

# HISTORY OF THE CARENET PATIENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

**PAC:** Esther Cancelli, Kathy Chaten, Kenneth Dailey, Marcia Dailey, Anniece Johnson, Charles Leali, Linda Leali, Paul Merrow, Sally Merrow, Genevieve Smith, Jim Smith, Jo Smith, Michele Wheeler. **Staff:** Don Nease, Matt Simpson, Mary Fisher

**Colorado Research Network (CaReNet) mission:** Improve health and well-being by the application of scientific methods to questions important to primary care clinicians, their patients, and their communities.

**CaReNet Patient Advisory Council (PAC):** Brings together patients from CaReNet practices to advise on and guide projects from inception to dissemination of results. The PAC meets once every two months.

## BACKGROUND

Formed in 2004, the CaReNet PAC gathers regularly to serve as patient experts, fully involved in research processes. The CaReNet PAC consists of 12 patient partners who live, work, and play in the Denver/Aurora metro area of Colorado. This group is staffed out of the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus in the Department of Family Medicine.

## WHAT WE DO

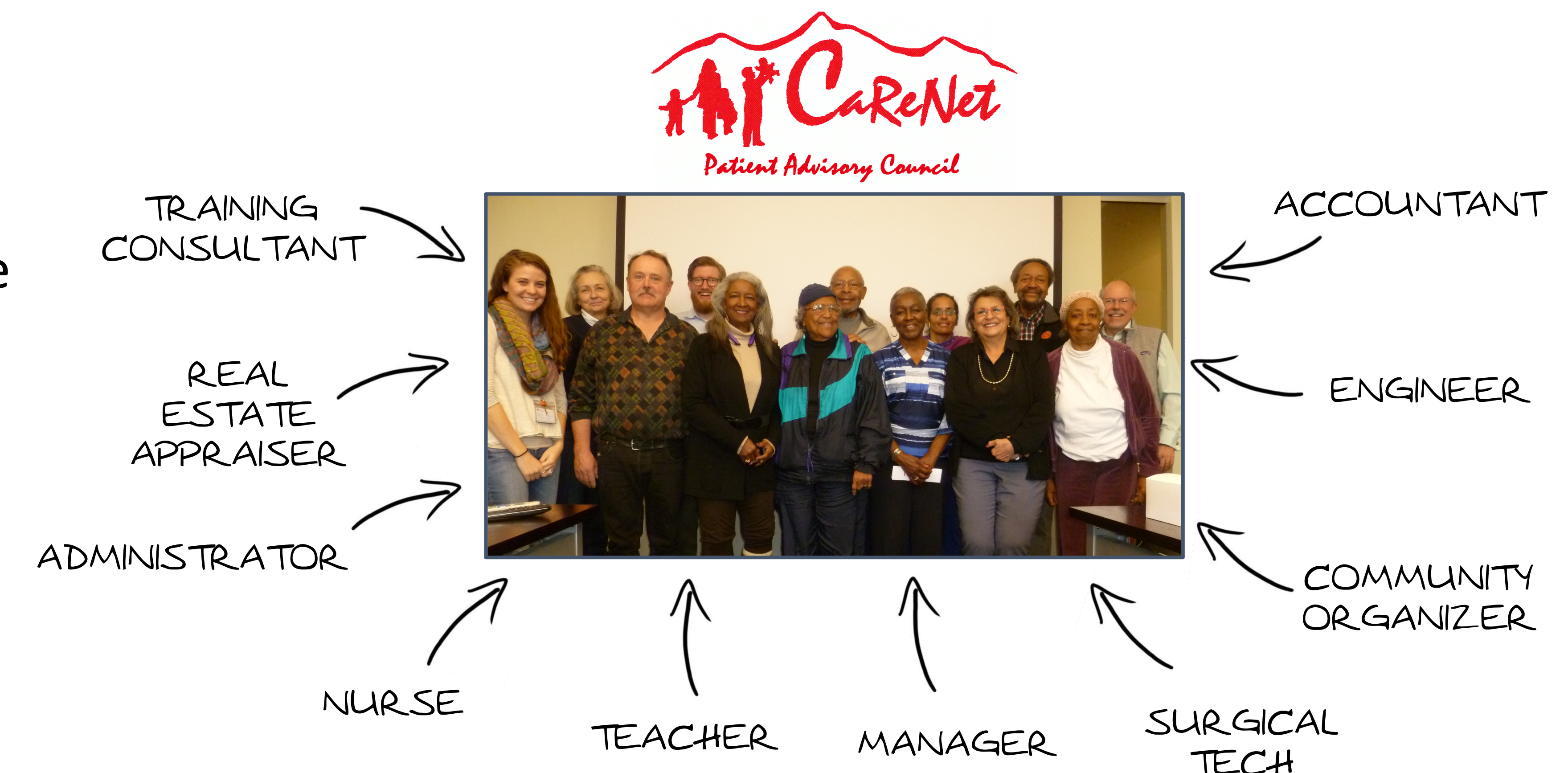
- Study design and formulation
- Participant recruitment
- Study implementation
- Engagement in intervention design
- Provide advice to researchers and PBRN staff

## THOUGHTS ON INVOLVEMENT IN MEDICAL RESEARCH

- Knowledge gain
- Opportunity to provide feedback
- Learn new things
- Help information move forward
- Knowledge of healthcare delivery
- Broader outlook
- Increased motivation to be participant
- Increase trust in research

## WHAT KEEPS US ENGAGED IN CARENET PAC MEETINGS?

- Each other
- Opinions and input valued
- Relationship with PBRN staff
- Truly enjoy the process
- Stimulating conversation and topics
- Open discussion, different perspectives, feel needed
- Seeing products at the end of a project
- “We are family!”



## STAFF INVOLVEMENT

- Dedicated staff time: Director, co-director, coordinator
- Consistency is key: meetings, communications, outreach from same individual
- Remember, PAC members are the local experts
- Ensure adequate and timely compensation
- Make it fun, “break bread” together!

