

# Agenda

chicago 2026  
**summit**  
quality in action 

## MONDAY, APRIL 27

- 7:00-4:00 PM Pre-Summit Field Trips: **Sponsored by Naveon**
- 1:00-6:00 PM Main Registration: **Sponsored by Fuze Care Services**
- 1:00-2:30 PM Board Meeting: **Sponsored by Hospi Corporation**
- 3:00-4:30 PM Innovation Roundtable
- 6:00-7:30 PM Welcome Reception at the *Shedd Aquarium*: **Sponsored by WellSky**
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## TUESDAY, APRIL 28

- 7:15 AM Registration
- 7:15 AM Continental Breakfast: **Sponsored by Advanced RevCycle**
- 8:00 AM **Summit Kickoff**
- 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**
- Tom Koutsoumpas, Founder & CEO, NPHI
  - Carole Fisher, President, NPHI
- 8:30 AM **Keynote: title of presentation TBA** **Sponsored by Dragonfly Health:**
- Dr. John Whyte, CEO & Executive Vice President, American Medical Association
- 9:15 AM **Spark Rounds: Dementia Care: Sponsored by IntusCare**
- AuthoraCare
  - Hospice of the Valley
  - The Connecticut Hospice
- 9:30 AM **Presentation of the NPHI Healthcare in Action Innovation Award**
- **Accepted by:** Ab Brody, PhD, Assistant Dean for Transformational Excellence in Aging, NYU Meyers College of Nursing
  - **Keynote:** *The Courage to Evolve: Why Innovation is the New Standard for Excellence in Serious Illness Care*
- 10:00 AM **Networking Break: Sponsored by National HME**
- 10:30 AM **Panel Session: Driving Quality and Consistency: NPHI Advanced Pediatric Care Patient &**

### Caregiver Guide

- Allison Kuchar, VP, Pediatric Services, Chapters Health System & Executive Director, Capital Caring Kids, Capital Caring Health
- Elizabeth Rocha, AVP, Pediatrics and Nursing Practice, NorthStar Care Community, and Anchors Programs for Children

**Moderated by:** Cameron Muir, MD, Chief Medical & Innovation Officer, NPHI

11:15 AM

### Plenary Session: *Care Management Update – An Interdisciplinary Endeavor*

- Dr. Ellen Fink-Samnack, Principal, EFS Supervision Strategies, LLC

**Introduction:** Robin Shultz, VP of Member Programs and Engagement, NPHI

11:45-1:15 PM

Lunch

1:15 PM

### Keynote: *Reducing the Final Inequity: Improving Access to Palliative and End-of-Life Care for All*

**Sponsored by Eleos Health**

- Professor Richard Harding, PhD, Executive Dean, Faculty of Nursing, Midwifery & Palliative Care at King's College London

**Overview by:** John Mastrojohn III, CEO, Global Partners in Care

2:00 PM

Transition to Breakout Sessions

2:15-3:30 PM

**Breakout Sessions:** Sponsored by Axxess

#### 1. *Hospice Regulatory Audit Insights*

- Howard Young, Partner, Morgan, Lewis & Bockius, LLP

#### 2. *From Global Engagement to Local Impact*

- Lacey Ahern, Executive Director, Global Partners in Care
- Jim Cleary, MD, Emeritus Professor, University of Wisconsin & Palliative Care Physician, Ascension Health
- Professor Richard Harding, PhD, Executive Dean, Faculty of Nursing, Midwifery & Palliative Care at King's College London
- John Mastrojohn III, CEO, Global Partners in Care
- Mark Stoltenberg, MD, Medical Director, Mass General Brigham Home-Based Palliative Care Program; Co-Director, Global Palliative Care Program, MGH Division of Palliative Care and Geriatrics; Asst Professor, Harvard Medical School
- Lydia Thomas, Program Manager, Global Partners in Care

#### 3. *Showcase!* (3 short, focused segments highlighting ideas, tools, and innovations relevant to members)

- **Getting Comfortable Being Uncomfortable: Living our Mission Through Integrations**
  - Kent Anderson, CEO, Ohio's Hospice
  - Patrick Miller, President & CEO, NorthStar Care Community
- **The Silent Financial Drain: Rethinking DME's Impact on Hospice Margins**
  - Hall Thorp, Co-Founder & Chief Strategy Officer, Qualis
- **Defensible Documentation in the Age of AI**
  - 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*

- Steve Smith, CEO, Association Management Center (AMC)

#### 5. *Enhanced Oncology Model and What it Means for You*

- Peter Benjamin, Strategic Advisor, NPHI

#### 6. *Home Based Primary Care: An Essential Element for Success in Value-Based Care*

- Hank Ross, Board President, C6, American Academy of Home Care Medicine (AAHCM)
- Kristofer Smith, MD, Senior Medical Advisor, Coalition to Transform Advanced Care (C-TAC); President and Chief Medical Officer, Ruby Health

