

**Project Abstract**

**Project Title:** Empowering Patients through Advance Care Planning  
**Applicant Organization:** Monroe County Hospital  
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**Funding Requested:** \$598,589

Target Population and Service Area:

Population: Monroe County Hospital and Clinics (MCHC) patients ages 65 and older.

Service Area: Monroe County, Iowa.

Project Focus:

The project will expand health care delivery by increasing access to and use of advance care planning (ACP) services. Through ACP, patients document decisions about the care they wish to receive when they are unable to make decisions for themselves. In the absence of an advance care plan, patients may not receive the treatment they would choose. ACP improves outcomes for patients and caregivers. Patients receive care and treatment according to their wishes, and caregivers do not have the stress of making decisions without patient input.

Consortium Members

The Community Consortium is made of MCHC, Brees Rest Home, HCI Care Services, and Monroe County Public Health. All Consortium members have signed a Memorandum of Understanding regarding their roles in and contributions to the project.

Proposed Services and Evidence-based Model:

Few Monroe County residents have a documented advance care plan. MCHC and our Community Consortium partners will improve access to ACP services in Monroe County through the Respecting Choices evidence-based model. Project staff members will train community leaders to facilitate advance care planning conversations and will create community-wide changes which support patient access to advance care planning services. The Consortium will also coordinate documentation of advance care plans to ensure that healthcare providers have access to patients' plans when needed. An outreach and education campaign will be implemented to reach the target population and all adults in Monroe County.

Expected Outcomes:

The project will increase the number of county residents in the target population with a documented advance care plan. Consortium members will coordinate ACP documentation and will expand access to ACP services by training facilitators in community organizations throughout the county.

Funding Preference Requested:

Monroe County Hospital and Clinics is requesting a funding preference based on Medically Underserved Area Designation. Monroe County is a designated Medically Underserved Area.