UCSF Palliative Care Program  
Stupski Foundation Grant

With the support of the Stupski Foundation, the UCSF Palliative Care Program is working to create a system of care that ensures that people who need palliative care are guaranteed to get it. In that system palliative care is routine, provided by every healthcare provider to their level of ability, continuous across settings of care and the duration of illness, and coordinated across providers and settings.

The overarching vision for the following suite of projects is to provide scalable, comprehensive, coordinated palliative care for all patients who need it, in every setting of care regardless of disease or condition.

**Outpatient Palliative Care** led by Kara Bischoff will establish outpatient palliative care services for people with conditions other than cancer to close the gap we identified in our survey of palliative care services and would be a major step toward our overall vision for accessible, standardized palliative care for all patients, regardless of disease area.

**Integrated, Embedded and Specialized Outpatient Palliative Care** in the gastrointestinal cancer clinic provides palliative care consultation proactively to patients based on diagnosis. Kara Bischoff is the palliative care physician and leader of this project who works closely with Mike Rabow and the entire gastrointestinal cancer care team to ensure palliative care needs are addressed. Funding will support rigorous evaluation the impact of this project.

**PREPARE** is an innovative, web-based advance care planning tool developed by Rebecca Sudore. This project will determine how best to integrate PREPARE within busy outpatient primary care clinics and the inpatient setting at UCSF Health. This grant will support Rebecca and her team to refine PREPARE and streamline its content and platform to enhance dissemination among patients and the broader public. PREPARE will serve as a foundation of a system-wide initiative to integrate advance care planning routinely into care at UCSF Health.

**Interprofessional Communication Curriculum/Team Talk** will train physicians, nurses, social workers, spiritual care providers and physical therapists how best to communicate about palliative care issues such as prognosis and goals of care. This project led by Brook Calton, DorAnne Donesky and Tom Reid will develop, test, and implement an innovative interprofessional (physician, social work, nursing, spiritual care, physical therapy) serious illness communication training program for healthcare providers. The training will build on, refine and extend learning from the UCSF Team Talk project.

**Palliative Care Quality Network (PCQN)** is a national palliative care quality improvement collaborative that includes a standardized robust and dynamic data collection and reporting system that provides benchmarking of patient-level outcome data and education and mentoring for quality improvement in palliative care. The PCQN includes 85 palliative
care teams from across the US. The PCQN is directed by Steve Pantilat and the PCQN leadership team including Angela Marks, Kara Bischoff, Giovanni Elia, and David O’Riordan. It will serve as the system for evaluating our clinical models.

Leadership and Convening is essential to achieving our ultimate goal of fully integrated palliative care services at UCSF Health. This grant will support coordination and communication across the projects including ongoing projects in home palliative care led by Brook Calton and Christine Ritchie and others across UCSF. Although each project has a specific goal, ensuring that there is open, proactive and consistent communication across and between projects (as well as aligned projects, such as those at Zuckerberg San Francisco General) will allow us to increase impact by integrating relevant learnings, identifying trends and synthesizing impact. This connectivity is critical for creating a seamless experience for patients. Our goal through these interconnected projects is to transform care for the seriously ill at UCSF Health and health systems across the nation.