



# Communities & Healthcare: Opening the Dialogue

Harnessing Complexity Science and Relationship-Centered Care to Improve Health

**American Academy on  
Communication in Healthcare**

Better Communication.  
Better Relationships.  
Better Care.

**Save the Date! • November 1 – 2, 2007**  
**Pier 5 at Harbor Club • Baltimore, MD**



The changing relationships among communities, their healthcare organizations and the individuals who work in healthcare hold powerful potential for the meaningful transformation of healthcare. Join us to learn how it works. To develop innovative approaches to promoting health and well-being, we need new and deeper understandings of both individuals—the nature of mind, what motivates us, and how our patterns of thinking and behaving evolve—and communities—how individuals live together in societies and the nature of our interdependence. Complexity science, Relationship-centered Care and other theoretical frameworks offer useful new insights in these areas.

This program aims to enhance the engagement of individuals and communities as partners in creating their own health and cultivating healthy communities. Through sessions on mindfulness, dialogue skills, complexity science and Relationship-centered Care, supplemented by experience with health systems-community dialogue, participants will develop valuable knowledge, skills and tools to help them foster change in their own communities. The program faculty will include people with expertise in community health issues, complexity and Relationship-centered Care. Participants will include community members and health care workers, educators and researchers from many disciplines. There will be ample opportunity for participants and faculty to interact in order to:

- Explore individual and collective values, beliefs, and experiences about health and healthcare.
- Discover key elements and core strategies that support the emergence of health at the individual and community level.
- Learn to use principles of mindfulness, complexity science, Relationship-centered Care and social networking in fostering community dialogues about health and care.
- Create specific action plans and strategies to stimulate change at a local, community, and organizational level that can contribute to an epidemic of health and the transformation of healthcare.

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