DEFINITIONS:

Let's all get on the same page

Advance Care Planning:
Advance Care Planning is an ongoing conversation of understanding, reflecting on, and discussing future medical decisions and preferences, should you be unable to speak for yourself.

Advance Directives:
Advance Directives are legal documents that contain your written wishes about your health care that you provide ahead of time. There are five different advance directives and all are important, but we are discussing the Power of Attorney for Healthcare.

Healthcare Agent:
Healthcare agents are also known as your power of attorney for healthcare. This person is who will speak for you if you are unable, but ONLY about healthcare decisions. You must separately name a POA for finances.

Hospice:
Hospice provides pain relief and comfort care for those who are expected to die within the next six months.

Palliative Care:
Palliative care differs from hospice in that it provides care to anyone who is seriously ill, regardless of prognosis.

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ADVANCE CARE PLANNING 101

Get started today
Why?

Advance care planning is important for anyone who is 18 or older. Accidents and sudden illnesses can happen to anyone at anytime, so it is best to be prepared just in case.

Wisconsin is NOT a next-of-kin state. This means if something happens to you, your loved ones do not automatically become your healthcare agents. They need to be assigned that role through an advance directive.

How?

Getting started can be intimidating. Here are three steps to help get started:

1. **Consider** what matters to you.
2. **Choose** a healthcare agent.
3. **Complete** a Power of Attorney for Healthcare advance directive.

Where?

Use the QR code to sign up for an advance care planning class. At this class you will complete an advance directive with a trained facilitator and will learn more about advance care planning.