

What Matters to You (WMTY)- *Brought to Life*

Wave 1 {Conversations}

Advocacy vs advisory



The difference between patients and Patient Advisors are the ability to apply a critical lens to the work they are part of. This includes exploring questions such as “What do I need to bring into this work to move the dial and make a difference”?

- The lived experiences, stories and hard hitting questions that advisors bring can move people in their values and hearts.
- Patient/Family Advisory Councils are one way to unify partnerships and bring WMTY into action.
- PCNs, community programs and AHS can avoid duplications by bringing patient advisors in at the beginning, fully informed and present in the “here and now” so that they become part of the team where learning and growing can happen together.
- Stories represent patients’ day-to-day lives.
- Partnering with people rather than just a project can transform mindsets from “what am I doing here” towards “this is what I’m passionate about” for everyone involved.

Meet our guests

Marcella Gibbs

Experienced Patient Advisor who is also a Wife, Mother of two sons, Grandmother of two and Great Grandmother to one great-grandson. With a passion for communication, Marcella’s journey with AHS began one and half years ago through the Step Forward Program as a Patient Advisor with the Rehabilitation team. This has opened up many other opportunities for her including a role in HealthChange® Methodology, Digital Storytelling, and more recently today’s ChangeMakers Series.

Roma Thomson

Director of Community Services, Transitions and Integration at Calgary West Central Primary Care Network (CWC PCN). CWC PCN is one of 41 primary care networks in Alberta, which support family physicians by providing primary care programs and services. Her team values having patients as partners, and hopes to co-design current and future programs together through a Patient Advisory Council. Work has begun to set up the council with the first meeting being held in September 2019. In her downtime when travel opportunities arise, Roma’s Scottish roots drive her curiosities to explore the world. More locally, she can often be found running the trails.

Reface the bricks of the health architecture by challenging your teams to take the plunge and incorporate **Patient Digital Stories** as your transformation from ‘me’ to ‘we’