



Get Involved in National Healthcare Decisions Day -- April 16

The North Idaho Palliative Care Coalition along with national, state and community organizations, is leading a massive effort to highlight the importance of advance healthcare decision-making—an effort that has culminated in the formal designation of April 16 as National Healthcare Decisions Day (NHDD).

The North Idaho Palliative Care Coalition is asking interested organizations and individuals throughout North Idaho to help raise awareness about the importance of advance care planning on this special day—and throughout the year.

The North Idaho Palliative Care Coalition has created a Web site with information and tools for the public to talk about future healthcare decisions and execute written advance directives (healthcare power of attorney and living wills) in accordance with their applicable state laws.

The Web site to access these resources is IdahoLivingAndDyingWell.Org.

- *First and foremost, lead by example...* be sure you have thoughtfully considered and made your own healthcare decisions known.
- Next, make sure everyone in your organization is informed about NHDD (including staff, board of directors, volunteers and others) and ask for their involvement to promote NHDD in your community.
- Provide a link on your organizational Web site to IdahoLivingAndDyingWell.Org. It features a variety of information for the public and providers on advance care planning.
- Set up an exhibit about NHDD at your main entrance and offer information about advance care planning as people come by.
- Distribute the North Idaho Palliative Care Coalition's post card at upcoming community events or health fairs.
- Distribute the North Idaho Palliative Care Coalition's post cards in local physician offices.
- Contact local media (newspapers, TV, and radio) and encourage them to write a piece about NHDD and advance healthcare planning (see the sample press release and PSA included in this toolkit).
- Host an event with trained facilitators to help people complete their forms.
- Host a Decisions Day Café with trained facilitators
- Suggested Resource for Speakers and Facilitators: Dr. Pelly? Local Physicians, Local Attorneys, Jill's list of trained Honoring Choices Facilitators.