
Michigan Nurses For Life

1637 W. Big Beaver Rd., Suite G • Troy, Michigan 48084

May 2019

“An educational group for pro-life nurses”

Michigan Nurses For Life

SAVE THE DATE

2019 Conference

After the Choice: Abortion & Breast Cancer

Saturday, October 19, 2019

9:00 am - 12:30 pm

St. Joseph Mercy Oakland, Pontiac, Michigan



Donna Harrison, MD is board certified in obstetrics and gynecology and is Executive Director of the American Association of Pro-life Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

She has lectured extensively in the U.S. and internationally on topics of medical abortion. Dr. Harrison is an Adjunct Professor at Trinity International University in Deerfield, Illinois.



Amber Gier, is a nursing student at Oakland University and will be graduating in December 2019. She has been active as president of her pro-life group at Oakland University for three years.

Amber is passionate about the pro-life movement and encourages many young people to get involved in the fight for life.

Phone: 248.816.8489 ♦ Email: info@mnfl.org

Check our website for updated information: www.mnfl.org

Presented by:

Michigan Nurses For Life

A certificate of attendance will be awarded for nurses.

The public is welcome!

Michigan Nurses For Life

Our Purpose:

...To raise the consciousness of the nursing profession to protect all human life from conception until natural death

...To form an educated core of nurses who can speak for their profession by acting as a community resource for life issues

...To promote public education and awareness about life issues on both ends of the spectrum, from abortion to euthanasia

...To uphold and defend human life in all stages and conditions of development

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From the President

Dear Colleagues,

The pro-life buzz this month is clearly on the movie *UNPLANNED*. Planned Parenthood is trying to minimize the impact this film is having by saying it is “preaching to the choir” and is insignificant. Unfortunately for them, nothing could be further from the truth. *UNPLANNED* is filling theaters, being held over and having a tremendous impact.

As to preaching to the choir, many pro-life people are morally opposed to abortion but have never seen one being performed or witnessed the aftermath. *UNPLANNED* changes that. This film strips away the “reproductive health care” smoke screen and allows the viewer to see the effects of both a surgical and a medical abortion. Having said that, it is important to know that it is a film suitable for mature students and adults. After having seen it, the “choir’s” voices will be better informed and stronger than ever.

Right to Life - LIFESPAN's Celebrate Life! Dinner on May 7th will feature the actress who portrays Abby Johnson in the film. Ashley Bratcher has her own pro-life story to tell and was warned not to do this film as she could be blackballed by producers who do not like her pro-life stance.

From the abortion reversal pill, to late-term (up to birth—and sometimes after abortion), to bans on abortion after a heartbeat can be heard, there has never been a time that we nurses can have a greater voice. So—sing out, Nurses!! Let us know how we can help.



Love Life, Diane

Trump Pro-Life Efforts

President Trump's new “Protect Life Rule” is a faithful implementation of both the spirit and letter of the original law that established the Title X Program and to the rule promulgated by President Reagan,” Rep. Chris Smith said. “It is once again made clear that, in accordance with Title X of the Public Health Service Act, federal funds are prohibited from being spent on programs in which the violence of abortion is used a method of family planning.”

A second federal judge appointed by the previous administration has blocked the new rules President Trump put in place to defund the Planned Parenthood abortion business of as much as \$60 million.

Life News reported a federal judge issued a ruling, April 24, 2019, keeping taxpayer funding flowing to Planned Parenthood by blocking a new pro-life rule from the Trump administration.

U.S. District Court Judge Stanley Bastian issued an injunction staying the changes from taking effect while several other legal challenges proceed. His temporary block applies nationwide. Pro-abortion attorneys general in 20 states and Washington, D.C. filed the lawsuit, arguing that the rule would hurt Planned Parenthood and other abortion companies and violate the Affordable Care Act.

Michigan Nurses For Life

**HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP?
WE'RE WAITING TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

While Opposition to Nursing Involvement in Assisted Suicide Grows— A Dire Warning from Canada

By Nancy Valko

In March, I wrote a blog, “Is the American Nurses Association Ready to Drop Opposition to Assisted Suicide?” about the ANA draft position paper changing its stance from opposition to assisted suicide to “The Nurse’s Role When a Patient Requests Aid in Dying.” “Aid in Dying” is the ANA’s new term for assisted suicide. I included a link for public comments on this change that gave a deadline of April 8, 2019.

Although the ANA claims that it “is the premier organization representing the interests of the nation’s 4 million registered nurses,” less than ten percent of the nation’s nurses are members of the ANA or other professional organizations and that number is declining.

I belonged to the ANA decades ago but left when I saw the organization take radical positions without even informing us. Now, no nurse I know belongs—unless he or she is in politics, academia or administration.

