



**For Immediate Release:
April 10, 2019**

**Vermont Advance Directive Week - April 14-19 & National Healthcare Decisions Day - April 16
Who's Your Person... What's Your Plan?**

(Vermont) – Governor Scott has declared April 14-16, 2019 Vermont Advance Directive Week. In honor of that declaration the Vermont Ethics Network is coordinating a large scale Advance Care Planning (ACP) awareness effort in partnership with more than 30 healthcare organizations across the state. A total of 19 ACP awareness events will be offered in 10 Vermont counties from April 14 – 19.

On April 16, in a synchronized effort, 10 Vermont hospitals will celebrate National Healthcare Decision Day (NHDD). The following hospitals will have Advance Care Planning Information Tables set up in their lobbies and many of them will have staff available to answer your questions throughout the day.

Porter Hospital, Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital, UVM Medical Center, Northwestern Medical Center, Copley Hospital, North Country Hospital, Central Vermont Medical Center, Brattleboro Memorial Hospital, Mt. Ascutney Hospital and Springfield Hospital.

For complete details about all the advance care planning awareness events being offered across Vermont please visit <https://vtethicsnetwork.org/national-health-care-decisions-day-vermont-advance-directive-week-2019>

No one likes to think about being ill or injured, yet it can happen to anyone at any time, regardless of age or health status. Who should your doctors speak with if you are unable to speak for yourself? What would be most important to you if your recovery would not include a return of health as you knew it? The best quality health care includes making choices centered on **your** goals and values, and advance care planning documents can help.

We invite all Vermont residents to join people across the country in making your future health care preferences known! Learn more about Vermont Advance Care Planning Week and NHDD activities by visiting Vermont Ethics Network's website. <https://vtethicsnetwork.org/>

VEN's new website has free downloadable advance directive forms and an incredible amount of information about medical decision making and medical ethics. Take a look and call us with any questions at 802-828-2909.

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Vermont Advance Directive Week - April 14-19 & National Healthcare Decisions Day - April 16
EVENTS BY COUNTY:

For complete details about all the advance care planning awareness events being offered across Vermont please visit <https://vtethicsnetwork.org/national-health-care-decisions-day-vermont-advance-directive-week-2019>

Addison County

Advance Care Planning Information Table

Tuesday, April 16, 2019, 8am – 2pm

Porter Hospital – Main Lobby

Advance directive forms and materials will be available and staff will be present to answer questions.

Caledonia County

Advance Care Planning Information Table

Tuesday, April 16, 2019, 8am – 4pm

Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital – Main Lobby

Advance directive forms and materials will be available and staff will be present to answer questions (this table will be staffed part-time).

Chittenden County

Advance Care Planning Information Table

Tuesday, April 16, 2019, 8am – 4pm

UVM Medical Center, 111 Colchester Ave, Burlington (outside of the Frymoyer Community Health Resource Center, 3rd level main pavilion)

Advance directive forms and materials will be available and volunteers will be present to answer questions.

[“Say it Out Loud: Who’s Your Person? What’s Your Plan?”](#)

Screening of What Makes Life Worth Living in the Face of Death TED Talk and Panel Discussion

Wednesday, April 17, 2019, 6:30pm – 8pm

Davis Auditorium, UVM Medical Center, 111 Colchester Ave, Burlington, VT

Franklin County

Advance Care Planning Information Table

Tuesday, April 16, 2019, 8am – 3pm

Medical Office Building – Lobby Area Northwestern Medical Center (NMC) – 133 Fairfield St

Advance directive forms and materials will be available and staff will be present to answer questions.

Lamoille County

Advance Care Planning Information Table

Tuesday, April 16, 2019, 8:15am – 2pm

Copley Hospital – Main Lobby

Advance directive forms and materials will be available and staff will be present to answer questions.

Orleans County

Advance Care Planning Information Table

Tuesday, April 16, 2019, 8am – 3pm

North Country Hospital Lobby

Advance directive forms and materials will be available and staff will be present to answer questions.

Death Café

Tuesday, April 16, 2019, 6pm – 8pm

Orleans-Essex VNA office, 46 Lakemont Road, Newport

Event will be facilitated by Dr. Denise Niemira.

Rutland County

Advance Healthcare Planning: Navigating Advance Directives

Tuesday, April 16, 2019, 6pm-8pm

CVPS/Leahy Community Education Center at Rutland Regional Medical Center (RRMC), 160 Allen St, Rutland

The event is free and light refreshments will be provided. Registration is suggested but not mandatory by calling 802-772-2400 or visiting the [hospital website](#).

Washington County

Advance Care Planning Information Table

Tuesday, April 16, 2019, 8am – 3pm

Central Vermont Medical Center – Main Lobby

Advance directive forms and materials will be available and staff will be present to answer questions. Additionally, from 11am-1pm, one-on-one advance care planning guidance will be available.

Windham County

Who's Your Person...What's Your Plan? Advance Directive Informational Meeting and Q&A

Wednesday, April 17, 2019, 12:30 – 1:15pm

Grace Cottage Hospital – Bill Berry Room

An advance directive discussion led by Community Health Team Care Coordinator Claire Bemis, RN. This discussion is free and open to the public.

[Don't Wait Until It's Too Late!](#)

Advance Care Planning: The Basics

Monday, April 15, 2019, 12-1pm

River Garden, Main Street, Brattleboro

Presented by Don Freeman, Taking Steps Volunteer and Brattleboro Area Hospice Board Member.

Come learn about the steps to complete your advance directive, get answers to your questions and get started!

Advance Care Planning Information Table

Tuesday, April 16, 2019, 9am – 12pm

Brattleboro Memorial Hospital – Lobby of the Richards Building

Advance directive forms and materials will be available and volunteers will be present to answer questions.

The following physician practice will also have information about National Health Care Decisions Day displayed on April 16:

- Rockingham Health Center, Bellows Falls, VT

Windsor County

Advance Care Planning Information Table

Tuesday, April 16, 2019, 7:30am – 4pm

Mt. Ascutney Hospital – Main Lobby

Advance directive forms and materials will be available and staff will be present to answer questions (this table will be staffed part-time).

Advance Care Planning Information Table

Tuesday, April 16, 2019, 8am – 3pm

Springfield Hospital – Main Lobby

*Advance directive forms and materials will be available (this table will **not** be staffed.).*

The following physician practices will also have information about National Health Care Decisions Day displayed on April 16:

- Ludlow Health Center, Ludlow, VT
- Springfield Health Center, Springfield, VT
- Mt. Valley Health Center, Londonderry, VT

Outside Vermont (but serving Vermont patients)

The following physician practice will have information about National Health Care Decisions Day displayed on April 16:

- Charlestown Health Center, Charlestown, NH