



## SPECIAL WINTER ACTION:

### Join Our On-Call Volunteer Ranks to Help Turn Out Supporters When It Counts Most!

We've had huge wins in California, Colorado and Washington, D.C., over the last several years, and it's because dedicated supporters like you stepped up and showed up when it mattered most. Our experience has shown that we are most effective when our supporters turn out in large numbers. Opponents will continue to do everything in their power to bolster attendance at these events, and we are committed to ensuring our side is represented. So we're counting on you to help us show how strong support for medical aid in dying is in states where legislation is moving forward.

Here's how you can help: Join our ranks of on-call volunteers to help with last-minute projects that come up across the country. It's especially important during the legislative season (which is now!) to have on-call volunteers to help bolster our phone-banking efforts and motivate our supporters to attend public hearings as they are announced.

#### Activity Dates:

Now through November

#### Action:

Join our list of on-call volunteers to help contact supporters when it's needed most and encourage them to attend public hearings in support of proposed legislation.

#### Resources:

Email [volunteer@CompassionAndChoices.org](mailto:volunteer@CompassionAndChoices.org) and let us know you'd like to be on our list of on-call volunteers. You are never obligated to participate, but we will email to request your help as needs arise. We'll always provide you everything you need to be successful!

## CHALLENGE: Encourage two people to use the Trust Card® or the Diagnosis Decoder®

Compassion & Choices developed two important tools to help facilitate open and sometimes difficult conversations between individuals and their doctors. Compassion & Choices' Truth in Treatment® initiative released the Trust Card® and the Diagnosis Decoder® to help people at the onset of a serious illness open a conversation with their doctor about the benefits and burdens of treatment options, and to truly understand what their doctor is telling them.

Encourage two people you know to visit [TrustCard.org](https://TrustCard.org) to create a person-

alized Trust Card, a tool designed to clearly communicate their values and build a trusting doctor-patient relationship. Additionally, invite friends and loved ones who have received a diagnosis of a serious illness to visit [DiagnosisDecoder.org](https://DiagnosisDecoder.org) to create a customized set of questions to help them navigate their next doctor's appointment so they can make fully informed treatment decisions for themselves. Asking the right questions gives doctors the excuse to more fully talk about the benefits and burdens of different tests and treatments — and to outline all options for the patient.

**Activity Dates:**  
Ongoing

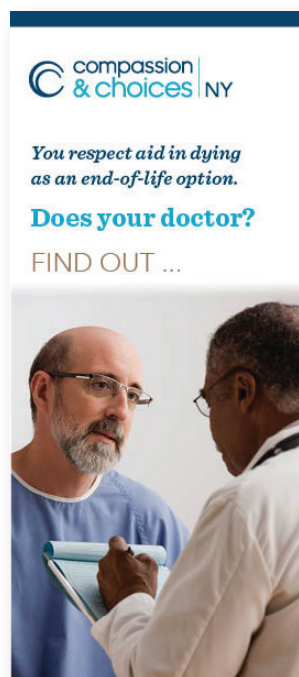
### Action:

Encourage two people to visit [TrustCard.org](https://TrustCard.org) or [DiagnosisDecoder.org](https://DiagnosisDecoder.org) to create a personalized Trust Card to share with their doctors or a customized set of questions for their next doctor's appointment. Then invite them to share their story about the experience using the tool at [TruthInTreatment.org](https://TruthInTreatment.org).

### Resources:

- › [DiagnosisDecoder.org](https://DiagnosisDecoder.org)
- › [TrustCard.org](https://TrustCard.org)
- › Learn more about the Trust Card by watching [this video](#)
- › [TruthInTreatment.org](https://TruthInTreatment.org)
- › Learn more with the [Truth in Treatment Handbook](#)

## ADVOCATE: Ask Your Doctor to Support Your End-of-Life Priorities



The cover of C&C NY's "Ask Your Doctor" brochure

Talking to your doctors about your end-of-life priorities and asking whether they support medical aid in dying is one of most impactful actions you can take. Not only are you communicating your priorities and values and asking for the level of care you desire, you are letting your doctor know that this is an important part of caring for their patients, and you can take the opportunity to provide them information. By explaining your preferences early, you are more likely to have an end-of-life experience consistent with your values.

