

Introducing: “Patient Lee” Tomlinson!

An introduction by Kary Gillenwaters, MA, OTR/L

We are pleased to announce that renowned keynote speaker, “Patient Lee” Tomlinson, a patient and healthcare professional advocate, has joined the CHCM family!

Lee’s painful credentials as a patient include 12+ broken bones, 6 serious illnesses, 9 surgeries, 2 amputations, and 3 near terminal diagnoses, including his recent successful battle with Stage 3+ throat cancer. Given those stats, we’re lucky he’s also hilarious.

About a year ago Lee reached out to CHCM and invited a colleague and me to catch one of his keynotes, *The Naked Truth About Compassion is Revealed* at an event held by a national health system. He was engaging, endearing, and funny, and his message to clinicians and health care administrators was visibly impactful. We had made plans to connect with him afterward, and that took quite a while because of the huge numbers of people who stayed to talk with Lee, give him a hug, ask him questions, and find out how to book him to speak at other events. The connection with the audience was clear. Lee’s vulnerability mixed with his humor clearly makes a lasting connection or impression.

An hour later at lunch, we understood the reason he’d invited us to the event in the first place. Several months prior, he had been invited to participate in a *Re-Igniting the Spirit of Caring* workshop—day two of which always features a visit from a patient, a role he naturally filled. He loved everything he heard, so he got his hands on copies of two of CHCM’s most recent books, *See Me as a Person* and *Advancing Relationship-Based Cultures*.

Lee’s intense desire to make a positive impact in health care, motivated him to contact CHCM who he believed were the best people to help organizations across the world become more loving, compassionate, and patient-and-family-centered after he’d inspired them to do so. Now, “Patient Lee” Tomlinson is partnering with Creative Health Care Management to reach health care audiences with inspiring messages *and* the means for a sustainable, long-term cultural transformation.

Book Lee as your 2019 Hospital Week/Nurses Week speaker!

Call 800.728.7766.

View Lee’s TED Talk [here](#). (delivered at the personal invitation of Eli Lilly & Co)

