# State of Ohio

# Palliative Care and Quality of Life Interdisciplinary Council

# Meeting Minutes

December 11th, 2020

1. Call to order

Laura Shoemaker called to order the regular meeting of the Palliative Care and Quality of Life Interdiscplinary Council at 12:30pm on Friday, December 11th, 2020 online via Microsoft Teams.

1. Roll call

Zach Rossfeld conducted a roll call.

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| Jill E. Anderson | Phyllis Grauer | Debra Oriold | Kristi Strawser |
| Mark Curtis | Gayle Greenhagen | Chirag Patel | Kathy Thornton |
| Susanne Evans | Charles von Gunten | Paul Ray | Karen Wonders |
| Sarah Friebert | Medford Mashburn | Zach Rossfeld | Alexander Wolf |
| Jessica Geiger-Hayes |  | Laura Shoemaker | Adonyah Whipple |

The following Ohio Department of Health members were present:

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| Selina Jackson | Heather Coglianese | James Hodge | Mark Hurst |
| Wanda Lacovetta | Shannon Richey | Other: | Other: |

The following other persons were present:

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1. Approval of minutes from last meeting

No minutes were reviewed in accord with inability to meet since February 28th, 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Those minutes will be reviewed at the next – and more complete/formal – meeting.

1. Open issues
   1. The intent of today’s meeting was to share with one another the experiences as palliative care clinicians in Ohio amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.
      1. Chirag Patel talked about census of patients increasing to records, initial concerns for adequate supply of personal protective equipment, being stressed as a small team to meet the increased demand for palliative care, and the ongoing barriers around visitation policy at partnering extended care facilities.
      2. Mark Curtis talked about the rapid expansion to 75% telehealth in the outpatient space and the insight of the real-life conditions of peoples’ living situations (rather than the ~façade of the clinic). He shared candidly about the interdisciplinary team supporting other colleagues in a “Cope & Hope” framework during the acute phases.
      3. Suzanne Evans shared the critical access issues of private duty nursing staffing made even more stark for the patients at Cincinnati Children’s and Starshine Hospice.
      4. Laura Shoemaker told about the ongoing churn of staff related to being in quarantine/isolation themselves and, “how do we emerge as a team?” She has challenged her team at Cleveland Clinic to be practicing differently going forward.
      5. Adonyah Whipple talked about the loss of the more rural Knox County Hospital’s ability to transport patients for secondary opinions or tertiary care due to the volumes at those centers and not accepting. The increased local volume has been challenging on the community side and is being built into an accountable care organization primary care model.
      6. Kristi Strawser shared how inundated with cases and so honestly describing, “a ball of mess you’re always trying to maneuver.”
      7. Selina Jackson was gracious to talk about the perspective from within the Ohio Department of Health where she has been redeployed for warehouse operations related to personal protective equipment and testing kits. She talked about collaboration with Ohio Department of Medicaid to fill care facility staffing gaps with Ohio National Guard teams. She talked about the burden of death in nursing homes and there not being an end in sight today.
2. New business
   1. We are authorized to meet virtually until at least July 1st, 2021. Those meetings will continue to be public and posted to the website.
   2. Advance care planning shortcomings in Ohio were discussed. It was reminded that such statute requires legislative action and is not the purview of the Ohio Department of Health.
   3. Leadership elections will take place as soon as our next meeting; tentatively scheduled March 12th at 12:30pm, virtually via Microsoft Teams.
3. Adjournment

Laura Shoemaker adjourned the meeting at 1:35pm.

Minutes submitted by: Zach Rossfeld

Minutes approved by: Vote of the PCQLIC on April 9, 2021