

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**

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: *The Future of Medicare: From Policy to Real Patient Care*** **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 - *GUIDE: Lessons from the Field*
 - Hospice of the Valley - *Living Well with Dementia: The Power of Connection*
 - 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*

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

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29

6:00-7:00 AM	Sunrise Yoga with Dr. Sonja Richmond
7:15 AM	Continental Breakfast: Sponsored by DeliverCareRx Pharmacy
8:00 AM	<p>Day 2 Kickoff: Opening Announcements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tom Koutsoumpas and Carole Fisher
8:10 AM	<p>Keynote: Aligning Value and Quality Care: The Role of Hospice and Palliative Care in Medicare's Future</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jacob Quinton, MD, Chief Medical Officer, Center for Medicare, CMS
8:40 AM	<p>Spark Rounds: Service Line Diversification: Sponsored by ArcHouse</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Everent Health - A New Model of Growth for Nonprofit Hospice ● Gilchrist ● TRU Community Care - Could PACE Be in Your Future? <p>Introduction by: Lynne Sexten, President & CEO, Agrace</p>

- 9:00 AM** **Panel Session: *From Hospice to Continuum: Expanding Service Lines in a Value-Driven System***
- Jessica Hubbs, MD, Chief Clinical Officer, Advanced Care Innovations
 - Robbie Pottharst, Managing Partner, Impactive Health LLC
 - 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
 - Abe Sutton, Director, CMMI
- Moderated by:** Tom Koutsoumpas, Founder & CEO, NPHI
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: *Advancing Hospice Program Integrity: A Conversation with CMS on Fraud Enforcement and Prevention***
- 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, Performer & Facilitator, The Second City
 - Piero Procaccini, Director & Facilitator, 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
- 3:20 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 29TH

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.

*All times listed in CT; Times/Sessions/Speakers may change as agenda is finalized