C-TAC and AHIP Foundation’s Institute for Health Systems Solutions:
Advanced Care Project

The Advanced Care Project is a national collaboration among health plans, health systems, a range of clinicians and related organizations, community-based groups, and other stakeholders to identify, analyze and implement best practice clinical care models to improve care for patients and families living with advanced illness. Major goals of the project include encouraging the implementation of models based on evidence, continued assessment, and scale and replication.

The Challenge
There are a number of advanced illness care models that improve the quality of life for patients and their families and offer better, higher quality, and more cost-effective health care. Unfortunately, these innovative models and interventions are often isolated across current siloes such as care setting or stage of diagnosis rather than integrated across the advanced illness continuum. Other barriers, including varied reimbursement methods and complex eligibility criteria, have also played a role in preventing broader application.

Toward a Solution
In order to help address the issues affecting our current health system, the AHIP Foundation’s Institute for Health Systems Solutions (IHSS) and the Coalition to Transform Advanced Care (C-TAC) have formed a partnership -- The Advanced Care Project (ACP) -- to improve care for patients with advanced illness and their families.

The ACP brings together a select group of health plans, employers, health systems and clinicians to:

- Sustain the delivery of quality, evidence based person-centered care for those with advanced illnesses.
- Build a bridge from the current fee-for-service reimbursement for advanced illness care to shared-risk, shared-savings and accountable care with a focus on encouraging integration of care across acute, post-acute, and long-term care settings.

Becoming Involved
Participating organizations will have the opportunity to:

- Lead the development of a national advanced care model.
- Access latest thinking and best practices for advanced care.
- Network with other pioneering organizations.

The initial launch of the project on February 27 was with support from the Commonwealth Fund. The ACP continues today with participants convening throughout the year, culminating in a Comprehensive Advanced Care Report released in December 2014, and the goal of encouraging and supporting the launch of additional advanced illness care programs.

About the AHIP Foundation’s Institute for Health Systems Solutions: The AHIP Foundation is a non-profit, non-partisan 501(c)(3) organization. Its Institute for Health Systems Solutions’ mission is to advance solution-based, forward-looking, collaborative ideas and thought leadership focused on health systems change that improves the quality, affordability, and availability of care and puts the health care system on more sustainable financial footing. For more information, visit: http://www.healthsystemssolutions.org.

About the Coalition to Transform Advanced Care: C-TAC is a non-profit, non-partisan alliance of patient and consumer advocacy groups, health care professionals and providers, private sector stakeholders, faith-based organizations and health care payers. Its mission is to transform advanced illness care by empowering consumers, changing the health delivery system, improving public and private policies and enhancing provider capacity. http://www.theCTAC.org