Palliative Care Advisory Council

May 2, 2025 | 9:30-10:30am

Meeting Minutes

Members present: Barbara Cass, Karen Mulvihill, Tracy Wodatch, Taryn Hamre, ToniAnn Marchone.

Others present: Stacie Sinclair, Virginia Day, Chuck Williams, Billy Nolan, Joseph Mooney.

Introduction

- Karen Mulvihill called the meeting to order at 9:33am.

Center to Advance Palliative Care (CAPC) Serious Illness Scorecard Presentation

- Stacie Sinclair gave an update on the CAPC Scorecard.
- Stacie spoke about CAPC's National Seminar, September 15-17, 2025 in Philadelphia, PA (CAPC.org/seminar).
- She gave a presentation on the importance of the Serious Illness Scorecard. The original report card measured the prevalence of hospital-based palliative care programs in each state; now the scorecard uses ten variables across five domains. Stacie also shared information on how Connecticut scored, and state policy recommendations.

Q&A, Discussion with Stacie

- Karen shared that Connecticut has a pediatric coalition, which is one of the state's biggest initiatives at the moment.
- Karen asked about collecting data on palliative care and spoke about previous palliative care databases.
- Tracy brought up several questions based on the information Stacie presented.
- The group expressed interest in adding palliative care questions to the BRFSS.
- Virginia Day shared information on a study from Rush University about how spiritual life and chaplains can positively influence patient health.
- Stacie's email for further questions and requests: Stacie.sinclair@mssm.edu
- Following Stacie's presentation, the group discussed next steps they can pursue to further palliative care work in the state.

MOLST Update

- Barbara Cass gave an update on the MOLST training group: the group is expanding the scope of their training to include members of the public, other healthcare professionals such as nurses, and EMS providers.

Closing

- The next meeting is scheduled for June 6th, at 9:30am.

- The meeting adjourned at 10:33am.