

ADVANCE CARE PLANNING

ReThink Health: UCRV is partnering with Honoring Care Decisions and Partners for Community Wellness on a long term effort to improve advance care planning in our region. The goals are to make advance care planning the cultural norm for all adults, and to ensure end-of-life wishes are honored.

One of our roles in this initiative was to conduct a region wide survey in the fall of 2015 to learn more about knowledge, attitudes, and barriers to effective advance care planning in the Upper Connecticut River Valley. We used a convenience sampling methodology, meaning the results cannot be extrapolated to the entire population. However, key trends uncovered in the survey can be used to guide improvement efforts.

The survey was disseminated through employers, social service agencies, volunteer Aging in Place groups, town and regional listservs, and other media. We gathered 1,850 responses between September and December 2015, and conducted our analysis in January and February 2016. The results were released publicly on March 10, 2016 at a meeting of community and regional stakeholders at the Listen Center in White River Junction, Vermont.