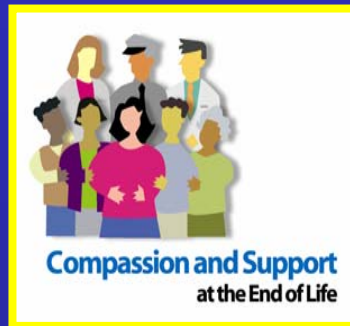


*Community Conversations on
Compassionate Care:*

Final Reflection:

Use Your Heart as Well as Your Head



A Community-wide End-of-life/Palliative Care Initiative project

Being an agent of healing for another human at the end of life confers a personal richness that is difficult to find elsewhere in medicine.

It is not just the patient who is healed.

Bretscher, M. Mayo Clinic Proc, 1997;72:785-787

The art of living well
and the art of dying
well are one.

Epicurus

Hope does not lie in
a way out but in a
way through.

Robert Frost

A cut in the skin that does not receive care may leave a deep scar as it heals.

Using the wrong words can leave a deeper scar, even if it is less visible, and ...it may never heal.

Science, morality and
spirituality must go together;
science without ethical and
spiritual considerations is
not a whole science.

The Te of Piglet by Benjamin Hoff

Covet the best. Be satisfied with nothing less than the highest professional work of doctor, politician or teacher. But beware of the imprisoning effect which sometimes comes of this very success in professional life...

...the atrophy of sensibility, the increasing incapacity for sympathy, for public spirit, for charity- an incapacity which makes some men of the highest endowments among the least serviceable, least loving and least loved of a community.

Francis Greenwood Peabody, Harvard College Chapel, 1898

For you may understand all knowledge and speak all tongues, and if you have lost thereby the personal, human, sympathetic relation with people which we call love, you are not really to be counted as a man.

First Corinthians, 12:31

“I only want what is in
your mind and in
your heart.”

*Patient to Dame Cicely Saunders,
founder of the modern hospice movement*

“The dying need the skills of the mind...and the friendship of the heart. Neither alone is sufficient.”

*Eric Flanders, MD
Chair, Palliative Medicine, McGill University*

Make me ever ready to come to you
With clean hands and a straight eye,
so that
When life fades as the fading sunset,
My spirit may come to you without
shame.

*Tom Whitecloud II, MD, Chippewa
Association of American Indian Physicians*
