

Our Care, Our Choice Access Campaign

Compassion & Choices Access Campaign will educate the public and doctors, and provide technical assistance to healthcare systems, so that dying Hawai'i residents have access to the full range of end-of-life options, including medical aid in dying.

Access Campaign Goals

Our goal is that no matter which island dying individuals are on or what healthcare system they belong to, their medical team fully informs them of their end-of-life options and supports them in their choices.

The Our Care, Our Choice Act will go into effect on January 1, 2019. The Access Campaign offers valuable resources and is starting to educate the public and medical providers to make implementation a success.

The Access Campaign's three goals are:

- To ensure that residents understand their rights and can choose from the full range of end-of-life care options, including medical aid in dying.
- To educate doctors so they can inform their patients about the full range of end-of-life options and provide the care their patients want.
- To provide technical support to healthcare systems and hospices so they adopt policies and procedures supportive of patient end-of-life choice.

The Access Campaign is helping to ensure successful implementation of the Our Care, Our Choice Act, which authorizes medical aid-in-dying. This campaign will transform the way end-of-life care is delivered by increasing end-of-life care conversations between doctors and patients, increasing hospice utilization and integrating medical aid in dying into the standard of care in the state.

Access Campaign Resources

Compassion & Choices partners with government agencies, healthcare systems, hospices, medical associations, non-profit organizations and our vast network of volunteers and medical professional advocates to conduct community and provider trainings to ensure that all residents know about medical aid in dying as an end-of-life option and doctors can provide their patients with the full range of end-of-life care and choice.

Compassion & Choices has free [Doc2Doc](#) and [Pharmacist2Pharmacist](#) consultation lines for medical providers to receive the most up-to-date information and a medical provider advocate team, which will provide free continuing medical education to medical and hospice facilities across the state. In addition, Compassion & Choices will conduct

educational webinars and participate in medical association webinars and conferences.

We also will have a [Find Care Tool](#) on our website which assists people in choosing healthcare systems and hospices that will be supportive of patient decisions.

Also available at

www.CompassionandChoices.org/Hawaii:

- [Videos](#) and resources for the public to understand medical aid in dying and other available end-of-life care options.
- Medical education [videos](#) on medical aid in dying as well as clinical criteria and articles as a resource to physicians.

Individuals should start having conversations now by asking their doctors whether they would write a prescription for aid-in-dying medication should a person become terminally ill and want to access the law.

The Compassion & Choices Access Campaign seeks to improve end-of-life care and reduce the suffering of dying people by providing support and education for a safe and successful implementation of the state's Our Care, Our Choice medical aid-in-dying law.

Legislative Support

The Our Care, Our Choice Act was passed in the Hawai'i State House of Representatives by a vote of 39 to 12, and then passed the State Senate in an historic 23 to 2 bipartisan vote. Hundreds of residents submitted testimony on behalf of the bill as it made its way through the legislature.

Compassion & Choices worked for nearly 20 years to help Hawai'i residents authorize medical aid in dying in the state. We now plan to get to work to help implement the law so that those who wish to access this end-of-life option can do so.

Compassion & Choices, the nation's oldest, largest and most active nonprofit organization committed to improving care and expanding choice for the end of life, has more than 20 years of experience helping to pass and implement medical aid-in-dying laws in Oregon (1997), Washington (2008), Montana (2009), Vermont (2013), California (2015), Colorado (2016), District of Columbia (2017) and Hawai'i (2018).

For more information please visit www.CompassionandChoices.org/Hawaii
or email Hawaii@compassionandchoices.org.