

Catholic Health Care Leadership Alliance Launches Public Policy and Advocacy Institute Amid Assaults on Life and Conscience Rights in Medicine

New initiative from CHCLA promotes health care consistent with the teachings of Jesus Christ and His Church

Ormond, FL, October 10, 2023— Health care professionals practicing medicine in conformity with the truth of the Catholic faith increasingly encounter Goliath obstacles as U.S. public policy continues to undermine the dignity of the human person and religious freedom within health care. In a sea of basic conscience rights violations within the health care industry and a Presidential Administration backing regulatory action and litigation requiring participation in abortion and gender-altering surgeries, the Catholic Health Care Leadership Alliance (CHCLA) will launch a new Public Policy and Advocacy Institute aimed at protecting the rights of all those involved in the delivery of health care on November 8 in Washington, D.C.

CHCLA President Dr. Steven White states, “Like it or not, medical care has been politicized, and we need a strong, united Catholic voice in the public debates regarding health care delivery. Otherwise, we risk further erosion of the moral principles undergirding the profession for centuries and safeguarding the health and welfare of the sick and most vulnerable among us.”

The new Public Policy & Advocacy Institute will work to uphold human dignity for patients— especially for the unborn, materially poor, and persons with disabilities—and defend the conscience and religious freedom rights of all Catholic health care practitioners and patients and all people of good will. Accomplished through (1) building coalitions in support of life-affirming health care policy founded in the truth and beauty of the human person, (2) advocating for life-affirming health care policy and medical conscience protections, and (3) educating and promoting the revitalization of Catholic health care centered in the healing love of Jesus Christ, the Public Policy & Advocacy Institute will be the main driver in the fight to protect religious liberty within the medical field. A list of legal briefs already filed by the Public Policy & Advocacy Institute is available [here](#).

“The CHCLA’s Public Policy and Advocacy Institute is here to advance health care policy centered in human dignity, the equal value of every person, and care for the life and health of all people in our country, especially the vulnerable. Tragically, in America, law and policy is rapidly advancing that is hostile to religious freedom, manifests a hatred for the human body, and seeks to discard vulnerable patients, born and unborn, because they do not have ‘lives worth living.’ CHCLA’s new Public Policy and Advocacy Institute is marshaling Catholics, fellow Christians, and people of good will to transform our health care system to be centered in the sanctity of God-given life and the ethical obligation to love and care for all persons,” said Vice President of Public Policy for CHCLA and Director of the Institute Louis Brown.

CHCLA will launch the Public Policy & Advocacy Institute on November 8 at 2:30pm EDT at the Religious Freedom Institute in Washington D.C. The event will include brief remarks from Louis Brown and Dr. White along with Nina Schaefer, director of the Center for Health and Welfare at the Heritage Foundation, Grace-Marie Turner, president of the Galen Institute, and Joshua McCaig, CHCLA Vice-President and co-founder. A light reception and Q+A will conclude the event.

Following the launch, CHCLA will host its second annual Symposium for the Advancement of Catholic Health Care on November 9 at The Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law, a full-day event focusing on health care policy through the lens of Catholic teachings. Details and speaker lineup are available [here](#).

For more information about Catholic Health Care Leadership Alliance and a complete press kit, visit <https://catholicealthalliance.org/press-kit/>.

Dr. Steven White, Joshua McCaig, and Louis Brown are available for comment. Media interested in an interview or attending the launch event for the Public Policy & Advocacy Institute may contact Carrie Kline at carriek@revolutionizingmissions.com.

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Launched in 2022, the Catholic Health Care Leadership Alliance was formed by the Catholic Medical Association, The National Catholic Bioethics Center, Catholic Benefits Association, Catholic Bar Association, and Christ Medicus Foundation to unite Catholic physicians, nurses, administrators, students, health systems, hospitals, and provider groups in a common mission to advance the practice of medicine consistent with Catholic ethics.