3:30 PM	<b>Break:</b> Sponsored by Hanover Healthcare Practice
3:45-5:00 PM	<p><b>Breakout Sessions:</b></p> <p><b>7. Hospice Regulatory Audit Insights</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Howard Young, Partner, Morgan, Lewis &amp; Bockius, LLP</li> </ul> <p><b>8. GIP Best Practices</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ed Martin, MD, Chief Medical Officer, HopeHealth</li> </ul> <p><b>Facilitated by:</b> Cameron Muir, MD, Chief Medical and Innovation Officer, NPHI</p> <p><b>9. Innovative Strategies in Education: Gamification, AI, and Learner Engagement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Donna Fahey, Director of the Boccolini Institute, Samaritan</li> </ul> <p><b>10. Unique Perspectives of Rural Providers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kim Golanski, Chief Engagement Officer, Blue Ridge Care</li> <li>Michaela Vandersee, CEO, Cedar Valley Hospice</li> <li>Tasha Walsh, CEO, ConnectionsPlus Healthcare + Hospice</li> <li>Christa Walz, Executive Director, Adoray Home Health and Hospice</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderated by:</b> Kilty Brown, Executive Director, Central Wyoming Hospice and Transitions</p> <p><b>11. Make Your Message Matter: Value Statements and the Public Experience of Your Organization</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emily Muse, Chief Experience Officer, American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Care Medicine (AAHPM)</li> </ul> <p><b>12. Grow or Fade: Why Nonprofit Hospices Must Expand to Survive</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Patrick Miller, President &amp; CEO, NorthStar Care Community</li> <li>Iria Nishimura, CEO, Willamette Vital Health</li> <li>Lynne Sexten, President &amp; CEO, Agrace</li> </ul>
5:30-6:30 PM	<b>Chief Medical Officers &amp; Medical Leaders Collaborative Gathering:</b> Sponsored by Home Care 100
6:00-7:30 PM	<b>Chief Financial Officers Collaborative Gathering:</b> Sponsored by Husch Blackwell

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## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29

7:15 AM	<b>Continental Breakfast:</b> Sponsored by DeliverCareRx Pharmacy
8:00 AM	<p><b>Day 2 Kickoff: Opening Announcements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tom Koutsoumpas and Carole Fisher</li> </ul>
8:10 AM	<p><b>Keynote: Aligning Value and Quality Care: The Role of Hospice and Palliative Care in Medicare's Future</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jake Quinton, MD, Chief Medical Officer, Center for Medicare, CMS</li> </ul>
8:40 AM	<p><b>Spark Rounds: Service Line Diversification:</b> Sponsored by ArcHouse</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Everent Health</li> <li>Gilchrist</li> <li>TRU Community Care</li> </ul> <p><b>Introduction by:</b> Lynne Sexten, President &amp; CEO, Agrace</p>
9:00 AM	<p><b>Panel Session: From Hospice to Continuum: Expanding Service Lines in a Value-Driven System</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jessica Hubbs, MD, Chief Clinical Officer, Advanced Care Innovations</li> <li>TBA</li> </ul>

- TBA

**Moderated by:** Ray Quintero, Senior Strategic Advisor, NPHI

9:45 AM

**Networking Break**

10:15 AM

**Fireside Chat: *An Inside Conversation with CMMI: What Leaders Should Know***

- Gary Bacher, Chief Strategy Officer, CMMI
- Tom Koutsoumpas, CEO, NPHI
- Abe Sutton, Director, CMMI

**Introduction by:** Andrew MacPherson, Senior Strategic Advisor, NPHI

10:45 AM

**Plenary Session: *The Road to 5 Star Hospice: Driving Value Using the Quality Dashboard***

- Cameron Muir, MD, Chief Medical and Innovation Officer, NPHI

11:15 AM

**Plenary Session: *Inside NPHI's Policy Agenda: Key Developments and Strategic Opportunities***

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

12:15-1:30 PM

**Lunch & Networking for Collaboratives: *Sponsored by Glossary Health Solutions***  
**CEO Working Lunch: *Sponsored by Teleios Collaborative Network***

1:30 PM

**Fireside Chat: *Program Integrity Developments & NPHI Resources***

- Jeneen Iwugo, Acting Director, Center for Program Integrity (CPI), CMS
- Ethan McChesney, NPHI, Senior Policy Director

2:00 PM

**Keynote: *Behind the Curtain at The Second City: Applied Insights from the World of Improvisation* *Sponsored by OnePoint Patient Care***

- Sayjal Joshi, Writer & Facilitator, The Second City
- Piero Procaccini, Director & Performer, The Second City

2:45 PM

**Plenary Session: *A Song for You***

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

**Introduction by:** Deb Shumway, Executive Director, Hospice of the Valley

3:15 PM

***Reflections on Quality in Action***

- Tom Koutsoumpas and Carole Fisher

3:15 PM

**Main Summit Closing**

3:30-4:15 PM

**Clinical & Operational Leaders Collaborative Networking: *Sponsored by SMARTMD***

# Summit Celebration

AN EVENING DEDICATED TO YOU

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29<sup>TH</sup>

## Cocktail Hour & Red-Carpet Photos

*Cocktail hour sponsored by Concergix*

5:30-6:30 PM

## Dinner & Awards

*Dinner sponsored by HospiceMD*

*Bar sponsored by BetterRX*

*Tablescape sponsored by IntellaTriage*

6:30-7:30 PM

## Entertainment by *The Second City*

*Sponsored by KanTime*

7:30-8:30 PM

## 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.