



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 23, 2017

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Care Decisions Connecticut Conference to Feature WNPR's Colin McEnroe

WALLINGFORD — Whether you're a patient, family member, caregiver, or friend, serious illness and end-of-life issues will affect you. But too often, people find themselves in a medical crisis without a plan, and families struggle to make decisions for their loved ones.

A new statewide movement, Care Decisions Connecticut, is empowering people to take an active role in decision making, starting with having a conversation about the kind of care they wish to receive at the end of their lives.

WNPR's Colin McEnroe will headline the Care Decisions Connecticut conference that begins at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 14, 2017, at the Frank H. Netter MD School of Medicine at Quinnipiac University. The event is free and open to the public, with pre-registration.

Mr. McEnroe will be sharing personal stories about the different ways people approach the end of life. In addition to Mr. McEnroe, Rev. Rosemary Lloyd, BSN, MDiv, will discuss the importance of having value-centered conversations about end-of-life decisions with loved ones and healthcare providers. Rev. Lloyd is Advisor to Faith Communities for The Conversation Project at the Institute for Health Care Improvement. Additionally, the Honorable John J. McGrath Jr., judge of the Windham-Colchester probate district in Willimantic, will join Mr. McEnroe and Rev. Lloyd for the question and answer session.

The event is designed to raise awareness about end-of-life care planning and encourage people to discuss their healthcare wishes with their families and healthcare providers.

"We hope participants will use this conference as both a resource and an impetus to have the vitally important conversations we all should have with our loved ones about our healthcare decisions," said Jennifer Jackson, CEO, CHA.

Care Decisions Connecticut, which includes representatives from hospitals, state agencies, insurance companies, as well as long-term, home, hospice, and palliative care, aims to increase public knowledge and awareness about advance care planning, and implement best practices for providers across Connecticut. It is led by Co-chairpersons Adam Silverman, MD, Chief Population Health Officer, Trinity Health Of New England; and Karen Mulvihill, DNP, APRN WCHN Network Director of Palliative Care.

The program, which will be held from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., is sponsored by the Connecticut Association for Healthcare at Home.

For additional details or to register for the conference, visit www.CareDecisionsCT.org.

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The Connecticut Hospital Association has been dedicated to serving Connecticut's hospitals since 1919. Through state and federal advocacy, CHA represents the interests of Connecticut's hospitals on key healthcare issues in the areas of quality and patient safety, access and coverage, workforce, community health, health equity, and hospital reimbursement.