

**Palliative Care Advisory Council**  
**Friday February 16th 2018**  
**2:00 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.**  
**301 Centennial Mall South**  
**Lincoln NE 68509**  
*Conference Room*  
*Lower Level B*  
**Bridge Line: 1 (888) 820-1398 Pass code: 3464953 #**

**In Attendance:**  
**Andrew Macfadyen**  
**Jennifer Eurek**  
**Sabrina Schalley**  
**Marcia Cederdahl**  
**Holly Adams**

**Staff: Tina Goodwin**  
**Sara Morgan**  
**Andrea Wenke**  
**Christine Esch**

**On the Phone:**  
**Todd Sauer**  
**Stephen Lazoritz**  
**Linda Rock**

**Call to order:**

Tina Goodwin called the meeting to order and read the Open Meeting Act to the members of the council and introductions of members and staff were completed at the meeting.

*Open Meeting Act Announcement made in accordance with the Nebraska Statute Open Meetings Act a notice of this public meeting and the agenda was posted in the State of Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar, the Women's Health Initiative (Women's Health) website and on the wall by the entrance to the meeting space. A copy of the Open Meeting Act and the agenda is available at each publicized location for this meeting.*

**Approval of Minutes:**

The approval of the last meeting minutes was approved by Dr. Stephen Lazoritz approved the meeting minute and Dr. Macfayden second the motion.

**Call to vote on Guidelines and Definitions:**

Tina suggested that the members look over the guidelines/definitions and approve them at the next council meeting agenda.

**Council Positions:**

Jennifer Eurek resigned from the Nebraska Health Care Association in December, with Marcia Cederdahl replacing her as the Director of Regulatory Guidance, and resigning from DHHS. Because of the changes in their employment, Jennifer and Marcia are working with the

Governor's office to determine their status on the Council. These position may have to be filled with alternative members.

### **Legislative Process:**

Jennifer presented an overview of the reviewed were:

- [LB 450](#) – Adopt the Patient Choice at End of Life Act – Judiciary Committee - Hearing on March 15, 2017 – still in committee
- [LB622](#) – Adopt the Medical Cannabis Act – Judiciary Committee - Hearing on March 15, 2017 - Wishart 2017 priority bill  
Floor debate – first round consideration – could be continued with 33 votes
- [LB 323](#) – Adopt the Palliative Care and Quality of Life Act
- [LB 506](#) – Adopt the Compassion and Care for Medically Challenging Pregnancies Act and provide duties for the State Child and Maternal Death Review Team
- [LB931](#) - Provide requirements for opiate prescriptions
- [LB934](#) – Require identification prior to receipt of dispensed opiates

The 105<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session is currently in session. During the 2018 Legislative Session there were approximately 470 bills introduced during the 60 day short session. In the first 10 days of session the bills are introduced and by the end of February all the priority bills are established. The Council determined that it was too late to send out letters of support to the senators for the current Legislative session.

### **Best Practices:**

Dr. Sauer talked about best practices and palliative care and he mentioned that he was the first full-time palliative care physician in Nebraska. There was a survey completed to find out where there were palliative care programs in the country. The best self-supported survey where people could chose if they had a palliative care program or not, and Dr. Sauer stated that it was the best data that they did. Dr. Sauer sent out information on different agencies including a Crosswalk of National Quality Forum and National Voluntary Consensus Project. Dr. Sauer mentioned that Medicare mandates certain things that it wants to see in hospice programs to accept payment for hospice care. They need to have:

- A social worker
- A chaplain
- They need to address pain quickly
- Symptom Management quickly

The best practices are putting some structure into palliative care that are pretty similar to hospice care program.

### **State Targeted Response to Opioid Crisis:**

Andrea sent the State Targeted Response to Opioid Crisis information to the council members. Andrea mentioned the overall goals for the opioid crisis and the proposed budget (grant) that is involved in dealing with opioid usage. Andrea stated that the training videos and webinars are on the Behavioral Health website and the links are on the Women's Health Initiative website.

Dr. Macfadyen mentioned that the Drug Monitoring System is used in different clinics to let the providers know where everyone is getting all their prescription drugs. Dr. Macfadyen stated that Nebraska does not have a problem yet in monitoring prescription drugs. Jennifer Eurek stated in the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) laws that hospice can't dispose of the medications because the patient owns the medications.

**Palliative Care Webpage:**

Andrea distributed examples of the palliative care website to the council members, and discussed format, design and content, which could include sections, such as:

- Definition of Palliative Care
- Nebraska Service Area
- About Us
- Resources and Education
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Consumers
- Providers

**Palliative Care Definition:**

Council members agreed that they would prefer to replace the current definition, as defined by Center to Advance Palliative Care with the Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) definition. Sabrina Schalley suggested a statement related to pediatric palliative care should be included on the website.

**Follow-up:**

Tina suggested that the council members review the palliative care information that Dr. Sauer spoke about and maybe review the information and vote on it for the next meeting.

**Meeting minutes Christine**