Even though I regularly get medical and nursing news updates along with constant ads from the ANA, I never see ANA’s proposed new position changes on hot button issues like VSED (voluntary stopping of eating and drinking to hasten death) and assisted suicide until alerted by people in my network.

Unfortunately, although some of us wrote public comments opposing nursing involvement in VSED, the ANA approved the change in 2017.

This time, the ANA’s draft position on assisted suicide led to an outpouring of criticisms and pleas not to approve the change.

SOME RESPONSES TO THE ANA DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS

The Catholic Medical Association issued a statement opposing the ANA’s draft position stating:

“These guidelines compromise not only the patient’s life, but also the conscience rights of nurses everywhere,” said Dr. John Schirger, President of the CMA.”

“A nurse or any health care provider should never abandon a patient or refuse comfort and care to a patient. But AID is not care and is the ultimate abandonment of a patient. Forcing the nurse to facilitate AID makes the nurse complicit in such abandonment,” said Dr. Marie Hilliard, Co-Chair of the CMA’s Ethics Committee.”

The National Association of Catholic Nurses issued their comments on the ANA’s draft such as:

“All the legal system can do is decriminalize AID so that nurses and physicians are not prosecuted for killing patients or helping them to kill themselves. AID is the antithesis of social justice.”

“Nursing is a moral endeavor and much is at stake when nurses breach the moral obligation to first do no harm. Harm is precisely what support of AID does.

It harms the patient who is killed, the nurse who must make themselves indifferent to the patient’s suffering and convince themselves that killing is okay, the professional relationship that is built on trust that the nurse will not harm the patient, and society that will come to view nurses as potential accomplices in killing rather than as true healers and providers of authentic compassionate care. As Florence Nightingale is quoted to have said, “The very first requirement in a hospital, is that it should do the sick no harm.”

The National Association of Pro-life Nurses (NAPN) responded in their comments that:

“Social and legislative shifts” do not make a previously immoral act moral. ”

“Aid in dying IS euthanasia. It is the deliberate taking of a life whether it is requested by the patient or not.”

Wesley Smith of the Discovery Institute’s Center on Human Exceptionalism asked, “Now Will Nurses Only Prevent Some Suicides?” and wrote:

“I hope the membership of the ANA will oppose their leaders’ attempt to accommodate the culture of death. If nurses become “non-judgmental”—e.g., indifferent—to some suicides, the consequent failure to request specialized preventative interventions could become the precipitating omission that sends some suicidal patients into the abyss.”

And over 1,000 people signed an online petition opposing the ANA draft position by the April 8, 2019 deadline.

A DIRE WARNING FROM CANADA

The Canadian Catholic Nurses joined the National Association of Catholic Nurse in opposing the ANA’s draft position and gave a chilling look at what may be our future if legalized assisted suicide is not stopped:

“Our association formed in 2018 primarily in response to Canadian nurses’ moral distress regarding the nation-wide legalization of medically induced death. Professional associations and licensing bodies across Canada endorsed the legal changes, requiring conscientious objectors to participate in “Medical Assistance in Dying” by “effective referral” to facilitate access at the patient’s request. Faith-based health care facilities are pressured to participate. Nurse practitioners are trained and qualified to prescribe and administer lethal doses of medication to patients that they or others deem eligible for euthanasia.”

Social justice demands that nurses advocate for the protection of life until natural death, not for increased access to induced death. The Canadian experience with assisted suicide and euthanasia provides evidence for your continued resistance to the practice.

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www.mnfl.org

If you would like to add or delete a name from our mailing list,
please contact Michigan Nurses For Life at 248-816-8489. Thanks!



STOP

Physician-Assisted Suicide

suicide and euthanasia." (All emphasis added)

Legalized assisted suicide is more than a legal, medical or nursing problem. It is a corrupting influence on our society that will destroy the essential protections of truly ethical healthcare for us all.

—National Right to Life News Today, April 15, 2019

A Dire Warning From Canada

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Unlike Oregon, Canada has not experienced a growth in palliative care along with the rapid expansion of induced death. Instead, **we experience ongoing demands for access to lethal injections for new categories of patients, including "mature minors;" those who write advanced directives; and those whose mental illness is the sole condition underlying their request. We urge the ANA to maintain its courageous opposition to assisted**

SAVE THE DATE!

RIGHT TO LIFE - LIFESPAN CELEBRATE LIFE DINNER

May 7 - SOLD OUT!

Speaker: Ashley Bratcher, lead actress in *Unplanned*
248-816-1546

NATIONAL RIGHT TO LIFE CONVENTION

July 5-6

Charleston, South Carolina
nrlconvention.com

RIGHT TO LIFE - LIFESPAN GARAGE SALE

MAY 16-18

36709 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia
734-422-6230

MICHIGAN NURSES FOR LIFE CONFERENCE

October 19

St. Joseph Mercy Oakland, Pontiac
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