



# NCPD E-New

June 2012

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## Feature: NCPD Ethics Committee

This dedicated and hard working group labors tirelessly to bring NCPD's voice to the forefront on matters of ethics related to the welfare of people with disabilities and the most vulnerable. The committee is made up of: Dr. Marie Hilliard, Committee Chair; Atty. Susanna Herro, Governance Board Chair; Atty. Stephen Mikochik, Governance Board Chair Emeritus; Lilly Rangel-Diaz, disability advocate; and Robert Quinlan, staff.

### Two Current Items Being Addressed by the Ethics Committee

### Action Alert: United Network for Organ Sharing Proposal

The National Catholic Partnership on Disability (NCPD) urges you to express your concerns directly by computer submission to stop serious threats to hospitalized persons with disabilities on life support. Such threats are due to occur if current proposals are put into effect that would increase pressure on

#### Ethics Committee Members



Chairperson: Dr. Marie Hilliard, BSN, MS, MA, JCL, Ph.D., R.N.



Susanna Herro, BS, JD



Stephen Mikochik, JD



Lilly Rangel-Diaz

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individuals and families to decline further treatment in order for the patient's organs to be donated.



OPTN's Proposed Amendment on Organ Donation after Cardiac Death (DCD) Model Elements would target a class of persons with disabilities who are dependent on life-support treatments (such as ventilators, dialysis, and certain medications) **to determine their eligibility for organ donation without their knowledge or consent, and in many cases before any decision has been made regarding withdrawal of life support.**

[READ MORE](#)

Click on "Read More" for the full action alert, including a link to suggested comments and instructions for submitting comments.



## Fortnight for Freedom

The USCCB *Fortnight for Freedom* initiative beginning on June 21 and lasting until July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012, will be featured on the NCPD website with practical activities that could be engaged in daily to advance religious liberty or the awareness of the threats.

On April 12, the Ad Hoc Committee on Religious Liberty of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) issued a document outlining the bishops' concerns over threats to religious freedom, both at home and abroad.

[MORE DETAILS](#)

The bishops called for a "Fortnight for Freedom," a 14-day period of prayer, education and action in support of religious freedom.

[CLICK HERE](#)

**For a summary of the most recent state outcomes** of legislative initiatives assisted by NCPD Ethics Committee, click button.

### On the Road with NCPD



### April and May Travels for NCPD Staff

Janice Benton, NCPD Executive Director and Dr. Nancy Thompson, Director of Programs and Diocesan Relations, are very pleased to have met face-to-face with and provided a variety of presentations and resources for so many in local and diocesan ministries in these past two months! The visits unfolded uniquely, based upon the location and the needs.



The School at McGuire Memorial

Barbara Walko convened a large one-day seminar in Canfield, OH for the Diocese of Youngstown. On our return to DC we were blessed to tour a school that specializes in serving those with Autism, the School at McGuire Memorial, New Brighton, PA with Kim Lieb, Director, from our Autism Task Force, Fr. Bill Gillum who is chaplain at McGuire, Lori Uhlmann, Diocesan Director for Department for People with Disabilities, Archdiocese of Pittsburgh, PA, and Jackie Johnson, former Director of the Office for Disability and Deaf Ministries, Erie, PA.

May found us working at multiple sites in California from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup>. The Southwest Regional Meeting/Pre-conference meeting at NCCL provided great opportunities for presentations as well as individual meetings with diocesan directors, individuals from the LA Religious Education Congress and publishers.



(above) Charleen Katra, Associate Director of Continuing Christian Education, Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston and co-chair, NCPD Autism Task Force presenting with Janice and Nancy at the National Conference for Catechetical Leadership Pre-conference.



Dr. Kathleen Schinhofen, Nancy Thompson, Martin Benton, Mary Brosseau, Janice Benton at the Fairview Developmental Center.

It was also a pleasure to meet with and present for leadership groups from the Dioceses of San Bernardino and Orange.

## June

Jan Benton will attend the upcoming Bishops' meeting in Atlanta as a guest observer. During the gathering, she will also attend the meeting of the Bishops' Subcommittee on Health Care, for which she serves as a consultant.

JUNE 2012						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

## July

July will be another month to be "out and about" for Jan and Nancy, as well as members of the Autism Task Force. Jan is coming to Iowa where she and Nancy will convene a Midwest Regional Meeting in Des Moines with host Dr. Cheryl Fornier, Diocesan Director of Evangelization and Catechesis on July 10 and 11.

JULY 2012						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Nancy and Dr. Mary Beth Walsh, Newark, and Charleen Katra, Houston, Co-chairs of the Autism Task Force, will attend and present for the Summer Institute on Theology and Disability July 16-20, 2012 at the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. ([see information about presentations below](#)).

Jan will be presenting at an awareness workshop for parish support for persons with mental illness for the Archdiocese of Wheeling-Charleston, WV along with NCPD Council on Mental Illness members Connie Rakitan and Fr. Bob Malloy, OFM Cap., and Network member Martin Benton.

