

Bioethics Bulletin

June 2023

CENTER FOR PRACTICAL
BIOETHICS

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40th Anniversary Kickoff Luncheon Tickets Available

Tuesday, October 3, 2023

Imagine you're a hospital inpatient – or maybe the patient is your mom or dad – facing a decision for which there is no right answer. Or maybe you're the patient's doctor or nurse and feel like you're being asked to do something against your principles. And maybe, just maybe, there's an algorithm behind what's happening that you know very little about.

You're invited to join us for lunch on October 3, 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM, at The Fire House KC to kick off the Center's 40th anniversary celebration with a "fireside chat" about these issues and how the Center responds to them.

Our luncheon chairs, Raghu Adiga, MD, President and CEO of Liberty Hospital, and Mark R. Thompson, JD, Senior Counsel, Seigfreid Bingham, P.C., welcome you to join us! Space is limited. Purchase your ticket now for only \$40.

[TICKETS](#)



In 1984 the Center for Practical Bioethics opened its doors in downtown Kansas City, Missouri. Back then the Center was called the Midwest Bioethics Center.

1984-2024

Right Mission, Right Time, Right Environment

When the year 1984 is mentioned, most people think about George Orwell's dystopian novel.

At the Center, we think about it as the year the Center was founded, along with more than a dozen other nonprofits started during that remarkably creative and generous decade in Kansas City's civic history.

In this blog, Trudi Galblum explores the Center's pioneering path in practical bioethics from scrappy startup to the nationally recognized, service-oriented organization that it is today.

[READ](#)



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.

[REGISTER](#)



Putting Bioethics into Practice

Do you wonder what clinical ethicists do, how they do it, and what it means for your health and healthcare?

Find out by reading [Ryan Pferdehirt](#)'s blog post, *Clinical Ethicists: Providing Guidance at the Crossroads of Decision*, on the CareTalk blog. CareTalk is a weekly podcast about the healthcare industry.

READ BLOG



Welcome Odessa Sawyer

The Center is thrilled to welcome new staff member Odessa Sawyer.

In her role as program coordinator, Odessa provides direct support for the Ethical AI Initiative, advance care planning, including Caring Conversations in the Latino Community, and other programs.

A recent Master's of Social Work graduate from the University of Kansas, Odessa was excited to join the Center for the opportunity to pursue her personal mission to ensure that "even the quietest person in the room has a place to sit and feel comfortable," especially in the final stages of life.

Odessa was born in Kansas City and, after a tumultuous time in the Missouri foster care system, found her forever home in rural Holden, Missouri.

"Coming from an adopted family representing four ethnicities has only deepened my joy to learn and uplift diverse communities," she said. Along with spending time with her seven-year old child, Odessa finds joy in creating unique dishes from produce she discovers at ethnic markets and in reading fiction that introduces her to new people, places and experiences.

READ BIO



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