



WISCONSIN HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE CARE ASSOCIATION

2023-24 WiHPCA POLICY AGENDA

The Wisconsin Hospice and Palliative Care Association (WiHPCA) was established to raise public awareness and improve the delivery of hospice and palliative care across Wisconsin through education and advocacy. WiHPCA is the only organization representing hospice and palliative care providers in Wisconsin and is committed to expanding access to quality, compassionate care for Wisconsin patients facing life-limiting and end-of-life illnesses.



As the “Voice of Hospice and Palliative Care” in Wisconsin, WiHPCA advocates on behalf of our members to ensure hospice and palliative care has a strong voice in state and federal government. We strive to work with the Legislature, the governor’s office, the Wisconsin Congressional Delegation, and state and federal agencies to promote and improve the state’s hospice and palliative care industry for providers, patients, and their families.

The 2023-24 WiHPCA Policy Agenda aims to help achieve the organization’s long-term policy vision to:

- ◆ *Ensure patients in need of life-limiting or end-of-life care and their families have access to hospice services.*
- ◆ *Preserve the proven and effective delivery of hospice and palliative care, including the Medicare hospice benefit.*
- ◆ *Maintain the quality of hospice and palliative care provided in Wisconsin.*
- ◆ *Promote the benefits of hospice and palliative care, which include emotional, spiritual, and day-to-day quality of life support for patients and families.*

While the WiHPCA Policy Agenda provides a broad policy vision for advancing hospice and palliative care in Wisconsin, it also identifies the following specific **legislative and regulatory goals for 2023-24:**

- ◆ *Educate the Wisconsin congressional delegation and state lawmakers on the potential negative impact the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation Value-Based Insurance Design (VBID) “Hospice Carve-In” pilot program could have on the long-term viability of hospice care in Wisconsin.*
- ◆ *Educate key policymakers – including federal and state lawmakers, CMS, and the WI Department of Health Services – on the inequity of the nursing home room and board Medicaid pass-through billing requirement imposed on hospice care. The ultimate goal is to eliminate or reduce the negative impact of the current policy.*
- ◆ *Promote public awareness and increase policy influence of palliative care, including the creation of a state palliative care advisory council.*

THE VOICE FOR HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE CARE IN WISCONSIN