# State of Ohio

# Palliative Care and Quality of Life Interdisciplinary Council

# Meeting Minutes

April 9, 2021

1. Call to order

Laura Shoemaker called to order the regular meeting of the Palliative Care and Quality of Life Interdisciplinary Council at 12:04 pm on April 9, 2021, virtually via Microsoft Teams.

1. Roll call

Zach Rossfeld attended to the roll.

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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 |  | 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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| Erin Begin; Home Care and Hospice Director @ Ohio Health Care Association | Melissa James; Parent Consultant at The Ohio Department of Health and Executive Director of Feel Better Foundation |  |  |

1. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Zach Rossfeld referenced the minutes from the last two meetings having been distributed for review. Corrections, if any, were asked for and there were none. The minutes were approved as distributed by voice acclamation.

1. Open issues
   1. Roundtable check-in
      1. Zach Rossfeld
         1. Visitor limitations and lack of in-person as a handicap to best practice of serious illness communication.
      2. Laura Shoemaker
         1. Full of positive energy for this work with bandwidth an ongoing and real challenge.
      3. Gayle Greenhagen
         1. Highlighted the caregiver fatigue she is seeing.
         2. Echoes the sentiment of positive energy for this work. Comments on meetings of this kind being helpful yet not as productive as before the pandemic.
      4. Phyllis Grauer
         1. The evolution of chronic care management as a valuable lesson learned amidst the pandemic.
      5. Mark Curtis
         1. Reflects on the “Cope and Hope” team as an interdisciplinary team supporting other colleagues no matter the affiliation or prior working relationship.
      6. Paul Ray
         1. Echoes sentiments shared and reports that does have bandwidth for this work moving forward.
      7. Jessica Geiger
         1. Echoes Zach’s statements especially as working in the same health system.
         2. Ready to make progress remote/virtually!
      8. Chirag Patel
         1. Shares, “pivot,” as the theme of the work in changing settings and needs while responding to CDC guidelines.
         2. Record-breaking census as a source of pride.
         3. Growing direct contracting and per-member per-month efforts in real ways.
         4. Sees participation in the PCQLIC as mandatory for the betterment of Ohioans. Challenges with bandwidth acknowledged.
      9. Adonyah Whipple
         1. “Explosion” in outpatient requests for service to prevent higher level of care access.
         2. Participating in the PCQLIC as a priority for herself.
      10. Kristi Strawser
          1. Purposeful regrouping needed to move out of crisis mode. Offers this as a reflection on leadership.
          2. Pandemic highlighting the need for this work more than ever and remains committed to PCQLIC.
      11. Alexander Wolf
          1. Brave and poignant sharing of his experience of having been laid off as one of more than 500 in the health system related to serious financial concerns brought on by the pandemic. Talks about the blessing of same-city palliative position and the opportunity there of new/different/expanded advanced practice nurse in the field.
          2. Committed as ever to this PCQLIC’s work.
      12. Selina Jackson
          1. Vaccines, vaccines, vaccines as the priority in her work.
          2. Focus from her perspective is to get educational materials online, especially in the short term.
      13. Guest: Erin Begin
          1. Introduced herself in her role as director of Home Care and Hospice at the Ohio Health Care Association
      14. Guest: Melissa James
          1. Parent consult at Ohio Department of Health. She is the mother of child with pediatric cancer
          2. Does work in non-profit space and even has her own 501(c)(3): The Feel Better Foundation.
          3. Hosting, September 16-17, 2021 the Pediatric Cancer Summit along with Ohio Department of Health.
   2. Update on PCQLIC administration
      1. Vacancies on the PCQLIC
         1. Selina mentions that a social worker’s application has been forwarded by the Governor’s office and that our resigned member’s discipline was social work. Some concern voiced as to the lack of direct palliative care practice. The resume will be shared for comment.
         2. The Department of Health retained the many, original applications not selected at the PCQLIC’s inception and, as such, has a reserve of potential replacement members.
