The pandemic brought America face-to-face with the impacts of disparities in race, class and ethnicity in health and healthcare. Inadequately resourced public health and disaster response systems exacerbated injustices upon the poor, elderly and communities of color. The economic crisis worsened longstanding inequities.

Many Leaders, Many Voices, Many Years

CPB is committed to the long march to justice. The march will require many leaders, many voices, and likely many years. That cannot and will not deter us!

With your help, we call out unfairness and much more. We collaborate to revise policies, enact fairer procedures, prevent biased algorithms, include lay citizens in decision making, and set more equitable and accountable benchmarks.

Leading Change

Our impact together? Leadership and expertise to raise and respond to ethical issues in health and healthcare:

- For individuals and families in crisis.
- For clinicians striving to uphold ethical principles.
- For society addressing public health issues arising from structural and systemic inequities.

A catalyst is something that causes change. As you plan your charitable giving this year, we want you to know that, with your support on the long march, we will bring about changes that lead to justice.

You can support the work for change by mailing your donation in the enclosed envelope or at PracticalBioethics.org.

The Case for Practical Bioethics

You can learn about the Center’s history, programs, impact assessment, team and financials in our new publication, “The Case for Practical Bioethics,” at PracticalBioethics.org under the About Us/Overview tab.

Ethics in Action

Sister Rosemary Marching to Selma

On March 10, 1965, three days after John Lewis led marchers from Selma to Montgomery, Rosemary Flanigan was one of six Catholic sisters who responded to a call to bear nonviolent witness to the blatant injustice of Bloody Sunday.

Sister Rosemary was a Professor of Philosophy in 1986 when she began attending public forums presented by the Center. She served three terms on the Center’s Board of Directors, as Board Chair, and as a staff program associate for 17 years before retiring in 2010.

This year, as Sister Rosemary celebrates her 95th birthday, the Center honors her legacy in the long march to justice, equity, diversity and inclusion.

Rosemary Flanigan, CSJ, PhD
(2nd row, 3rd from the right)
An exhibition celebrating the wishes of elders and benefit for the Center for Practical Bioethics...raising and responding to ethical issues in health and healthcare

What would you wish for the world?

That’s the question two Kansas City artists, Andy Newcom and Marn Jensen, asked more than 50 older adults across the country. From their conversations, they created works of art depicting wishes for the world.

The ART of the WISH exhibition will debut at the Center for Practical Bioethics’ 2022 Annual Event on April 7 at the Leedy Voulkos Art Gallery at 2012 Baltimore in the Crossroads Art District, Kansas City, MO. Honorary Co-Chairs are Rob Ayala-Flores and Sue Seidler Nerman. The Steering Committee is led by Alan Edelman.

A Unique Evening in the Crossroads

There will be two sessions to experience the exhibition: 5:30 to 7:00 PM and 7:30 to 9:00 PM. Hors d’oeuvres will be served at the early session and dessert at the later session. Sponsorships to accommodate both sessions will include reservations at nearby restaurants for tables of four to ten.

The Exhibition

The artwork consists of a variety of media, from mixed media, photography and assemblage to sculpture, fiber, encaustic painting and drawing.

The idea of repurposing old objects is central in Andy and Marn’s work and reflects the Center for Practical Bioethics’ core values: that all persons have intrinsic worth and the importance of protecting the interests of those whose voices have not been heard or heeded.

Sponsorships

Your sponsorship of ART of the WISH helps in 3 ways:

- Supports ethics in healthcare
- Supports restaurants in the Crossroads
- Supports the role of arts and humanities in society

Contact Cindy Leyland for details at cleyland@PracticalBioethics.org or 816-979-1357.

Honorary Co-Chairs

Roberto Ayala-Flores
Sue Seidler Nerman

“I wish our most vulnerable were cared for.”
Old wire fence, jute string
Andy Newcom

“I wish people would smile back.”
Vintage photos, thread, wax on paper
Marn Jensen
What Is bioethics?
Practical Bioethics Education Fills Gap

Some people’s eyes glaze over when the subject is ethics. Talk about bioethics and they look even more perplexed.

What bioethics is really all about comes down to how we make decisions about health and healthcare where reasonable people may disagree. From healthcare professionals to anyone who has or ever will need care, bioethics affects everyone.

