



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 15, 2017

Contact: Elizabeth Hamilton
Manager, Communications
(203) 294-7216
hamilton@chime.org

**Care Decisions Connecticut Program
Focuses on Healthcare Decision Making**

WALLINGFORD — WNPR’s Colin McEnroe headlined the Care Decisions Connecticut conference on Tuesday, November 14, 2017, at the Frank H. Netter MD School of Medicine at Quinnipiac University.

“One of the things I came to realize is that the end of life isn’t one decision or two decisions. It’s a million decisions,” said Mr. McEnroe, who described the different experience he had when first his father, and then his mother, died. “As human beings, we think this is just a question of does this person want heroic means, but it’s so much more. All of life comes piling up at that doorway at death.”

In a humor-laced and moving speech, Mr. McEnroe shared the stories of his parents’ deaths, including his own decision to place his mother in hospice care at the end of her life because her condition was no longer treatable. He stressed the difficulty of making decisions for loved ones, especially when they are no longer lucid, and the importance of working together with family members to make end-of-life decisions.

In addition to Mr. McEnroe, Rev. Rosemary Lloyd, BSN, MDiv, discussed 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. The Honorable John J. McGrath Jr., judge of the Windham-Colchester probate district in Willimantic, joined Mr. McEnroe and Rev. Lloyd for a question-and-answer session.

Care Decisions Connecticut is a statewide movement that aims to empower people to take an active role in healthcare decision making, beginning with conversations about the kind of end-of-life care they wish to receive.

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 was sponsored by Aetna and the Connecticut Association for Healthcare at Home.

###

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.