

# the conversation project in central florida

Volume 1 Number 6

## *We want to hear from you!*

Many of you attended our February training and have been introducing The Conversation Project to Central Florida. But we haven't heard from all of you and we would like to touch base. This issue includes ways that we can support your efforts to introduce The Conversation Project where you live, work and pray. Let us know what you are doing and if we can partner with you with any of these ideas or yours, too.

## HOW WE CAN HELP

- ❖ Partner with you for a Lunch and Learn
- ❖ Bring a two part "Conversation Group" to your community
- ❖ Provide a speaker for any size group
- ❖ Assist with dinner workshops
- ❖ Connect you with local resources to assist in having The Conversation

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**Want to make an impact on policy?** *You can advocate for meaningful conversations about care at the end of life. In early July, Medicare announced a plan to reimburse doctors for time spent with patients discussing how they want to be cared for if they are unable to speak for themselves. You have until September 8, 2015 to submit comments to decision-makers. Here's how to [make your voice heard](#).*

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Speaking of doctors...another way we can bring TCP to your community is by offering our resources to physicians. If policy does change regarding reimbursement for end of life conversations, providers will be looking to streamline this work. Workshops featuring our [Conversation Starter Kits](#) will give patients the tools to have meaningful discussions with loved ones before meeting with doctors. Contact us for more information.





*Miss Candy. Keeping it real. Candy is an 8 year old Boxer and currently recovering from surgery for cancer. It's all good now so she is accepting back scratches and teaching us a lot about love.*

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***“As it stands now, Americans have the chance to ensure that their pets get the planned, peaceful exits out of this world that their human loved ones often do not. “***

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The above quote is taken from a recent New Yorker magazine [article](#) about the human-animal bond and its impact upon end of life care for these members of our families.

Surgery and aging that kicks in with arthritis and a slower gait is motivation for extra special care to ease Candy’s final years.

*Have you ever wondered if we sometimes put more thought into our pets’ end of life than we do that of our loved ones???*

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**Mark your calendars:** *Charlie Antoni, Palliative Care Coordinator at the Orlando VA Medical Center, will be the presenter for [The Conversation Project](#) August Community Call. To join the **August 19th 3-4:00 pm** call, go to <http://ihi.webex.com/trainingcenter> “The Conversation Project Community Call” will be a listed session. From the status column, select “Join Now.”*

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**TCP in Central Florida will present “Have you had The Conversation?” on August 11, 2015 at [Sixty Sparkles](#), the Florida Council on Aging’s annual conference. Click [here](#) for registration details and more information on the August 10-12 conference.**

**Contact Us**

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