

Bioethics Bulletin

May 2023

CENTER FOR PRACTICAL
BIOETHICS

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Kicking Off Our 40th Anniversary Join Your Friends for a Fireside Chat at The Fire House KC

The Center is celebrating 40 years of engaging head, heart and hands in response to ethical issues in health and healthcare. We're kicking it off at an **October 3** luncheon at The Fire House KC, 4518 Troost Avenue, Kansas City, MO.

Join us on October 3 for a "fireside chat" and mingle with the expert leaders of our services to help healthcare organizations integrate ethics – from the bedside to the boardroom – into all facets of their organizations.

Hear real-life stories of how clinical ethics expertise helps patients, families and clinicians receive guidance at the crossroads of decision and how our Ethical AI services are providing healthcare with the tools, standards and processes to implement human guardrails around machine activities.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Talia's Voice
Projects for Patient Safety



29th Annual Flanigan Lecture **Listening to the Patient's Voice**

Wednesday, September 20, 2023

You can hear me, but are you listening? Talia Goldenberg's doctors, nurses and support staff apparently were not.

Talia and her parents were unable to convince them to take her difficulty breathing seriously. After a botched code, Talia was left in a permanent vegetative state and 10 days later was removed from life support and allowed to die.

Her parents Jeff Goldenberg, MD, and Naomi Kirtner, MA, founded Talia's Voice: Projects for Patient Safety to change the culture in medicine so that nobody else's child dies because the people in charge won't listen.

You can meet Jeff and Naomi in person or virtually on September 20 when they present the 29th Annual Rosemary Flanigan Lecture.

This year's Flanigan Lecture – the first public event in the Center's yearlong 40th anniversary celebration – is appropriately chaired by [Tarris \(Terry\) Rosell](#), Rosemary Flanigan Chair in Bioethics, and his life partner Ruth Rosell.

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Respecting Autonomy: The Education of a Clinical Ethicist

What's it like to be a clinical ethicist?

What would it mean in real life to be looked to for expert guidance on a decision involving someone else's body? Someone else's life?

In his blog about it, [Ryan Pferdehirt](#), D. Bioethics, HEC-C, admits that he often jokes that people should be allowed to make bad decisions. If that's true, then what does the clinical ethicist have to contribute to help patients, families and the healthcare team make medical decisions, including how long life should be prolonged with medical assistance?

Read it and find out!

READ



Who Will Speak For You?

Join Free Advance Care Planning Webinar

Have you thought about who will speak for you in a life-threatening situation if you can't speak for yourself?

While most of us want to live to a ripe old age and die peacefully surrounded by family at home, that's not what typically happens. Increasingly, the trajectory of the leading causes of death in the U.S. involve a slow, lingering decline.

Join us on for our last webinar this season on [May 25](#), noon to 1:00 p.m. CT, to learn how you can ensure that the healthcare you want is the healthcare you get throughout your life by appointing a healthcare representative and documenting your wishes. This webinar is made possible through a partnership with the Kansas City Public Library.

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Kudos to Authors

End-of-Life Ethics in a Changing World

A CPB staff member, a board member and a former student have all contributed chapters to a new book published by [Hospice Foundation of America, *End-of-Life Ethics in a Changing World*](#).

In the chapter “Cultural Humility: Necessary but Insufficient for Equitable Access to Care,” Board Member [Karen Bullock](#), PhD, LCSW, FGSA, APHSW-C, and co-author with Ramona Bullock-Johnson, MSW, LCSW, LADC-I, address the racial and ethnic factors that create barriers to equitable care and the need for providers to achieve cultural competence to provide goal-concordant, patient-centered care.

Kelstan Ellis, DO, MS-CR, MBE, and co-author Jenni Linebarger, MD, MPH, explore

the role of third-party decision makers, medically appropriate interventions and uncertainty in their chapter, "Ethical Issues in Pediatric Care at the End of Life." Kelstan studied for her Master's in Bioethics in classes taught by our staff at Kansas City University.

Last but not least, in "Effective Ethics Committees for Hospices: A Practical Guide," our staff member [Ryan Pferdehirt](#), D. Bioethics, HEC-C, describes how and why it makes sense for hospice organizations to create ethics committees.



Please Help Spread the Word

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