### **Bioethics Bulletin** May 21, 2024



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#### Let's Talk about ACPTM

Partnership Will Support Advance Care Planning for African American Communities

"From both education and experience, I know the devastating effects of inequitable care and service," said <u>Gloria Thomas Anderson, PhD, LMSW</u>. "After dealing with these issues with family members' care and facing my own near-death experience, I realized something needed to change." What needed to change, says Anderson, was healthcare education to address the needs of communities of color in culturally relevant ways. Anderson developed the Let's Talk about ACPTM program to help local leaders educate and empower their communities on issues of end-of-life care and advance care planning.

Let's Talk about ACPTM provides everything needed, including facilitator training for churches, community groups, and organizations to facilitate ACP workshops to help people of color talk about their healthcare wishes with loved ones and make more informed healthcare decisions.

With generous support from the John and Wauna Harman Foundation, beginning June 1, 2024, the Center will oversee program management and growth, with the long-term goal to build a sustainable national ACP education initiative for African American communities.

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#### **Read Our New Bioethics Case Studies**

Bioethics case studies are the Center's most sought-after resource. CPB case studies help students, clinicians and researchers apply what they learn to similar situations they encounter and to develop their ethical decision-making skills.

The Center regularly publishes new case studies. Two of the most recent involve one of the four principles of bioethics: Autonomy.

- Moral Culpability for Respecting Autonomy A 55-year old patient suffering from respiratory distress and end stage renal disease desperately wants to go home against medical advice. Read Now
- Autonomy in the Absence of Decisional Capacity A DPOA spouse, who exhibits mild dementia, consents to a tracheotomy and insertion of a PEG tube for his 66-year old wife, who was intubated upon admission after suffering a stroke and remains nonresponsive. The daughter vehemently disagrees with the spouse. Read Now

You can read these and more than 70 searchable case studies, in addition to

dozens of other resources, at **PracticalBioethics.org**.

#### **READ CASE STUDIES**



#### 24 Hours in the Life of a Bioethicist

What does the Center's mission – to raise and respond to ethical issues in health and healthcare – mean in real time?

During one 24-hour period, members of multiple Center constituent organizations engaged bioethicist <u>Terry Rosell</u> on five issues. Two of the issues concerned clinical cases. One inquiry came from a student interested in a research fellowship. Another involving a gathering of the Physician-Clergy Dialogue Group that Terry co-founded 21 years ago, and one was an invitation to meet the new Chief Medical Officer at a constituent hospital.

As Terry explains, "This is what we do. Again and again."

**READ MORE** 



# Francis Chair's Expertise in Democratic Deliberation Sought to Address Health Inequities and Health Equity

You may have heard the phrase "democratic deliberation" in connection with the Center for Practical Bioethics and wondered what it's all about.

The Center's John B. Francis Chair in Bioethics, <u>Erika Blacksher</u>, <u>PhD</u>, an internationally recognized expert in the field, is involved in a variety of health research and policy initiatives using democratic deliberation to convene diverse people to problem-solve together about tough value-laden questions for which there is no one right answer and about which people disagree.

Dr. Blacksher is Principal Investigator of the Center-based Health Commons Initiative, which has developed a beta version community deliberation toolkit designed to be tested in Missouri and Kansas.

In February 2024, Oxford University in the UK brought Dr. Blacksher and nine other experts together to set an agenda for deliberative research and practice in population health. Participants explored whether democratic deliberation – rooted as it is in western political philosophy and values – is appropriate for use in different traditions and how deliberation might require adaptation.

Dr. Blacksher is collaborating with Indigenous scholars and Tribal leaders to design and carry out a series of deliberations to gather perspectives from a range of Navajo stakeholders about whether genetic research on Navajo Nation is culturally acceptable and, if so, what policies and practices should guide it.

She is also an advisor to the Fairness Dialogues Field Laboratory (aka Fairlab), led by Dr. Yukiko Asada at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Department of Bioethics. Fairlab is developing an innovative approach to deliberation that explores lay people's ideas about social disadvantage and to inform policy-relevant questions about health equity.

To learn more about Dr. Blacksher's work, contact **eblacksher@PracticalBioethics.org**.



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