About Us
The Greater Dayton Advance Care Planning Initiative (GDACPI) consists of leadership from healthcare systems, clinical providers, higher education institutions, and legal professionals who are passionate about ensuring effective interactions around advance care planning with the people we serve. Guided by the professional expertise and personal commitment of our Leadership Council, we pledge to develop educational tools, community-led conversations, and trained facilitators to empower every person in the Greater Dayton Area to have conversations about advance care planning. These facilitated conversations will help people complete advance directives that are inclusive of personal values and beliefs and communicate documented values and beliefs with their family members, loved ones, and health care providers.

Mission & Vision
Our mission is to create a culture that embraces advance care planning and increases conversations between providers, the people we serve, and their families by educating and transforming our community. Our shared vision is to ensure that every person in Greater Dayton is empowered to have advance care planning conversations that reflect their personal values and beliefs.

What is Advance Care Planning?
Advance care planning is making decisions about the healthcare you would want to receive if you become unable to speak for yourself. The decisions are yours to make, regardless of what you choose for your care, and are based on your personal values, preferences, and discussions with your loved ones.

Why Respecting Choices?
Respecting Choices® is an internationally recognized, evidenced-based model of advance care planning that creates a healthcare culture of person-centered care; care that honors a person’s values for current and future care. The model used by Respecting Choices® has been successfully replicated in communities and cultures worldwide and integrated into major health care organizations.

Decide to be Heard
Following the 2015 University of Dayton/Miami Valley Hospital Health Care Symposium, community leaders developed a plan to bring the Respecting Choices First Steps® model to the Dayton region. Decide to be Heard, our community’s First Steps program, will ensure healthy adults have access to trained facilitators to help them complete advance directives and have critical conversations with their healthcare agent and loved ones. A regional facilitator worksheet will help people explore their personal goals, values, and beliefs in conjunction with the facilitated interview and encourages each person to choose and engage their health care agent. The trained facilitator can also help the individual complete the Ohio Healthcare Power of Attorney, provide guidance for easy
storage and retrieval, and opportunities to update the legal document as a person’s life changes.

**Decide to be Heard Timeline**
GDACPI has engaged Respecting Choices® for three (3) years to help design and implement pilot sites with health and community-based partners. The first phase of pilot sites will launch in early 2017 and operate for six (6) months. A community-wide “Share the Experience” educational event will take place in Fall 2017 with the Phase I pilot sites sharing lessons learned and include potential Phase II pilot sites for their launch. Additional sites will continue to be added to ensure wide-spread dissemination of trained facilitators throughout the Dayton region.

**Ways to Engage**
Implementing Decide to be Heard in the Greater Dayton Area requires collaboration and communication across a diverse set of stakeholders. Subcommittees and workgroups have been established to: 1) guide the project implementation and promote shared learning between pilot sites; 2) develop regional facilitator worksheet that can be used in conjunction with the First Steps® facilitated interview; 3) ensure advance directives are stored, managed, and maintained electronically to aid in clinical decision-making; and 4) oversee the creation of communications tools and guide the development of a community engagement and advocacy strategy. A Community Advisory Task Force will launch in 2017 to provide opportunities for community leaders and organizations to provide guidance on advance care planning activities, including the on-going Decide to be Heard implementation. Persons interested in exploring any of the aforementioned opportunities should contact Sarah Hackenbracht (shackenbracht@gdaha.org).

**Leadership Council**

- Mr. Douglas McGarry
  *Area Agency on Aging*
- Ms. Judy Budi
  *Bethany Village Graceworks*
- Dr. David Key
  *Dayton Physicians Network*
- Dr. Abi Katz
  *Fidelity Health Care*
- Ms. Paula Thompson
  *Fidelity Health Care*
- Mr. Bryan J. Bucklew
  *Greater Dayton Area Hospital Association*
- Ms. Jackie Matthews
  *Hospice of Dayton / Innovative Care Solutions*
- Dr. Richard Gregg
  *Kettering Health Network*
- Ms. Brenda Kuhn
  *Kettering Health Network*
- Ms. Judith LaMusga
  *LaMusga Law Office, LLC*
- Dr. Jon Lyman
  *Montgomery County Medical Society*
- Mr. Jeff Lycan
  *Ohio’s Hospice, Inc.*
- Rev. Pippa Hairston Turner
  *Rodgers Chapel A.M.E.*
- Dr. Kathleen Scheltens
  *University of Dayton*
- Dr. Michael Craig
  *University of Dayton – Miami Valley Hospital Healthcare Symposium*
- Dr. Marjorie Bowman
  *Wright State University*