

AC Care Alliance (ACCA) Advanced Illness Care Program



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Center to
Advance
Palliative Care™

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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.

MORE

- Prevalence of Advanced Illness
- Later detection
- Care for loved ones at home
- Unmet needs (physical, spiritual, tangible resources)
- Medical mistrust
- Preference for life-sustaining therapies

LESS

- Pain/symptom management
- Guidance to make informed decisions
- End-of-Life planning/conversations with loved ones and providers
- Advance Directives, POLST
- Access to palliative care/hospice
- Care concordance with desired care

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



Health Needs

provider communication, physical and emotional support



Planning for Advance Care

Understanding, choosing and documenting advance care choices



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!**