**Donate  
to NCPD**

Please don't miss your chance...to support this "mighty" ministry, so-called by our Episcopal Moderator, Daniel Cardinal DiNardo, Archbishop of Galveston-Houston and Chair of the USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities.

**MORE DETAILS**

### Did you know?

NCPD generates respected resources *without any direct funding from the Church.*

**CLICK HERE**

to make an online donation that can transform your parish, school, school of religion and community. NCPD provides access to faith for persons with disabilities.

### Another Way to Support NCPD: Become a Friend of NCPD



Friends of NCPD contribute \$1000 annually to provide additional seed money for the projects listed above. **Become a Friend in 2012!** Click here to be a Friend of NCPD: <http://www.ncpd.org/friends>.

## Diocesan Director, Partner, and Organizational News and Notes

### Shannon Dingle, The Works of God Displayed

At our church, we never share details or diagnosis with anyone who isn't directly serving the child, youth, or adult in question. Even then, the information is given on a need-to-know basis. (for more information click on button) or at [www.theworksofgoddisplayed.com](http://www.theworksofgoddisplayed.com).

**READ MORE**

### Daniel Dougherty, Epilepsy Advocate

Dan has been in regular contact with NCPD to remind and advise us on ways that Catholics with epilepsy can be supported in our parishes. He reminds us that whatever disability one has, it is important to have something on your person in case of emergency, to advise first responders of special conditions or needs you have. Medic Alert bracelets or necklaces are recognized as valuable for this need. Look at the familiar face on the Medic Alert Foundation's homepage!!! <http://www.medicalert.org/>





## 2012 Summer Institute on Theology and Disability

Bill Gaventa, Elizabeth M. Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities welcomes all to attend the 2012 Summer Institute on Theology and Disability July 16 - 20, 2012 at the Catholic Theological Union, Academic and Conference Center - 5416 S. Cornell Ave., Chicago, IL 60615.

This 3rd Annual Institute on Theology and Disability is made possible with major sponsorship funding from The Bethesda Institute and gracious hosting by Catholic Theological Union. It is coordinated by The Elizabeth M. Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities in New Jersey and endorsed by the Association of Theological Schools, the Association of University Centers on Disability, and the Collaborative on Disability, Religion, and Inclusive Spiritual Supports.



Days at a

Glance: <http://bethesdaoinstitute.org/document.doc?id=449> Tuesday, July 17, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Symposium on Research and Spirituality with Eric Carter as moderator. Members of the NCPD Autism Task Force will be interviewed as part of the Symposium, to share on research done on the state of ministry for people with autism and their families.

Thursday, July 19, 1:30-3:30 p.m. **Dr. Mary Beth Walsh, Co-chair of the NCPD Autism Task Force** and Cristina Gangemi of the UK will present *Autism and Faith: Roman Catholic Initiatives in the UK and the USA*.

For more information and to register, go to <http://bethesdaoinstitute.org/Theology>.



### June's Inclusion Tip: Mental Health First Aid

from Marsha Rivas, Diocese of Toledo's Director, Equal Access Ministries and member, NCPD Board of Directors.

In all types of medical emergencies, first responders are very important to deal with someone's immediate needs until healthcare professionals take over. This includes mental health emergencies, although they may require techniques other than CPR or the Heimlich maneuver. The following guidelines may be helpful if you are present when a loved one, friend or fellow parishioner experiences a mental health crisis....(for more...)



Click "**Tip Sheet**" button and scroll to the top of list for more information.

For more information contact Marsha Rivas, Equal Access Ministries, Diocese of Toledo 419-244-6711

[mrvivas@toledodiocese.org](mailto:mrvivas@toledodiocese.org)

## Medicare Resources in Multiple Languages, including ASL

This is a resource to put in your files for sharing with those you serve who ask you questions about Medicare. This new site will be very helpful.

[READ MORE](#)

## Stand Up for Religious Freedom Rally



### STOP THE MANDATE

Sign up for updates and alerts.

NAME

EMAIL

ZIP

## RALLY INFO & LOCATIONS

From the National Catholic Register we note that

*"At noon local time, the second [Stand Up for Religious Freedom Rally](#) will be held in more than 130 cities nationwide at federal buildings, congressional offices and historic sites. It is being staged in anticipation of the Supreme Court's expected ruling in late June on the Affordable Care Act, including the controversial Department of Health and Human Services mandate requiring most private employers to provide co-pay-free contraceptive and sterilization coverage in health-care plans."*

## Resources

### Twenty Colleges that support the needs of students with a wide range of disabilities

While it might make things more challenging, a disability shouldn't stand in the way of getting a college degree. These days, it's easier than ever for students with disabilities to find the help they need, as more and more institutions work towards accommodating needs.

