



## **Sara Damiano, LMSW, MSG, CCM, ACHP-SW**

Director, Palliative Care Clinical & Network Services

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Sara Damiano is the Ascension national director of palliative care overseeing the strategy and services of 200 specialty level staff, spanning across 12 markets, in 53 inpatient locations, 19 outpatient clinics, and 2 community based locations. In this role, she is responsible for the overall palliative care strategy with a focus on increasing access and referrals to specialty level palliative care services, enhancing primary palliative care, and integration with population health and value based care initiatives. Sara co-leads the palliative care service with Dr. Rafael Bloise, Chief Medical Officer Ascension Living.

Previously, she served as the palliative care system director at Michigan's largest healthcare system-Beaumont Health, where she was responsible for leading the corporate strategy and operations for the clinical service line across 8 hospitals and outpatient services. Earlier in her career, she served as a manager of care management with Alliance Health, as a research recruiter with the San Francisco Public Health Department, and as a disability examiner with Social Security Disability.

She has more than 10 years of health care experience with leadership roles in palliative care, advance care planning, and care management. She is a licensed clinical social worker, certified case manager, and holds advanced certification in hospice and palliative care as a social worker. She earned a dual master's degree from the University of Southern California, Los Angeles in social work and gerontology as well as a bachelor's degree in sociology with a minor in gender and health from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. She is a member of the National Association of Social Workers, American College of Healthcare Executives, and American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine.