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Honoring Choices Pacific Northwest & UCSF granted advance care planning award
Community groups are invited to collaborate to distribute resources to underserved communities

SEATTLE – Honoring Choices Pacific Northwest (Honoring Choices PNW) and a team at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) have been granted an award to distribute Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI)-funded, evidenced-based advance care planning resources to vulnerable and Spanish-speaking communities in Washington state. The award was approved through the Eugene Washington PCORI Engagement Awards program, an initiative of PCORI.

Advance care planning allows people to prepare for future medical decision-making and communicate their values, goals and preferences for that care. With this award, UCSF researchers will collaborate with Honoring Choices PNW to further engage with community and health care partners across Washington and to build the infrastructure to disseminate and implement the PREPARE online program and the PREPARE easy-to-read advance directives. Honoring Choices PNW is a joint initiative of the Washington State Medical Association Foundation for Healthcare Improvement and Washington State Hospital Association with established partnerships in health care and community organizations across the state.

The PREPARE online program and advance directives have been specifically developed to help English- and Spanish-speaking older adults engage in advance care planning. PREPARE is a free, bilingual, online program that uses lay language and video stories to guide users through five advance care planning steps to help them choose a medical decision maker, explore their wishes and learn how to discuss end of life care with family, friends and medical providers. The site also provides tools to create privacy-protected, legally binding advance directives for all 50 states, in English and Spanish. Two randomized trials in over 1,400 English and Spanish-speaking patients, funded by PCORI and the National Institutes of Health, have demonstrated the efficacy of the PREPARE program in empowering diverse older adults in advance care planning conversations and increasing advance care planning documentation in the medical record.
Community and health care partners in Washington are invited to engage with this work. If you are interested in partnering with Honoring Choices PNW and UCSF, please contact info@honoringchoicespnw.org.

“We are excited to use this award to connect with underserved communities in our state,” Honoring Choices PNW Senior Director Mary Catlin said. “Everyone deserves to receive care that honors their values and preferences. Distributing the PCORI-funded PREPARE program will provide Washington residents with the tools needed to ensure that their wishes are respected throughout their care planning and at the end-of-life.”

“Now that our randomized trials have demonstrated that the PREPARE program can empower diverse older adults to engage in advance care planning, we are excited to partner with Honoring Choices PNW and the Washington state hospital and medical associations to get these easy-to-read and easy-to-use materials to diverse English and Spanish-speaking communities in Washington,” UCSF Professor of Medicine and Geriatrician and Palliative Medicine Physician Rebecca Sudore said.

**About the Washington State Medical Association and the WSMA Foundation**
The Washington State Medical Association represents more than 11,000 physicians, physician assistants, resident physicians and medical students throughout Washington state. The WSMA Foundation for Health Care Improvement is the association's 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to improving the health and well-being of all Washingtonians through clinical quality improvement initiatives and other efforts.

**About the Washington State Hospital Association**
The Washington State Hospital Association advocates for and provides value to members in achieving their missions and improving the health of their communities. WSHA represents more than 100 hospitals and health systems in the state, including those that are non-profit, investor-owned, and county, state and military hospitals. The Quadruple Aim guides our members and our work as we strive to reduce the cost of health care and improve the patient experience, the clinician experience and the health of our communities. Visit [www.wsha.org](http://www.wsha.org) for more information.

**About Honoring Choices Pacific Northwest**
Honoring Choices® Pacific Northwest is a joint initiative between the Washington State Hospital Association and Washington State Medical Association Foundation for Health Care Improvement. We use a variety of approaches to inspire conversations about the care people want at the end of life, including an advance care planning program, community engagement, physician education and advocacy. We help the public make informed choices about end-of-life care and help health care organizations and community groups discuss, record and honor end-of-life choices. We are a philanthropic endeavor so all who want to participate can. Visit [www.honoringchoicespnw.org](http://www.honoringchoicespnw.org) for more information.

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