley (NPHI Board Vice Chair) & Lisa Maddock, Social Worker, Hospice of the Valley

3:30 PM

Reflections on Quality in Action

- Tom Koutsoumpas and Carole Fisher

3:00 PM
3:15-4:00 PM

Main Summit Closing
Clinical & Operational Leaders Collaborative Gathering

WEDNESDAY EVENING: 5:30-9:00 PM

Summit Celebration

AN EVENING DEDICATED TO YOU

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29TH

Cocktail Hour & Red-Carpet Photos
5:30-6:30 PM

Dinner & Awards
Entertainment by *The Second City*
6:30-8:30PM

Conversation, Cocktails & Music
8:30 PM

Executive Partners



An additional fee of \$85 for the *Summit Celebration* covers the **cost of dinner**.
All other expenses for this event are paid for by sponsor support and NPHI.