

For over 18 years, End of Life Choices New York (EOLCNY) has worked to achieve better care and more choices for the dying through advocacy and education campaigns, and free counseling for patients and their families.

EOLCNY has successfully initiated legislative reforms to improve pain and palliative care, such as the Palliative Care Information Act, and to ensure that advance directives and end of life wishes are honored. We are committed to fighting for the right of terminally ill New Yorkers to control the circumstances and timing of their deaths.

**We counsel individuals and families who are facing the end of life or wishing to plan ahead,** providing information and support on a range of end of life issues, including advance directives; talking openly about health care wishes; locating pain specialists, hospice programs, social service agencies, disease-specific support groups and other resources; and for clients who are terminally ill and request such information, we may discuss safe, effective legal methods for hastening death.

**We engage in a variety of educational and outreach efforts to inform the public and garner their support.** EOLCNY staff and board members have given hundreds of lectures, workshops and professional in-services on end of life issues, such as advance directives, treatment options, hospice and palliative care, pain management and patient rights to thousands of professionals and lay persons. We have spoken at law, medical, nursing and social work schools, at hospices and hospitals, at over 70 senior centers and retirement communities and at numerous conferences. We have published extensively in media across the state, on all platforms, including over a dozen letters to the editor that have appeared in *The New York Times*.

**We have initiated legislation in New York to improve care and expand choice at the end of life.** EOLCNY has initiated a bi-partisan bill in the NYS Legislature to establish medical aid in dying in New York. We have played a leadership role in having bills introduced and enacted requiring continuing education for health care providers on pain and palliative care; requiring doctors to counsel dying patients on their palliative care and end of life options; and providing increased education to doctors on palliative care. We have authored bills to protect physicians who treat patients' pain within the standard of care; to prevent reimbursement for unwanted treatment; and to allow patients or their family members to receive monetary damages in such situations.

Our mission: End of Life Choices New York, through leadership, advocacy, education and counseling, seeks to expand choice at the end of life and improve the quality of care for New Yorkers, ensuring that their values and wishes are respected. We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and all donations are tax deductible.