

# 2013 Compassionate Care Leadership Awards

*Laguna Honda Palliative Care & Hospice Program has transformed end-of-life care in the San Francisco Bay Area, served as a training site for hundreds of healthcare professionals and introduced the concepts of hospice and palliative care to an urban nursing home that serves economically disadvantaged and culturally diverse populations. In its nearly 25 year history, the program has been a model for programs around the state and the nation. Were it not for this program, hundreds of San Franciscans would likely spend their last hours or days of life either on the streets, marginally housed in homeless shelters or acute care hospitals, or causing financial or emotional stress to overburdened caregivers. This forward-thinking program has recognized that many people would prefer compassionate, symptom-focused, whole-person care at the end of life, rather than spending their last days in hospitals and intensive care units. Over the 25 years, it has grown into a 60-bed combined hospice and palliative care unit that provide culturally-appropriate patient- and family-centered care for residents with serious illnesses.*

*The Coalition for Compassionate Care would like to recognize the Laguna Honda Palliative Care & Hospice Program for their work to provide quality, compassionate care to the most vulnerable populations and to improve and expand palliative care throughout the state and the nation.*

## **Coalition for Compassionate Care of California**

A statewide partnership of regional and statewide organizations, state agencies, and individuals working together to promote high-quality, compassionate end-of-life care for all Californians.

<http://coalitionccc.org/>