AC Care Alliance (ACCA) Advanced Illness Care Program

Rev. Cynthia Carter-Perrilliat
Cofounder, Executive Director
Email: ccp@care-alliance.org

Rev. Dr. Clyde Oden
Assistant Director
Email: coden@care-alliance.org
Advanced Illness Care Disparities among African Americans & Latinx

- Experience a disproportionate burden of advanced illness (compared to non-Hispanic whites).
- Have less access to care that relieves suffering and promotes quality of life.
- Do not receive care that matches their stated preferences for advanced illness treatment, as growing evidence suggests.

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<tr>
<th>MORE</th>
<th>LESS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Prevalence of Advanced Illness</td>
<td>• Pain/symptom management</td>
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<td>• Later detection</td>
<td>• Guidance to make informed decisions</td>
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<td>• Care for loved ones at home</td>
<td>• End-of-Life planning/conversations with</td>
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<td>• Unmet needs (physical, spiritual, tangible resources)</td>
<td>loved ones and providers</td>
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<td>• Medical mistrust</td>
<td>• Advance Directives, POLST</td>
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<td>• Preference for life-sustaining therapies</td>
<td>• Access to palliative care/hospice</td>
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<td>• Care concordance with desired care</td>
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ACCA Advanced Illness Care Program™

Five Cornerstones

Series of 5-12 meetings between the Care Navigator and Person Needing Care or Caregiver over approximately 6 months

Program is personalized to individual participants’ needs

- **Spiritual Needs**
  - Prayer, meditation, and faith community support

- **Planning for Advance Care**
  - Understanding, choosing and documenting advance care choices

- **Health Needs**
  - provider communication, physical and emotional support

- **Social Needs**
  - Transportation, meals, housing, socialization, financial/legal

- **Caregiving Needs**
  - Respite care, support groups, support for caregivers

- Identify needs, provide trusted referrals/resources, empower individuals with tools & training
Care Navigators Play a Critical Role

TRUSTED COMMUNITY MEMBERS

- 5-12 meetings over a 6-month period
- Identify needs and goals
- Provide trusted referrals/resources
- Empower individuals with tools & training
- Encourage participants to tell their stories
Outcomes

• **1,400** people served; **15,000** people touched (since 2016)

• Goal setting discussed at **100%** of visits

• Prayer provided at **85%** of visits

• Caregiver needs addressed at **53%** of visits

• **16%** of visits included applications for financial assistance

• **3.5** average social referrals per participant

• **55%** individuals completed an advance directive (compared to 15% national average)

• High Participant and Pastoral Satisfaction!