         3. There will be a public solicitation at the end of this three-year term for re-appointment. Initial appointments were until April 2022, according to the PCQLIC website.
         4. There is no sunset provision to the PCQLIC and so indefinite three-year terms can be expected.
      2. Leadership positions
         1. The only statutory provision is that “the council shall select annually from among its members a chairperson and vice-chairperson, whose duties shall be established by the council.”
         2. Other positions and the frequency at which leadership positions are re-affirmed is at the discretion of the PCQLIC membership.
      3. Virtual meetings
         1. Currently, virtual meetings approved through July 2021.
         2. Anticipate this will be extended though unclear if will be accepted as a new normative practice.
         3. Phyllis Grauer asks clarifying question about sub-committees’ ability to meet virtually and answers are that yes as long as is posted in compliance with the public meetings protocol.
   3. Update from liaison work to Ohio Partners for Cancer Control
      1. Zach shares about Gayle’s and his work with Jill Price of ODH who presented to PCQLIC February 28, 2020.
         1. The 2021-2030 Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan (the Plan) again includes objectives and strategies for Palliative Care and Hospice Care. Not yet available on [the ODH website](https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/know-our-programs/comprehensive-cancer-control-program), the three relevant objectives are:
            1. **Objective 6:** By 2030, increase the number of care professionals certified in hospice and palliative care by: 25% for physicians from 297 to 371, 40% for nurses from 1,634 to 2,288, and 50% for social workers from 102 to 153 (midway targets: 12% increase for physicians, 20% increase for nurses, and 25% increase for social workers).
            2. **Objective 7:** By 2030, convene five educational sessions (e.g., webinar, conference, roundtable, breakout session, grand round) to increase awareness of the importance of an early assessment of Ohio cancer patients for palliative care need and referral to care.
            3. **Objective 8:** By 2030, convene five educational sessions (e.g., webinar, conference, roundtable, breakout session, grand round) to increase public and clinician awareness of the difference between palliative care and hospice care in Ohio.
         2. If interested/able with the implementation phase, please contact [Colleen.Palay@uhhospitals.org](mailto:Colleen.Palay@uhhospitals.org) and [Jill.Price@odh.ohio.gov](mailto:Jill.Price@odh.ohio.gov)
2. New business
   1. PCQLIC Leadership Positions
      1. The conversational consensus is for current leadership to remain in place with Sarah Friebert as chairperson, Laura Shoemaker as vice-chairperson, and Zach Rossfeld as secretary.
         1. The motive and/or intent here is for a sense of routine amidst so much that is changing in the world.
         2. Laura Shoemaker offered intentionality in asking if others wished to voice interest in a leadership position and there were no volunteers.
         3. Phyllis Grauer asks for an intentional check-in for committee chairs as well for their continued interest and bandwidth in that role.
            1. Zach Rossfeld will send the roster of committees with chairs noted for review at the next meeting.
         4. Consensus decision to confirm leadership positions at our next meeting.
   2. Meeting times
      1. Consensus decision to meet quarterly this year with a short interval before the next meeting and lead-time prior to the end of the year for the annual report.
      2. Meeting times for 2021 as decided are May 14th, August 13th, and November 12th. 12-1:30 pm with intention for virtual meetings as able.
   3. Interim work
      1. The near-term goal of the PCQLIC is to populate the educational, reference, and resource content on the PCQLIC website.
      2. Zach Rossfeld will send a framework based on our committees’ key drivers diagrams on which the resources might be organized.
      3. Please send resources to Zach Rossfeld by May 5th so that they can be collated for review prior to the May 14th meeting.
3. Adjournment

Laura Shoemaker adjourned the meeting at 1:22 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Zach Rossfeld, for review on April 14, 2021

Minutes approved by: PCQLIC by vote on May 14, 2021 having been moved by Mark and seconded by Chirag