

Dan Ford



Dan Ford, MBA, LFACHE, MBA from the University of Chicago, developed a deep passion for patient safety as a result of medical errors experienced in Illinois by his first wife, Diane, and the treatment he experienced when he started asking logical/genuine questions about what happened. The mother of three children (11, 14, and 17 at the time) and age 47, Diane was pursuing her second master's degree, and suffered a morphine-induced respiratory arrest following a scheduled hysterectomy and emergency colostomy. Diane has permanent brain damage/permanent short-term memory loss, a poor quality of life, and resides in an independent living facility. Dan was encouraged by providers to undertake a patient safety advocacy journey, to tell his family story given this tragedy, way too many medical error deaths/injuries nationally and his national visibility as a health care executive search consultant. Patient safety advocacy, since 2002, includes patient safety presentations; patient safety, quality and PFAC (Patient and Family Advisory Councils) boards and committees; hospital/system process improvement events representing the voice of the patient; writing; faculty at workshops and on webinars; networking with providers and other advocates/activists; and persistence in encouraging/challenging hospitals to invite the patient/family member to participate in their own RCA (root cause analysis).

Dan retired from a 36-year career in health care executive search in 2013, and lives in West Michigan. This is his 6th year participating in the Telluride Experience.

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