The State of Alabama Palliative Care and Quality of Life Advisory Council is now bringing together a diverse group of stakeholders to primarily focus educational efforts and public awareness around palliative care. With an initial focus on educational resources and access to services, the Council is poised to make a difference for our state through the partnership with the State Department of Public Health.

Dr. Rodney Tucker

With the posting and promotion of two new educational resource videos and the recently created Portable Physician Do Not Attempt Resuscitation (DNAR) form to the “Palliative Care and Quality of Life” section of the ADPH website, the Council is opening up the dialogue both between family members and between physicians and their patients about the meaning and importance of advance care planning. Additionally, the new DNAR form is providing families with peace of mind that their loved one’s wishes will follow them regardless of a change in facility.

Mary Ann Somers

**State Advisory Council on Palliative Care and Quality of Life:**

**Advancing Palliative Care in Alabama**

Kristi A. Acker, DNP, FNP-BC, AOCNP®, ACHPN®

Capstone College of Nursing - The University of Alabama

**Inception**

- Senate Bill 95
- House Bill 235
- Created in 2015
- 3 Year Term
- ADPH State Health Officer Appointment
- Quarterly Meetings
- Interdisciplinary: MD, APRN, SW, Consumer, Chaplaincy, Nursing Home Durable Medical Equipment

**Background**

South-central regions are most in need of improving access to palliative care

**Awareness**

- Provide consumer and professional information along with educational programs for both consumers and health care providers
- Facilitate collaboration among palliative care providers, organizations, institutions and individuals

**Progress**

Centralized State Resources

- Improved Palliative Care Awareness in Alabama

- Codify Definition of Palliative Care

- Development of a ADPH PC website

- Pediatric DNAR Initiatives

- Collaborations with Key Organizations

- Portable DNAR Document

**AIMS**

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