

# The Future of Palliative Care in Maryland

**Danelle Buchman,  
Hospice & Palliative Care Network of MD**

**Kira Eyring,  
American Cancer Society**



Hospice & Palliative Care Network  
OF MARYLAND

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# Maryland Cancer Collaborative

- Survivorship, Palliative Care and Pain Management Committee
- Priority Objective from Cancer Plan:  
By 2015, develop an awareness campaign to educate Maryland citizens about palliative care and hospice care, including pain management.

(Chapter 14, Goal 1, Objective 1 combined with Chapter 15)



# Palliative Care Workgroup

Goal:

Assess the current state of palliative care in Maryland to better understand opportunities for improving services and raising awareness among patients and caregivers.

# Palliative Care Knowledge



- Palliative care is a relative unknown among **consumers** (92% really don't know what it is)
- Most **health professionals** wrongly equate palliative care with EOL and hospice – curative vs. palliative perspective
- People understand and want palliative care if we **use their words** to define & describe it.



# Priority Action Plan

- Priority Strategy - MD Cancer Plan

Encourage patients, families and communities to seek information on palliative and hospice care and advanced care planning from their healthcare provider, public library, national and local cancer agencies, and local health departments.



# Priority Action Plan Activities

1. Palliative Care definition
2. Palliative care contacts
3. Create and administer a survey for Maryland hospitals
4. Develop education and awareness resources for providers, patients and community



# Maryland Hospital Survey

- Create a baseline of existing palliative care programs, and to identify common challenges and technical assistance needs.



# Survey Development

1. Research
2. Definition of Palliative Care
3. Survey Draft
4. Review, feedback & endorsement
5. Approval
6. Administration of Survey
7. Results





## Survey Results -

- How will Survey data will be useful to partners and the community?
  - Area of growth
  - Make a connection
  - Communicate needs
  - Relationship building
  - Explore partnership opportunities



# Next Steps

- How the Hospice and Palliative Care Network of MD will use survey data to enhance Palliative Care efforts.
  - Filling a gap
  - Networking
  - Collaboration
  - Advocacy



Thank You