

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

**January 1-December 31, 2019**

***DRAFT 1.0***

***The Right Care in the Right Place at the Right Time***



The Illinois Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (IL HPCO) was founded in 1980 and is committed to promoting and enhancing end of life care in the state of Illinois, through education, advocacy, technical and supportive services.

### **IL HPCO's Mission**

**To expand access to exceptional hospice and palliative care for patients and families coping with the close of life experience.**

The object of hospice care is to treat the whole person, not the disease. It is family-centered care that addresses the physical, spiritual, emotional, and practical needs of a patient with a life-threatening illness. An interdisciplinary team of health care professionals work with the patient and family to design and implement a plan of care unique to each patient.

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### **2019 Accomplishments**

IL-HPCO continues to grow and expand value to its members. In 2018 the IL-HPCO Board established two priorities which have governed the activities of this organization for the past two years: **Education and Advocacy**. IL-HPCO has accomplished much in these areas and others, as outlined below:

- Won a seat at the table of IAMHP/HFS/MCO Monthly Monday Meetings, finally hospice is an agenda item focusing on billing and payment issues with MCO leaders.
- Provided three audio conferences on Payment & Billing to all IL-HPCO members
- Established quarterly meetings with Providers and Payers collaborating with the Illinois Association of Managed Health Plans (IAMHP), now being upgraded to "Hospice 101" to educate payers on Hospice and maintain the relationships between Providers and Payers
- Established quarterly meeting with HFS and IAMHP
- Held three Regional Meetings in Champaign, Moline, and Northfield at Medline
- Maintained two seats at Palmetto GBA and sent representatives to meetings three times a year, driving the agenda and continuing networking and support with Palmetto
- Initiated monthly calls with HFS on specific billing and payment issues and sharing with IL-HPCO Reimbursement/Finance Committee
- Convinced Illinicare to change its authorization process for physician visits
- Effective Jan 1, 2020, agencies no longer have to obtain an authorization
- Launched a Task Force on Elimination of Room and Board Payment



- Developed a Coalition on Elimination of Room and Board Pass Through with Illinois Healthcare Association (IHCA) and Leading Age.
- Held an ADVOCACY DAY in Springfield in April
- Conducted ~15 Legislative Visits to IL Senators and Representatives in their district offices: Rep. Fran Hurley; Rep Mike Unes; Sen Laura Fine; Rep Michelle Mussman; Sen Julie Morris; Rep Greg Harris; Sen Heather Steans; Rep Jim Durkin; and Rep Art Turner
- Met with new HFS appointed Director Theresa Eagleson, Kelly Cunningham-Deputy Administrator and Doug Elwell-Medicaid Administrator in Springfield in April
- Advocated for Pediatric Palliative Care at Home bill SB1105 with GIPPCC which received approval in IL House and Senate
- Established definition of Palliative Care with IDPH to be used state-wide.
- Engaged IDPH Officials in ongoing discussions about POLST IL
- Sent two POLST representatives to National POLST Committee meeting
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- Co-hosted interdisciplinary roundtable at Northwestern Univ on POLST
- Established membership with CAPC which will offer IL-HPCO members discount on Palliative Care memberships
- Mentored new Wisconsin state organization following offering hospices in WI IL-HPCO member discounts through mid--2019
- Maintained a stakeholder Board of Directors, including over 50% Provider Leaders
- Welcomed three new Board members: Laurie Sievert-Northern Illinois Hospice; Ellen Byrne; and Doug Irvin-Vitas.
- Published six Newsletters
- Provided *Hospice News Network* to all IL-HPCO members monthly
- Strengthened strategic partnership with GIPPCC, NHPCO Council of States, NHPCO Education Committee, IDHP Advisory Board on Hospice and Palliative Care, and CAPC.
- Sustained Annual Conference Attendance and net revenue
- Increased Sponsorships at the Platinum and Exhibitor level
- Offered Hospice Home Webinars at discount to all IL-HPCO members
- Supported HPV Meetings
- Educated IL-HPCO members through Regional Meetings and at Future Forum on new Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia Training Regulations.
- Conducted PR with talks at the Japanese Mutual Aid Society and the Japanese American Service Committee
- Met with new HFS appointed Director Theresa Eagleson, Kelly Cunningham-Deputy Administrator and Doug Elwell-Medicaid Administrator in Springfield in April.



