

The San Francisco Public Library and the San Francisco End of Life Network present



**Everyone dies.** It's a topic that many fear or see as the great unknown. Recently though, there are more open discussions about death and dying. Many patients choose hospice care and/or palliative care, rather than life-sustaining machines that prolong their lives. The End of Life Option Act has given terminally-ill patients another choice. Death cafés, where people gather to talk about death, are cropping up everywhere.

What happens when we die? Are there environmentally-friendly ways to deal with our remains? How do different faith traditions view death? What do we need to insure our wishes are followed if we are unable to make medical decisions on our own? How do we say goodbye to a dying friend?

Join us for a series of programs to explore these topics and more. All programs are at the Main Library in the Latino/Hispanic Community Room, 5:30–7:30 p.m. Dates are listed below.

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**PROGRAM 2 :**

## *How Different Faith Traditions View Death*

**Thursday, April 4, 5:30 p.m.**

**Latino/Hispanic Community Room, Main Library, Lower Level**

Representatives from local religious groups talk about how faith and beliefs can impact patients' end of life decisions. How do they comfort those who are in pain and dying? Are there specific customs that are observed? What kind of spiritual guidance can they provide to patients at the end of their lives?

**Speakers:** Rev. Ron Kobata, Buddhist Church of San Francisco; Sister Sukanya, Brahma Kumaris; Fran Johns, Calvary Presbyterian Church; Rabbi Eric Weiss, Bay Area Jewish Healing Center; Iftekhar Hai, United Muslims of America Interfaith Alliance; Father Pablo Iwaszewicz, Chaplain, St. Mary's Hospital. Moderator: Michael Pappas, executive director, San Francisco Interfaith Council.

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### **Death and Dying - 2019 Discussion Series**

**March 5** – Rest in Peace: What happens to my body when I die?

**April 4** – How Different Faith Traditions View Death

**May 7** – How to Die in California

**June 6** – Last Wishes: Start the conversation now!

**July 9** – Sitting with the Dying: Rituals and Resources

**August 6** – Talking to Children About Death

**September 10** – Grieving a Pet's Death: Before & After

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Speakers TBA. Note: Programs subject to change due to availability of speakers. All programs at the Library are free.



San Francisco Public Library

Main Library 100 Larkin St. (at Grove) (415) 557-4277 [sfpl.org](http://sfpl.org)