2018 proved to be an exciting year thanks to the generous collaboration of many community partners. Together, we made space for more conversations about what matters, and worked to improve health care systems, helping to ensure that people’s health care preferences are honored. Thank you so much for your support.

Jane Dohrmann, Director, Honoring Your Wishes and Lori Erickson, Advisory Board Chair

Love Letters: What Matters Most

The community was invited to submit writings based on the themes of love, forgiveness, and gratitude from The Four Things that Matter Most: A Book about Living by Ira Byock, MD.

Susan P. Dolphin wrote the prize winning piece “Finding the Path to My Father.” The top three prize-winners’ submissions were published in the Little Village magazine.

Dynamic, interesting and engaging!
— “Providing the Best Care Possible” Conference attendee

“Excellent! I learned how to better facilitate discussions. I strongly recommend this training!”
— ACP workshop participant

- Two hundred people attended the Iowa City Book Festival presentation Saying “The Four Things that Matter Most” by noted physician and author Ira Byock, MD, on Sunday, October 7. Dr. Byock gave the keynote presentation “The Best Care Possible” to 105 professionals at the “Providing the Best Care Possible” conference held the following day.

- Six health care organizations participated in an audit which showed that 39% of people served had an advance directive in their medical chart, and 46% had an advance directive, IPOST, or both.

- 67% of residents in 13 nursing homes and assisted living facilities had an IPOST.

- Four organizations completed an audit which showed that 100% of IPOST medical orders were followed.

- Two hundred and four people participated in Advance Care Planning sessions at Iowa City Hospice, the Senior Center, Mercy Iowa City, and the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics.

- National Health Care Decisions Week was recognized April 16-22, with 410 people participating in educational events.

- Forty-six health care and community leaders became certified as Respecting Choices® Advance Care Planning facilitators through classes that were taught by local instructors.
Honoring Your Wishes™ is a community-wide initiative under the leadership of Iowa City Hospice and an Advisory Board. Its mission is to promote advance care planning and person-centered care, helping to ensure that everyone’s health care choices are honored.

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  Deacon and Freelance Writer
  New Song Episcopal Church

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