

For more than two decades, End of Life Choices New York (EOLCNY) has worked to achieve better care and more choices for the dying through advocacy and education and free counseling for patients and their families. We are committed to fighting for the right of terminally ill New Yorkers to control the circumstances and timing of their deaths. Our goal is to promote quality health care, health care choices, and human rights, autonomy, justice and the relief of suffering.

There are several aspects to our mission:

Support for individuals and families who are facing the end of life or wish to plan ahead:

- We provide information and support on a range of end of life issues, including advance directives, hospice programs, social service agencies, disease-specific support groups and other resources.
- We may, under appropriate circumstance, discuss safe, effective legal methods for hastening death for terminally ill patients who have decision making capacity.

Education of providers and the public:

- We have given hundreds of lectures, workshops and professional in-service training on end of life issues; advance directives; treatment options, including medical aid in dying and voluntarily stopping eating and drinking; hospice and palliative care; pain management; and patient rights to thousands of professionals and lay persons.
- We have spoken at schools of law, medical, nursing and social work, at hospices and hospitals, at over 70 senior centers and retirement communities and at numerous conferences. We are accredited to provide continuing education for licensed social workers in New York State.
- We have published extensively in media across the state, on all platforms, including numerous letters to the editor that have appeared in The New York Times.

Advocacy to improve care and expand choice at the end of life:

- We have led in the development of a bi-partisan bill in the NYS Legislature to establish medical aid in dying in New York. Medical aid in dying occurs when at the request of a terminally ill, mentally competent adult, a doctor prescribes a life-ending medication which the patient self-administers, if he or she chooses to do so, in order to achieve a peaceful death.
- We have played a leadership role in having bills introduced and enacted on the following:
 - requiring continuing education for health care providers on pain management and palliative care;
 - requiring doctors to counsel dying patients on their palliative care and end of life options;
 - providing increased education to doctors on palliative care.
- We have authored bills that accomplish the following:
 - protect physicians who treat patients' pain as allowed by appropriate and professionally accepted standard of care;
 - prevent reimbursement of hospital, physician or other health care provider for unwanted treatment;
 - allow patients or their family members to receive monetary damages in such situations.

End of Life Choices New York is the leading organization in New York working to improve end of life care, to expand end of life options, and to ensure a humane and peaceful death. We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and all donations are tax deductible.