

For Immediate Release:

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**AuthoraCare Collective Achieves National Recognition through ‘Quality Connections’ Program**

*Demonstrating commitment to providing the highest quality care for the hospice community*

AuthoraCare Collective has achieved recognition by earning four rings in the 2024 [Quality Connections](#) program of the [National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization](#) (NHPCO). Quality Connections is the only national program designed to support hospice and palliative care provider delivery of high-quality, person-centered care.

Quality Connections are structured around four fundamental pillars which are represented by four rings: Education, Application, Measurement, and Innovation. Quality Connections participants are required to achieve milestones within defined timeframes by participating in activities such as quarterly data reporting and benchmarking, educational courses, case studies, and engagement on emerging issues; all of which serve to promote high-quality care delivery and service excellence. Achievement in the program is measured by completing activities within each of the four foundational areas, culminating in the closure of up to four rings.

By participating in Quality Connections program year 2024, AuthoraCare Collective has earned the highest achievement possible by closing four rings and has enhanced its quality improvement program plus, is up to date on the newest and best practices in serious illness and end-of-life care. It is currently the only hospice and palliative care organization in North Carolina to have received all four rings.

“AuthoraCare is committed to providing expert clinical care and service. We speak to that in our Mission Statement and Core Promises – ‘Your Story. Our Expert Care,’” said Merrill Seyler, VP of Quality and Compliance. “This Quality Connections designation for NHPCO is additional evidence of our organization’s commitment to excellence, from our frontline team members who deliver this expert care, to our leadership team. I’m so proud to be a member of the AuthoraCare Collective Team.”

“NHPCO is committed to helping hospice and palliative care providers deliver the best care possible to patients and their loved ones. Quality Connections was created to make the ongoing journey of excellence possible,” said NHPCO COO and interim CEO Ben Marcantonio. “The Quality Connections program continues to grow and include broader content and learning opportunities like compliance, palliative care, equity and inclusion that serve our patients and communities across the continuum of serious illness and end-of-life care.”

Learn more about AuthoraCare Collective at [www.authoracare.org](http://www.authoracare.org)

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