Yet, only about 5% of health professionals performing ethics consultations report receiving formal clinical ethics training. This deficiency makes the most seriously ill and vulnerable open to poorer outcomes. It also exposes institutions to risk and increases the likelihood of professional burnout.

Your organization can fill the ethics education gap through CPB educational programs.

MEDICAL ETHICS WORKSHOPS
Whether you seek to start a medical ethics committee, educate and strengthen an existing group or implement a clinical ethics consultation service, custom-designed one-day workshops are a place to start. Typical agendas include interactive lectures and case discussions.

ETHICS COMMITTEE CONSORTIUM
The Consortium is a collaborative of 40 institutions involving more than 500 individuals serving on healthcare provider ethics committees. Member benefits include educational webinars, the Ethics Dispatch newsletter and clinical ethics resources.

ADVANCE CARE PLANNING
Name Your Agent (Caring Conversations®) workshops and resources provide guidance through the advance care planning process. Participants learn what it is, why it’s important and how to go about it.

TRANSPORTABLE PHYSICIAN ORDERS
The Center trains providers at various stages of development of the Transportable Physician Orders for Patient Preferences initiative. TPOPP is the Kansas/Missouri version of a national program that seeks to better align treatment plans with the goals and values of seriously ill patients with life-limiting illness.

GUEST FACULTY
You can learn from CPB experts serving as faculty for other organizations’ webinars and workshops.

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https://tinyurl.com/CPBgive
Karen Cox
She Wants to Be Part of the Legacy

From artificial intelligence to climate change, almost everything has a component of bioethics.

At least, that’s how Dr. Karen Cox explains why she serves on the Center for Practical Bioethics’ Board of Directors and has included the Center in her estate plan.

“We have global problems that no one can solve alone, problems that ethics will always be at the heart of,” said Karen. “I’m banking on the Center having much greater national influence in addressing the intersection of social justice and health equity.”

Karen is the president of Chamberlain University. With 23 campuses, it is the largest nursing school in the country and the largest provider of BSN degrees to underrepresented minority students in the United States.

Karen was inspired to include a percentage of her trust in a bequest to the Center, reasoning that the percentage approach would alleviate worry about meeting needs during her lifetime.

“Planned gifts are a fairly painless way to support an organization that you want to ensure will live on,” she said. “At the same time, it’s important for people to realize that they can change their gift. I can call my lawyer tomorrow and change it.”

That seems unlikely for Karen.

“I believe in the heritage of the Center,” she said. “So it just makes sense to be part of the legacy.”

SHORT TAKES

New Staff

CPB welcomed two new staff members this summer. Polo Camacho, PhD, manages TPOPP, Ethical AI and the Ethics Committee Consortium and promotes the Center’s health ethics education services. Quet Sledge maintains and updates customer relationship management systems and provides administrative support.

Ethical AI

As artificial intelligence becomes more pervasive in healthcare, providers and developers need language, tools and organizational support to identify and address ethics problems these technologies can produce. The goal of the Ethical AI Project is to integrate ethical principles into AI tools for healthcare. With input from an interdisciplinary Advisory Council, the project has three strategic priorities for healthcare IT:

- Develop and disseminate educational resources
- Research and develop best practices and actionable recommendations
- Research and develop consultation services

Read about the Ethical AI Project at www.practicalbioethics.org_programs/artificial-intelligence.

Seal of Transparency

CPB earned the 2021 Platinum Seal of Transparency from Candid. Candid is an information service reporting on U.S. nonprofit organizations. Read about Center strategy, metrics and achievements at www.guidestar.org_profile/48-0985815.

Flanigan Lecture

Five physician-ethicists who were part of the 2008 inaugural class of Kansas City University’s dual degree DO/MA in Bioethics program reflected on their practice of medicine and ethics during COVID and beyond for the 27th Annual Rosemary Flanigan Lecture on August 30. Common themes of the discussion, led by Flanigan Chair Dr. Tarris Rosell, included management of grief, patient autonomy vs. common good, exhaustion and the duty to serve, and the escalating impact of moral injury. Watch the recording at www.practicalbioethics.org/events-education/events-calendar.