

## MEETING MINUTES

Nebraska Palliative Care and Quality of Life Advisory Council

August 31, 2020

1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Nebraska State Office Building

301 Centennial Mall

Lincoln, NE 68501

*Zoom Link Available for Virtual Participants*

### Members in Attendance:

Holly Adams (via Zoom)  
Marcia Cederdahl (via Zoom)  
Andrew Macfadyen (via Zoom)  
Linda Rock (via Zoom)  
Todd Sauer (via Zoom)  
Stacie Sinclair (via Zoom)  
Sabrina Schalley (via Zoom)  
Denise Woolman (Office Bldg.)

### Staff:

Andrea Wenke (Office Bldg.)

### Guests:

N/A

*In accordance with Section 84-1411 of the [Open Meetings Act](#), advanced publicized notice of the time and place of this meeting was posted on the [Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar](#).*

Agenda Topic	Key Points	Action Items (if any)
Call to Order, Introduction, Meeting Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Todd Sauer called the Nebraska (NE) Palliative Care and Quality of Life Advisory Council (“Council”) meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. He referenced the NE Open Meetings Act, which was posted where everyone attending in-person could read:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>Open Meeting Act Location Announcement: In accordance with Section 84-1412 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes, a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is located on the counter near the door.</i></li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>N/A</li></ul>
Council Member Check-Ins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Council members provided 2-3 minute updates regarding COVID-19’s impact over the last six months.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>N/A</li></ul>
Council Report to the Governor and Legislature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>At the February 2020 meeting, Council members agreed the time was right to draft a (concise) progress report outlining the Council’s progress and recommendations. Linda Rock and Marcia Cederdahl reviewed reports from other Councils across the country for examples and presented a</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Stacie Sinclair to send outline with assignments</li><li>Council members to submit drafted sections</li></ul>

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	draft outline. Council members reviewed the outline, made suggestions, and volunteered to draft certain sections; those not returning will submit their drafts and others will complete.	2-3 weeks before next meeting ( <b>Stacie Sinclair</b> to send out reminder 3-4 weeks beforehand)
<b>Council Workgroup – Website</b> <i>(Andrew Macfadyen)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Website Monitoring Workgroup reported one broken link to Andrea Wenke; Andrea also fixed some links in July 2020. Beyond that, there were no significant needs or updates to the <a href="#">DHHS Palliative Care website</a> at this time.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Council members</b> to periodically review website, submit any changes to <b>Andrea Wenke</b></li> </ul>
<b>Council Workgroup – Regulatory</b> <i>(Marcia Cederdahl, Stacie Sinclair, Denise Woolman)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Presentations to State Licensure Boards.</b> Prior to the pandemic, the workgroup had confirmed 9 presentation dates, with an additional 4 in progress. Marcia Cederdahl and Stacie Sinclair presented to the Board of Mental Health on March 6 (sample presentation in email attachment), before everything moved to virtual and subsequent presentations were put on hold. Given the indefinite duration of the COVID-19 pandemic, Council members discussed that it made sense to proceed with virtual presentations; this has the added benefit of increasing participation among members who are located outside of Lincoln. Marcia will contact Becky Wisell for guidance about timing.</li> <li><b>Palliative Care Definition.</b> There was no new progress to report on updating the definition of palliative care in NE to ensure that this is an allowable service across all care settings (it is currently only mentioned in hospice). As more state employees return to work in person, Denise Woolman volunteered to check in on the status of regulatory hearings; Marcia will ask Becky as a backup.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Denise Woolman</b> to confirm status of regulatory hearings</li> <li><b>Marcia Cederdahl</b> to coordinate with Becky Wisell re: timing of BOH presentations, progress on palliative care definition</li> </ul>
<b>Council Workgroup – Public Awareness and Education</b> <i>(Holly Adams, Sabrina Schalley)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Given the diversity of palliative care outreach initiatives in the state (e.g., Omaha collaborative, individual program marketing), along with concerns about raising awareness without supply to meet any new demand, Workgroup members requested more guidance on the Council’s goals for public awareness and education. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council members agreed that more work must be done to increase statewide palliative care capacity – such as growing the number of licensed providers and establishing better payment structures – before launching a large public awareness initiative.</li> <li>The Workgroup decided to set smaller, incremental goals for the next three years (e.g., Year 1: recruit six representatives from palliative care organizations or other relevant stakeholders in the state to join the discussion). The Advisory Council Report may be a helpful tool for this.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Sabrina Schalley and Holly Adams</b> to brainstorm workgroup goals</li> </ul>
<b>Acknowledgements for Departing Members</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Four Council members (Holly Adams, Lori Molzer, Linda Rock, and Denise Woolman) will be stepping down. Todd Sauer thanked departing Council members for their service.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>N/A</b></li> </ul>

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Strategy for Council Membership and Terms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Five Council members (Marcia Cederdahl, Andrew Macfadyen, Todd Sauer, Sabrina Schalley, and Stacie Sinclair) confirmed their intention to reapply. After the Governor’s announcement of new/returning members, Council members will strategize how to engage additional stakeholders.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DHHS staff to monitor announcement of new members</li> </ul>
Public Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N/A</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N/A</li> </ul>
Planning for the Next Palliative Care Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reimbursement forms are available for Council members’ travel.</li> <li>The next Nebraska Palliative Care and Quality of Life Advisory Council meeting was tentatively scheduled for Monday, December 7 from 1:00-3:00pm CT. Stacie Sinclair will proactively set up a Zoom link; as the date nears, Council members will discuss whether it makes sense to meet in person.</li> <li>Agenda items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council Report to the Governor and Legislature</li> <li>Council workgroups report outs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Website</li> <li>Regulatory</li> <li>Public Awareness and Education</li> </ul> </li> <li><i>Please submit additional agenda items to Todd Sauer and Stacie Sinclair</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council members to submit requests for reimbursement to Christine Esch</li> <li>Council members to submit additional agenda items</li> <li>Stacie Sinclair to send out meeting appointment</li> </ul>

Meeting Adjourned at 2:42 p.m.  
Meeting Minutes: Stacie Sinclair