



Honoring Choices[®] MINNESOTA

An initiative of the Twin Cities Medical Society.

Greater Minnesota Advance Care Planning Project 2016-2017

In its first 16 months, the Project has involved Honoring Choices Minnesota working with seven communities around the state. Every hospital in the state received information about the Project and an invitation to join. Of the initial respondents, seven were found to be ready to launch an Advance Care Planning development program, and the work began.

Each community has different strengths which are celebrated, and different challenges which are tackled together. Honoring Choices works with leaders in each community to design the right approach and strategies for successful implementation.

Work continues every day and interest is growing. *Some highlights are shown below.*

ELY

Community partners include the Chamber of Commerce, Community College, all health care sites, and community volunteers. 12 ACP Facilitators have been trained. A community-wide launching event was held in November, 2016.



AITKIN / CROSBY

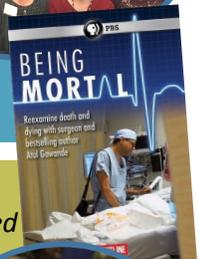
18 Facilitators trained in February. Advisory Councils are developed for each town, and work collaboratively. A medical student is helping train doctors.

STAPLES

The ACP Team displayed at the Staples Business Fair in the fall of 2016. Area churches are involved in planning. Training coming in spring, 2017.

ST. LUKE'S DULUTH

Being Mortal public event held with great success! Training held in 2016 certified 19.



NORTHFIELD

20 trained to Facilitate ACP conversations. Both area colleges involved, as well as business leaders, churches, and the Mayor!

FARIBAULT / OWATONNA

2 hospitals working together plus the Rotary Club, businesses, churches & the county. Seeking to hire their ACP Coordinator.



LUVERNE

Community partners include the elected officials, the local Community Foundation, as well as all health care sites. 15 ACP Facilitators have been trained. A community launch event February, 2017, was front page news.



There's already interest expressed for inclusion next year Blue Dots on the map indicate our "wait list" - Buffalo, Red River Valley, Morris & Alexandria

Quotes

From partners around the state, on the value received
from working with Honoring Choices Minnesota



“ **Honoring Choices has been essential in getting our community end of life initiative started and sustained. Their resources and expertise have been invaluable in gaining community interest and support.** We have no prior experience with this type of project and Honoring Choices has provided a well laid out path to follow including structure and support materials. Our chance of making an impact in our communities is much greater because of our partnership with Honoring Choices Minnesota. ”

*David Albrecht
President, Owatonna Hospital*

“ At Northfield Hospital & Clinics, and in the Northfield community, **having Honoring Choices MN available to guide, assist and encourage us every step of the way has without doubt been the key to moving from thinking and talking about an Advance Care Planning initiative to actually doing it.** The knowledge, experience, practical tools, and networking made accessible by partnership in Honoring Choices' Greater MN Program are invaluable as we navigate the complexities of building an effective and sustainable ACP program both within healthcare system and throughout the community. For the past several years, momentum has been building in Northfield for this culture change to take place, one that will create widespread awareness of the importance of thinking and talking about end-of-life wishes, and how to document those wishes clearly in a legal document. **Without the expert help and across-the-state consistency available from Honoring Choices MN, this undertaking would simply be too daunting to approach.** Because of our partnership with HC-MN, we are excited to now have in place an active and invigorated community ACP Advisory Council, to be forming an ACP workgroup within our healthcare organization, and to have a Northfield Convenings event on the calendar in May, 2017. ”

*Susan Lohmann, MSW, LICSW,
Director of Social Services at Northfield Hospital & Clinics, and leader of Northfield 's Advance Care Planning Initiative*

“ Honoring Choices MN has been the catalyst for our medical campus to look at and evaluate the practices we have, starting with the first patient encounter whether clinic, hospital or Care Center. **Having Honoring Choices at the table has provided us with direction and best practices from across the state** in organizations and communities smaller, bigger and similar to our own. This conversation and best practice would not have been nearly as robust or as well rounded if we had gone it alone.

We look forward to providing Honoring Choices facilitator training soon in our community as a patient referral for our facilities and patients - - something we wouldn't have even know about without the Honoring Choices program.

While we feel we are still in infancy stages **we are much farther along the journey because of Honoring Choices** guidance, training and support. We value them as a mentor and partner in making the conversations happen across MN. ”

*Nancy Stratman, Sr. Services Administrator
Crosby Regional Medical Center*