

Building a community in which Chinese Americans are able to face the end of life with dignity and respect

# "Saying Goodbye with Love" 2017 CACCC Essay Contest

Have you ever had the experience of saying goodbye to a dying loved one, saying goodbye to a sick friend, or bidding farewell to patients at the end of their life with whom you were or are currently caring for? Or, perhaps, you have a hospice care experience with a loved one to share?

Consider sharing your poignant and touching story with others who may be inspired and moved by your words and perspective on the importance of advance care planning, about having the conversation regarding end-of-life wishes and honoring and respecting those wishes, and being able to say goodbye without any regrets.

Whether we like it or not, life and death is the law of nature and the human condition. As a result, some time in our lives, we will have to say goodbye to someone. How does one say goodbye with love? How does one leave without any regrets? How does one start the conversation about end-of-life wishes with family members and loved ones?

Founded in 2005, the mission of the Chinese American Coalition for Compassionate Care (CACCC) is to build a community in which Chinese Americans are able to face the end of life with dignity and respect.

The CACCC is proud to host its first "Saying Goodbye with Love" Essay Contest in recognition of National Healthcare Decisions Day (April 16) and in hopes to increase community awareness of the importance of advance care planning, and to provide ways to say goodbye with love to their family and loved ones with no regrets.

Please join our essay contest and share your story.

## Who may participate

Any United States resident is encouraged to participate. Those under 18 years of age will need a parent or guardian's signature. Limit one entry per person.

## **Participation Categories**

*General public*: Please share your personal thoughts, feelings, and experiences with friends and loved ones at their end of life.

**Healthcare provider:** Please share your personal and professional perspective and insights with patients and families facing end-of-life decisions.

### **Essay format**

Typed in Chinese or English, in Word format, double space, 12 point font and 1,000 words (including title) or less. Essays exceeding 1,000 words will not be accepted.

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#### How to enter

Please email completed registration form and final essay in Word format (soft copy) to **essaycontest@caccc-usa.org**. Final essays submitted without completed registration forms will not be accepted. The essay title should be in the final essay; however, no identifying information of the entrant should be included on the essay.

#### Deadline

All essays must be emailed and received by 11:59 pm Pacific Time on April 30. Entries received after this time/date will not be accepted. Winners will be notified by phone or email, prior to posting and announcing winners on the CACCC website on May 15.

## How essays will be judged

Essays will be judged on the following basis and criteria: Theme 25%, Content 25%, Structure 25%, and Originality and Creativity 25%.

| Category            | Award/Number of the awardees  | Prize   |
|---------------------|---|---|
| General Public      | First Prize: 1<br>First Runner Up: 2<br>Second Runner Up: 3<br>Honorable Mention: 5 | First Prize: \$300/trophy First Runner Up: \$200/certificate Second Runner Up: \$100/certificate Honorable Mention: \$50/certificate  |
| Healthcare Provider | First Prize: 1<br>First Runner Up: 2<br>Second Runner Up: 3<br>Honorable Mention: 5 | First Prize: \$300 /trophy First Runner Up: \$200/certificate Second Runner Up: \$100/certificate Honorable Mention: \$50/certificate |

#### Consent

All entrants are required to agree to and sign the consent form below:

- 1. Entrants accept all responsibility for late, lost, misdirected, or illegible essays.
- 2. Each essay must be the sole, original, and unpublished work of the entrant. Essays must not infringe on any third-party rights. Essays found to be plagiarized, previously published, or those that have previously won awards or competitions will be disqualified.
- 3. Winning entrants acknowledge and agree that they waive all rights of any kind whatsoever to their essays and that their essays become the property of CACCC, which thereby has the right to edit, adapt, modify, reproduce, publish, promote, and otherwise use essays in any way CACCC sees fit, without further compensation, except where prohibited by law. Acceptance of prize award constitutes permission to use the winners' names, likenesses, cities, and statements, without further compensation, except where prohibited by law.