## 2020 Goals

- Elimination of Room and Board Pass Through
- Establish a Medicaid Home-Based Pediatric Care Benefit
- Grow Membership with at least three new members
- Determine non-dues income sources
- Coordinate District Legislative visits with IL-HPCO Members
- Hold Advocacy Day in Spring and in Fall
- Attend TRIPLE A breakfasts as PR outreach
- Host Legislative Open House at Joliet Area Community Hospice for Legislators and IL HPCO members
- Establish Chaplain Network
- Continue Financial/Reimbursement Network with IAMHP, HFS and other strategic alliances
- Develop Billing Guidelines Handbook
- Palliative Care in the Community focus with IL-HPCO Workgroup
- Quarterly Regional Meetings
- Quarterly Reimbursement Audio Conferences
- Quarterly meetings with IL-HPCO member payment leaders and MCO leaders
- Quarterly meetings with IL-HPCO member payment leaders and IL DHFS
- Annual Education Pre-Conference in Naperville October 14—Future Forum
- Annual Education Conference in Naperville October 15
- Webinars and other e-learning opportunities
- Educational opportunities with strategic partners, GIPPCC, POLST, Weatherbee, Hospice Home Network; NHPCO; CAPC; IDPH; ISMS;
- Ongoing enhancement of Website Content, Resources and Communications
- POLST: eliminate witness signature recognize National POLST form; Allow physician/APN/PA or 2+esident to examine and certify a person has a qualifying condition to sign POLST DNR order; Establish protocol for an authorized surrogate to revoke a POLST executed by a competent individual



## **Membership 2019**

Blessing Hospice & Palliative  
Care  
BJC (NEW)  
Divine Hospice and Palliative Care  
Family Hospice of Belleville  
FHN Hospice  
Heartland Hospice/Northbrook  
(NEW)  
Heartland Hospice/Westmont  
Heritage Healthcare  
Hospice of Calumet Area  
Hospice of Kankakee  
Joliet Area Community Hospice  
JourneyCare  
Kish Hospice  
Kindred (NEW)  
Lincolmland Hospice/Sarah Bush  
Loyola Medicine Hospice  
Maple Creek Hospice  
Memorial Home Services Hospice  
Northern Illinois Hospice  
Peace Hospice  
Amita Rainbow Hospice &  
Palliative Care  
Residential Hospice-Northern IL  
Residential Hospice-Southern IL  
Safe Haven Hospice  
Seasons Hospice & Palliative  
Care  
Serenity Hospice  
Transitions Hospice  
Vitas Healthcare #31  
Vitas Healthcare #35  
Vitas Healthcare #37  
Vitas Healthcare #38  
Vitas Healthcare #73



## **Board of Directors 2019**

Mary Sheehan, Chair-Joliet Area Community Hospice  
Nancy Sehy, Vice Chair-Lincolnland Hospice  
Robert Seipel, Treasurer- Hospital Sisters Health System  
Connie Lemon, Secretary-Hospice of Kankakee Valley  
Wendy Bongero-Residential and Celtic  
Ellen Byrne  
Margaret Carlson-Independent Consultant  
Sara Dado-Transitions  
Julie Goldstein-Advocate health Care  
Doug Irvin-Vitas  
Cordt Kassner-Hospice Analytics  
Ryan Klaustermeier-Heartland Hospice-Madison  
Mary Mihalyo-DeltaCare Rx  
Diane Nowak, Dignity Memorial  
Kate Proctor, Seasons  
Dale Righter, Senator-55<sup>th</sup> District  
Laurie Sievert-Northern IL Hospice  
Pam Cramer, Executive Director-IL HPCO  
Betsy Mitchell, Legislative Consultant  
Ellen Byrne, Public Policy Consultant

## **Committees and Workgroups 2019**

Executive Committee  
Governance Committee  
Finance Committee  
Education Committee  
Legislative Committee  
POLST Committee  
Communications & Membership Committee  
Reimbursement Workgroup  
Palliative Care Workgroup  
Elimination of Room & Board Pass Through Workgroup  
Coalition of Elimination of Room & Board Pass Through