Your POLST Program: Build it Strong and Make it Last
Susan Tolle and Kate O’Malley have no relevant financial relationships to disclose that would present a conflict of interest.
OBJECTIVES

• Examine the Seven Core Elements of Sustainability
• Build a strong program
• Secure stable financial support
WHAT FUELED THE SPREAD OF THE POLST PARADIGM?
Care at the End of Life
An enlightened approach to giving patients more say in the medical interventions they want
Building infrastructure in the face of rapid growth

*As of December 2012

Endorsed Programs
Developing Programs
No Program (Contacts)
SEVEN CORE ELEMENTS OF POLST SUSTAINABILITY

1. Leadership
2. Organizational Home
3. Statewide Coalition
SEVEN CORE ELEMENTS OF POLST SUSTAINABILITY

4. Legislation–Regulatory Action
5. Educational Resources
6. Financial Support
7. Quality Performance Measures
LEADERSHIP

• Strong Physician Champion(s)
• Depth
• Commitment
• Experience
• Succession Planning

Judy Citko
ORGANIZATIONAL HOME

• Academic health center
• Community based Organization
• Department of Health
• State Medical Society
• Other
ORGANIZATIONAL HOME

• Collaborative

• Sponsorship Fit with Mission
e.g. industry relationships

• Coalition Building
BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE STATE-WIDE COALITION

• Be Inclusive
• Effective Structure and Communication
• Regularly Scheduled Meetings
LEGISLATION
REGULATORY

• Political Capital
• Relationship with state agencies and other entities
• EMS structure/relationship
Mobilizing Educational Resources

- Volunteers/sharing resources
- Infrastructure
- Communication Networks
- Managing your message
POLST is designed to honor the freedom of persons with advanced illness or frailty to **have** or to **limit** treatment across settings of care.
POLST IS ENTIRELY VOLUNTARY

• No one has to complete a POLST
• Choice to have or limit treatments
• Revoke or change at anytime
• Comfort measures are always provided
How Advance Directives and POLST Work Together

Adapted with permission from California POLST Education Program
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Age 18

Complete an Advance Directive

Update Advance Directive Periodically

Diagnosed with Advanced Illness or Frailty (at any age)

Complete a POLST Form

Change in health status

May Complete a new POLST Form

Treatment Wishes Honored
Funding Statewide Spread

Why do you need funding?

CA examples:

• Operational support – staffing and consultants
• Educational program costs – travel and materials
• Local efforts – meetings, materials, coordination
• Communications – messaging and materials
FUNDING STATEWIDE SPREAD

Who might fund?
- Local, state or national foundations
- Private donors
- Others

How to approach foundations?
- Research area of focus
- Informal inquiries
- Letters of inquiry
- Formal proposal
FUNDING STATEWIDE SPREAD

Working with foundations -- foundations care about impact

• Some grant details:
  o Proposal
  o Budget
  o Contract
  o Reporting

• Resource: www.foundationcenter.org
MEASURING QUALITY PERFORMANCE

• Monitoring
• Updating
• Effectiveness
• Integrating lessons learned
Creating a culture of sharing

www.POLST.org
Q & A