[MORE DETAILS](#)

### College supports for students with physical disabilities

"College Success for Students With Physical Disabilities 2012" by Chris Wise Tiedemann is a college planning guide for students with physical disabilities and chronic medical conditions. Students will learn about their rights under the laws governing education and disability, self-advocacy, choosing a college, how having a physical disability affects admissions testing, the increased responsibilities in college, and how to make sure they get everything they need. The book contains forms, checklists, interviews with other students, advice from college disability services personnel, and profiles of disability-friendly colleges across the United States."

**Disability  
Friendly  
Colleges**



The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, the University of California at Berkeley, Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, and Wright State University are the top 4 Full-Service Colleges in the United States. These are colleges that provide such services as personal care, special transportation, independent living or disability management training, wheelchair repair, adaptive sports, and other services to students with disabilities.

[CLICK HERE](#)

## Awareness Commemorations

We occasionally receive calls about monthly commemorations of disability issues and we will list them for your convenience.

### June Commemorations

#### National Cancer Survivor's Day

(Usually celebrated first Sunday each June)

National Cancer Survivor's Day Foundation, Inc.

PO Box 682285

Franklin, TN 37068-2285

Phone: 615-794-3006

<http://www.ncsdf.org>



#### June is PTSD Awareness Month.

NCPD invites you to view our webinar on *What can we do? Parish Support for Veterans and their Families* at [this link](#)

and visit our ministry toolkit for that webinar to find resources at

[www.ncpd.org](http://www.ncpd.org). The VA's National Center for PTSD encourages everyone to raise awareness throughout June in honor of [PTSD Awareness Month](#).

Learn how to help anyone who has been through trauma, including the men and women who have served. VA's National Center for PTSD invites you each week in June to come to

[www.ptsd.va.gov](http://www.ptsd.va.gov).



### National Scleroderma Awareness Month

300 Rosewood Drive, Suite 105

Danvers, MA 01923

Phone: 800-722-HOPE





<http://www.scleroderma.org/>

## American Association of the Deaf-Blind: A New Beginning



[www.aadb.org](http://www.aadb.org)

Helen Keller Deaf-Blind Awareness Month June is celebrated around the world as Deaf-Blind Awareness Month, marking the birth month of Helen Keller, unquestionably the most famous person who was deaf-blind. Helen Keller's journey is an inspiring story which took her from silence and darkness to a life of vision and advocacy. Against overwhelming odds, she waged a seemingly impossible battle to re-enter the world she had lost, and through her actions and achievements, she is recognized as one of the most powerful symbols of triumph over adversity.

The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissions (NARUC) estimates that 70,000-100,000 people living in the United States are deaf-blind.

## July Commemorations

<b>Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Anniversary (7/26/90)</b>	
ADA Home Page: Information and Technical Assistance on the Americans with Disabilities Act <a href="http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/ada/adahom1.htm">http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/ada/adahom1.htm</a>	

## Resources for Persons with Disabilities for Roman Missal, Third Edition

<a href="#">MORE DETAILS</a>	
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## NCPD Resources

To see the resources available from NCPD click the following button.

<a href="#">CLICK HERE</a>
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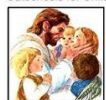
## National Catholic Network on Mental Illness - Sign Up Now

**MI Network News**  
The Monthly Newsletter of the National Catholic Network on Mental Illness

[Sign-up!](#)

# Calendar of Events

## Catechesis for Children with Special Needs



*Let the Children Come to Me—All of Them*

The Why and Ways for accommodating children with special needs in the PREP® (Parish Religious Education Program)

Every parish should gather its parishes with intellectual, emotional, and physical disabilities, support them with our resources, and ensure that they have ready access to a catechetical program suited to their needs and abilities. (NSCC #2-3)

This workshop is intended for: Priests, Deacons, Religious, Catechists, Parents, and all adults who are concerned with catechesis for children with special needs.

Wednesday, June 13, 2012

9:30am - 3:00pm

Church of Ascension,  
Bismark, ND

Sr. Kathleen Schipani, IHM  
Pastoral Care for Persons with Disabilities  
and the Deaf Apostolate,  
Archdiocese of Philadelphia

## Catechesis for Children with Special Needs Let the Children Come to Me—All of Them

Sr. Kathleen Schipani, IHM  
Pastoral Care for Persons with Disabilities  
And the Deaf Apostolate, Archdiocese of Philadelphia  
Wednesday June 13, 2012, 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Church of the Ascension, Bismark, ND

[Click here for flyer.](#)



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## NAMI FaithNet Networking Session and workshops

2012 NAMI National Convention  
Seattle Sheraton Hotel, June 27-30

[MORE DETAILS](#)

## 2012 Summer Institute on Theology and Disability

Sponsored by The Boggs Center and the Bethesda Institute  
Catholic Theological Union, Chicago, IL  
July 16-20, 2012

For more information  
and to register, go to:

[MORE DETAILS](#)



## July 19, 2012

Mental Illness Awareness Workshop  
Charleston, WV  
More info to follow

## August 22, 2012

Professional Day for Catechetical Leaders  
Diocese of Trenton  
Presented by Sr. Kathleen Schipani and Janice Benton

[Click here](#) for archived versions of NCPD E-News.

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