



ARxC Gives Patients a Voice on Health Care Issues

Advocates for Responsible Care (ARxC) empowers individuals to achieve their maximum wellness with a strong voice as health care advocates. The non-profit organization establishes best practice standards that reduce cultural and health care delivery disparities while inspiring policy changes that expand equitable health access with wellness paths that improve the health of all Georgians.

The tenets of ARxC initiatives rest on values of responsibility, transparency, health and social equity, accountability and citizen patient protections.

In 2009, ARxC became the legal representative and medical director of the patients of the Grady Dialysis Crisis. ARxC led the negotiations for long-term treatments, ongoing dialysis care and continues to monitor the care of 21 ESRD patients.

ARxC has been recognized for its advocacy work, receiving:

- Mundo Hispanico Award, Amigo de los Hispanos
- Latino Health Excellence Award; the Hispanic Health Coalition of Georgia
- Outstanding Service Award Arthritis Foundation GA
- Atlanta Business Chronicle Community Outreach Health Care Hero Award

Rx in Reach GA Coalition: In 2011 ARxC, along with Georgia Bio, took the lead to organize the Rx in Reach GA Coalition (Rx in Reach GA) consisting of 41 health and physician organizations who present legislative policies that ensure patient protections with complete and affordable access to life-saving prescription drugs and treatments. ARxC has led this coalition in passing:

- Biosimilar legislation, 2017
- Step Therapy Reform, 2019
- PBM Oversight legislation, 2020

Georgia Coalition for Safe Communities: In 2018, ARxC has joined FPL-OUTCRY and Compassionate Atlanta to create the Georgia Coalition for Safe Communities (GCSC). This coalition believes gun violence is a public health crisis and advocates for federal, state and private funding to prevent gun violence and examine its effects on the health of communities. GCSC informs, educates and mobilizes Georgians to promote common sense gun policies that prevent violence.

- In 2020, GCSC led support to pass HB 426, the Georgia Hate Crimes Bill.

In 2020 ARxC stepped up to address patient community needs facing the Covid-19 Crisis. The coalition developed a Covid Patrol purchasing and distributing supplies to the most in-need patient communities. From health care workers, to other first responders, to children of disadvantaged populations the coalition is on the frontline fighting the Covid crisis.

ARxC 2021 Priorities:

- Establish GA Bio Patient Advocacy Alliance to defend health equity of Covid vaccine clinical trials, distribution system and affordable access.
- Support legislative policies that curb the financial and discriminatory barriers to securing vital medical care and prescription drugs for patients while expanding patient protections from harmful insurance practices.
- Reform Georgia's Citizen's Arrest Statute to repeal ability of citizen to make an arrest.

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