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## Contact Us

[www.finalchoices.org](http://www.finalchoices.org)

[info@finalchoices.org](mailto:info@finalchoices.org)

If you received this newsletter from someone else and would like to subscribe, [click here](#).

To remove your name from our mailing list, [click here](#).

## Become an Official CCCC Member!

For over 10 years, the *California Coalition for Compassionate Care* has brought people from diverse backgrounds and disciplines together to improve end-of-life care in California. ***But to continue our work, we need your support!***

Join [scores of organizations](#) from around the state that have become official members of the *Coalition* and enjoy the following benefits:

**Connection** to a statewide, multi-disciplinary effort to ensure quality end-of-life care

Ability to be **part of a larger public policy voice** to impact end-of-life issues

Regular, timely **legislative updates**

**Networking** at the *Coalition's* annual meeting

*Coalition's* bi-monthly **e-newsletter**

**Discounted registration fees** for selected *Coalition* programs, events and materials

Join now at one of these three levels:

**Organization:** \$250 per year

**Community Coalition:** \$100 per year

**Individual:** \$50 per year

**Visit the [CCCC web site](#), fill out an application and become part of the dynamic movement to improve end-of-life care in California!**

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## Save the Date for CCCC's 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting - March 30

Mark your calendar to attend *Putting POLST into Action: CCCC's Annual Meeting* at the Sheraton Hotel in Sacramento, March 30, 2009. This one-day meeting will focus on implementation of POLST around the state and offer exciting networking opportunities.

Watch your email for additional information and registration forms!

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## CCCC Web Site Enhanced

Visit CCCC's new and improved web site at [www.finalchoices.org](http://www.finalchoices.org)! The site has all the latest information on POLST plus updates on CCCC's projects and events, as well as links to great end-of-life resources.

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## 2008 Accomplishments

2008 was a very eventful year for CCCC. Below are some of the milestones achieved:

### **Physician Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment (POLST)**

Established statewide task force to guide POLST implementation;

Supported eight community-based coalitions devoted to POLST education and implementation at the local level;

Served as advisor on the legal status of POLST in California.

### **PREPARED Project**

Provided mentorship-based education and consultation on advance care planning to 12 nursing homes.

### **Thinking Ahead: My Way, My Choice, My Life at the End**

Developed workbook designed by and for persons with developmental disabilities to facilitate making decisions related to the end of life;

Created two companion DVDs to serve as a conversation starter and provide workbook instructions.

### **Chinese-American Caregivers**

Developed and piloted curriculum with the Chinese American Coalition for Compassionate Care for Chinese caregivers on providing emotional support at the end of life.

### **Advance Care Planning Brochures**

Created brochures to provide evidence-based information on CPR/DNR and artificial nutrition.

### **Legislative Tour**

Assisted in planning and conducting a legislative field trip for 20+ legislative and regulatory staff to learn more about end-of-life public policy issues.

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## CCCC Advisory Board Update

CCCC would like to welcome the new members of our Advisory Board:

- **Teresa Bond**, a professional fundraiser who has worked in

hospice, long-term care and rehabilitation.

- **Michael GuntherMaher MD**, Director of Continuing Care, Kaiser Permanente Roseville/Sacramento.
- **David Kessler**, Director of Palliative Care, Citrus Valley Health Partners.
- **Cindy Safe**, Board Member, Coda Alliance, a community-based end-of-life coalition in San Jose.
- **Mary Taverna**, Founder and President Emeritus, Hospice by the Bay and Foundation.

CCCC would also like to thank the following outgoing members for their dedication and commitment in serving as inaugural members of the Advisory Board:

- **Margaret Clausen**, President/CEO, California Hospice & Palliative Care Association
- **Elizabeth Menkin**, MD, San Diego Hospice and The Institute for Palliative Medicine
- **Ben Rich**, JD, PhD, Professor and School of Medicine Alumni Association, UC Davis School of Medicine
- **Karen Storey**, Executive Director, The Wellness Community – Silicon Valley

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## New CCCC Staff

Suzanne Richards recently joined CCCC as administrative assistant. Suzanne has over 10 years of administrative work in children's mental health and civil engineering. Before joining CCCC, she worked as an Educational Trainer and Business Services Coordinator at FamiliesFirst, Inc.

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*Newsletters are available on the CCCC Website ([www.finalchoices.org](http://www.finalchoices.org)) in pdf format for anyone who is having trouble reading this email version.*