Ask your doctor whether they support a terminally ill person's right to access medical aid in dying and share the supportive materials found below with them. If they are supportive and want to get involved, let Compassion & Choices' Doctors for Dignity program know so we can reach out to them.

**Activity Dates:**  
Ongoing

### Action:

Communicate your end-of-life care preferences to your doctor and ask whether they support a terminally ill person's access to medical aid in dying.

### Physician Action:

If you are a physician or your physician wants to get more involved, contact: Doctors for Dignity Sign Up

### Resources:

- › [How to Talk to Your Doctor About Your End-of-Life Options Fact Sheet](#)
- › [Answering Physicians' End-of-Life Questions](#)
- › [Physicians Support Medical Aid in Dying](#)

# EDUCATE: Spread the Word!



C&C's General Outreach Card

Do you live in a state where end-of-life options aren't getting the attention they deserve? Or do you live in a state where there is an active campaign to pass a medical aid-in-dying law? Or are you fortunate enough to live in a state where medical aid in dying is already authorized, where we are focusing on the important work of ensuring people know about and have access

to the law? WE NEED ALL OF YOU! Regardless of where you live, we need volunteers to fan out to every corner of each state to distribute brochures and informational materials in senior centers, retirement communities, libraries, coffee shops and community centers!

These community centers often have kiosks or brochure racks that you can ask to stock with Compassion & Choices brochures and literature. Let us know which materials you need, and we can send them directly to you.

**Activity Dates:**  
Now through May 1, 2018

**Action:**  
Distribute Compassion & Choices educational materials in senior centers, retirement communities, libraries, coffee shops and community centers in your area.

**Resources:**

- › Contact your Compassion & Choices outreach or campaign manager to request the materials you need.
- › Materials may include a general outreach card, our most recent magazine, a brochure or informational fact sheets.

## NEWS + RESOURCES

### Recent News Articles

- › **February:** Governing Magazine quoted C&C National Policy and Programs Director Kat West and C&C National Medical Director Dr. David Grube in February issue story, "How Far Will the Right-to-Die Movement Go?"
- › **January 26-27:** PBS and Washington Post published nationally syndicated Kaiser Health News story, "As Doctors Drop Opposition, Aid-In-Dying Advocates Target Next Battleground State."
- › **January 16:** The Boston Globe published an op-ed authored by Compassion & Choices board member Dr. Haider Warraich, "Doctors should be allowed to help patients die."
- › **December 26:** Mass Live published Kim Callinan, Compassion & Choice CEO, authored opinion piece, "People should have choices as their life is ending."
- › **December 25:** The Hill published Kim Callinan, Compassion & Choices CEO, authored opinion piece, "Allow modern medicine to relieve agonizing end-of-life experiences."

- › **December 10:** The Orange County Register and eight of its affiliate papers ran "Medical aid in dying is a Christian option to stop end-of-life suffering," an op-ed by Pastor Sergio Camacho.
- › **November 21:** Vermont Business Magazine published a news release about Vermont Medical Society dropping its opposition to medical aid in dying and adopting a neutral position, the eighth medical society to do so since 2015.

### Resources for Volunteers

- › [Volunteer Action Network Video Training: Petitioning, Tabling, Canvassing](#)
- › [Volunteer Action Network Video Training: How to Lobby and Talk to Lawmakers](#)
- › [Volunteer Action Network Video Training: Passing a Local Resolution](#)

Click the titles to go to the news stories in this section.



# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY LISTING

Compassion & Choices is always looking to expand its base of hard-working, dedicated volunteers. If you are interested in any of these volunteer positions, please send your resume or bio and, if applicable, coding language proficiencies to [volunteer@CompassionAndChoices.org](mailto:volunteer@CompassionAndChoices.org).

Compassion & Choices needs Action Teams in every state and that means we need ...

## LEADERS LIKE YOU



Step up and lead a Compassion & Choices volunteer Action Team!



We need your help! We're looking for an **illustrator** or **photographer** to help with media projects!



Compassion & Choices is looking for **researchers** to help with policy projects.



We are seeking **attorney** volunteers to assist with advocacy and implementation efforts across the nation!"