

Michael J. Demoratz, PhD, LCSW., CCM., has dedicated his professional career of nearly 40 years of experience working with those individuals and their families facing end of life. He has maintained a special interest and focus on hospice and palliative care. Nationally he is recognized as a subject matter expert in end-of-life care. He has presented at hundreds of conferences, as well as published numerous articles on end-of-life, bereavement, pain management and catastrophic case management.

Some highlights of his career include: 1995, he co-authored the groundbreaking text, **Dying 101: A Short Course on Living for the Terminally Ill**. This brought the process of dying out of the closet into the light of day by creating a conversation to assist those most vulnerable facing end of life to get their needs met. **The groundbreaking text was revised and re-published in 2018 with the title Dying 101: A Candid Conversation on Terminal Illness.**

In 2001, he was awarded the Distinguished National Case Manager of the Year by the Case Management Society of America (CMSA).

He proudly serves on the Board of Directors as an elected Commissioner with the Commission for Case Manager Certification which board certifies case managers nationally and served as board member of the Coalition for Compassionate Care of California for the past 6 years ending December 2016 and very involved in the development, and education on POLST – Physician Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment in California.

Currently, he works full-time for Memorial Care Hospice and Palliative Services in Laguna Hills providing clinical social work support to patients and families in their hospice and community based palliative care programs. In addition, he maintains a small community based clinical practice as an “aging life care professional” facilitating short term crisis interventional family meetings and providing consultative services to allow patients to “age in place” or create the environment for an “orchestrated good death”. These patient and family discussions focus on addressing goals of care in order to align treatment offered with treatment desired.

The Views and opinions expressed are mine and do not represent any of the organizations I have affiliation – they are present to show the breadth of experience of your speaker.