

Respecting Choices and Honoring Choices Collaboration

Respecting Choices (RC) and Honoring Choices (HC) are national leaders in advance care planning. Both have unique histories that include significant collaboration and similarities as well as differences. This information is intended to enhance understanding of the relationship between these two entities, clarify any confusion, and promote collaboration.

Respecting Choices is a non-profit organization that works with conveners, health organizations, and communities to implement advance care planning (ACP) and shared decision making in serious illness (SDMSI). Honoring Choices Minnesota is a statewide, collaborative ACP initiative of the Twin Cities Medical Society that 1) supports communities, organizations, and healthcare systems in developing ACP programming and resources, and 2) serves as the convener of a national network of independent Honoring Choices state or region-specific ACP initiatives.

A shared goal of both Respecting Choices and Honoring Choices is to promote collaboration and align delivery of ACP in ways that best meet the needs of organizations engaging the people they serve in ACP...essentially ensuring all Americans have access to high-quality ACP. For example, a statewide Honoring Choices program may select to use Respecting Choices as well as the Center to Advance Palliative Care (CAPC) and Vital Talk if that best meets the needs of their participating organizations and the diverse populations in their communities. Essentially, Respecting Choices and Honoring Choices work together to ensure cohesive, consistent delivery of services.

	Respecting Choices	Honoring Choices
Who we are	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A national non-profit organization • Provides programs that ensure all individuals and their families are engaged and supported to prepare for future healthcare decisions and that those decisions are in line with goals and values • Provides consultation working with conveners, health systems/organizations and communities to implement a system for ACP and SDMSI 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A multi-state/region national network of independent ACP programs licensing the Honoring Choices brand, sharing its mission, and utilizing its model • HC national network convened by Honoring Choices Minnesota (HCM), a collaborative, statewide ACP initiative of the Twin Cities Medical Society which strives to make ACP the community’s standard of care for all adults and ensure that every person’s healthcare choices are clearly defined and honored • HCM serves as a convener, connector, and coordinator for ACP programming with communities, organizations, and healthcare systems in MN
Mission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To guide organizations and communities to effectively implement and sustain systems that provide person-centered care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To promote standard practices, education materials, and systems that result in consistent delivery of ACP across care settings and communities
ACP programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACP and SDMSI programs address key design elements and focus on systems to support the process • Provides full implementation, education, and consultation services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses one or more of these programs to achieve their mission: Respecting Choices; Vital Talk; The Conversation Project; Serious Illness at Ariadne Labs; National POLST program; CAPC, and state-based programs.

Integration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approach results in a system including entire healthcare team and connects with community efforts, using consistent language, strategies, and processes across sites and over time • Consults with organizations to integrate RC model with other ACP/SDMSI programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports and coordinates collaborative, community-specific ACP programming with communities, organizations, and healthcare systems in MN
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitator, Instructor, Faculty certification including communication skills development courses to meet needs of different populations • Professional-level online + classroom curricula • CEUs available for nurses and social workers • CME/MOC available for physicians and advance practitioners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has own ACP Facilitator training for healthcare professionals and community volunteers; outreach and engagement opportunities for communities at-large • Some national network partners choose to use the RC Facilitator training or a variety of educational trainings
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support materials for implementation and for conversations (e.g., decision aids, fact sheets) as well as patient/community engagement and education materials and online modules; available in English and Spanish; ability to translate into other languages • Resources available at www.respectingchoices.org 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MN-specific healthcare directive forms available in seven languages: English, Spanish, Somali, Hmong, Russian, Chinese, and Arabic • National Network partners offer state-specific multi-lingual ACP documents • Information sheets on aspects of ACP and life-sustaining treatment options; culturally specific ACP resources, and free online videos and tools available at www.honoringchoices.org
Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consulting services through customized agreements • Quarterly Faculty and Instructor conference calls that promote collaboration through sharing best practices/challenges and strategies for spread and sustainability • Monthly e-newsletters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Semi-annual Honoring Choices Conference • Ongoing advisory conversations to expand and guide statewide ACP initiative • Quarterly national network conference calls to share tools/program updates/information • Periodic e-newsletters, referrals/connections for collaboration and partnerships
Customization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Freedom within a Framework” allows for harmony between flexibility and fidelity • The Framework, developed from 25 years of research & practice, encourages customization to address unique circumstances and needs of each customer and those they serve 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACP training, resources, and tools are available for customization by any participating community, organization, or healthcare system

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