

2025 Hospice and Palliative Care Conference

AGENDA

Monday, September 22, 2025

8:00AM - 8:50AM	Registration and Trade Show opens	Lobby
8:50AM - 9:00AM	Welcome - Blair Presley, HPCAA Executive Director	Room 2
9:00AM - 10:30AM	Opening Session - Validating Dreams and Visions of the Dying - Dr. Christopher Kerr	Room 2
10:30AM - 10:45AM	Break / Trade Show	Lobby
10:45AM - 11:45AM	Breakout Sessions	
	Antibiotics in Hospice Care: To Treat or Not to Treat - Caren Martin, PharmD, BCGP (Not accredited)	Room 3
	The Five Behaviors of a Dysfunctional Team - Building Resilient Teams in Hospice and Palliative Care - Amy Langston	Room 4
	The Use of Music Therapy in Hospice and Palliative Care - Andrew Ghrayeb, MA, MT-BC, NMT	Room 5
11:45AM - 12:00PM	Break / Trade Show	Lobby
12:00PM - 12:30PM	Heart Awards Ceremony	Room 2
12:30PM - 1:30PM	Heart Awards Luncheon	Room 2
1:30PM - 2:30PM	Breakout Sessions	
	Buprenorphine Basics - Caren Martin, PharmD, BCGP (Not accredited)	Room 3
	Service Leadership: Leading with Accountability in Times of Compassion of Fatigue - Amy Langston	Room 4
	Navigating Thoughts of Death and Attempted/Completed Suicide in Serious Illness - Carrie Calhoon, LCSW	Room 5
2:30PM - 3:00PM	Break / Trade Show	Lobby
3:00PM - 4:30PM	General Session - Recognizing and De-escalating Aggressive Behaviors - William Keesling, MEd., LPC	Room 2
4:30PM - 5:00PM	Trade Show	Lobby
7:00PM - 9:00PM	Game Night	Hampton Inn by Hilton - Bryant

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

8:00AM - 8:50AM	Registration and Trade Show opens	Lobby
8:50AM - 9:00AM	Welcome - Blair Presley, HPCAA Executive Director	Room 2
9:00AM - 10:30AM	General Session - So, What's the Story? Storytelling in the Lives of Patients, Families, and Us - Greg Adams, LCSW, ACSW, FT	Room 2
10:30AM - 10:45AM	Break / Trade Show	Lobby
10:45AM - 11:45AM	Breakout Sessions	
	Ethical Considerations Regarding Sexuality in Persons with Dementia - Brandy Fox, PhD.	Room 3
	Acuity-Based Staffing: The Key to Sustainable Caseloads and Quality Care - Shelley Henry, RN	Room 4
11:45AM - 12:45PM	Lunch	Room 2
12:45PM - 1:45PM	Breakout Sessions	
	De-Prescribing at the End of Life - Dr. Chris Bierman	Room 3
	Thriving in the Metrics Era: Keeping Hospice Care Human and Sustainable - Shelley Henry, RN	Room 4
1:45PM - 2:00PM	Break / Trade Show	Lobby
2:00PM - 3:00PM	Palliative Care Panel Discussion - Dr. Neal Wyatt, Moderator	Room 2
	Panelists - Dr. Carrie Hyde, Dr. Stephanie Dayer, Dr. Brooke Peeples	
3:00PM - 3:30PM	Break / Trade Show	Lobby
3:30PM - 4:30PM	Closing Session - All About Elijah: The Transformative Power of Compassionate Care - Jodie McGinley, LFD, EOLD, CT	Room 2
4:30PM - 5:00PM	Closing Remarks / Raffle	

HPCAA would like to thank the 2025 Board of Directors for its steadfast leadership.

Greg Wood, President
Ryan Langston, Vice-President
Kathy Jones, Secretary / Treasurer
Lindsey Davis, Northeast Region Rep.
Dr. Neal Wyatt, Central Region Rep.
Suyapa Jackson, Northwest Region Rep.
Stephanie Pruitt, Southern Region Rep.
Thomas Pepler, Member-At-Large
Melinda Black, Member-At-Large
Cindy Marsh, Member-At-Large
Dr. Megan Davis, Palliative Care Rep.
Rick Shelton, Community Rep.

2025 HPCAA Education Committee

Deanna May, Chair
Kay Kirk
Carey Cross
Kerri Weber
Melinda Black
Dr. Neal Wyatt

If you are interested in serving on the HPCAA Education Committee, please email executivedirector@hpcaa.org.

THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

HPCAA would like to thank all of the generous supporters who have helped to make this event possible! Thank you for helping to advance our promise of care.

Diamond Supporter



**WISE
HOSPICE
OPTIONS**

Platinum Supporter



SMITH
FAMILY FUNERAL HOMES
CELEBRATING LIFE

Game Night Partner



In-kind Supporters

LMNT
The Death Deck
Hospice & Home Care Webinar Network
The Amity Group

Vendors

MERI | Genesis
Med-Mizer
Arkansas Cremation Services
CareXM
Alzheimer's Arkansas