

MN Alliance for Ethical Healthcare

Ensuring real care throughout life's journey

The Alliance is a coalition of more than 75 organizations including health care providers, disability advocates, mental health experts, faith communities, and veterans' organizations committed to ensuring real healthcare throughout life's journey while not hastening death. We advocate for compassionate alternatives to the legalization of physician-assisted suicide in order to support people who are vulnerable and at-risk.

### Alliance 2023 Legislative Agenda

#### • Oppose Physician-Assisted Suicide

This bill would legalize assisted suicide for terminally ill adults. Assisted suicide is not compassionate end-of-of life care. It is patient abandonment because legalizing assisted suicide denigrates the standard of care that doctors are expected to provide. Forcing doctors to advise patients of the opportunity for assisted suicide as a treatment option undermines the trust between the doctor and patient, namely, that the physician is working to heal and never to harm. The bill also lacks safeguards for those who are vulnerable resulting in patient trauma based on the possibility of undue influence and coercion. Protecting the choices of a few by legalizing assisted suicide endangers the healthcare choices for all.

• Support Caregiver Stabilization Act HF32 (Noor)/SF7 (Hoffman)

In response to the crisis facing Minnesota's long-term and disability care industry, the Caregiver Stabilization Act increase wages, strengthens the industry, and seeks to substantially invest resources into raising reimbursement rates for caregiving. These new rates would affect state disability waivers, elderly waivers, home care services, nursing facilities, intermediate care facilities, and emergency and nonemergency medical transportation.

Support Palliative Care Advisory Council (PCAC) and Research Study on Patient Access

The Council is made up of a variety of healthcare and medical professionals who have palliative care work experience or expertise. We support lifting the sunset date of January 1, 2025 and fully funding PCAC at \$44,000 per year. We also support funding a denominator study to examine structural barriers that inhibit access to palliative care both in a curative and noncurative healthcare setting. Using available medical data, the study will review how other states offer a limited Medicaid benefit covering a set of discrete services, such as pain and symptom management and whether a lack of comprehensive care worsens healthcare outcomes and exacerbates disparities in communities of color.

• Support Caregiver Leave Provisions to Increase At-Home Healthcare Options

The Alliance is committed to supporting caregiver leave policies that allow families to care for the sick, the elderly, and the disabled, including within paid-family-leave proposals. These policies support family-centered care and promote financial security during critical life events. Similarly, a caregiver tax credit could be used to reduce both the public and private costs related to third-party care providers, as well as help offset costs for home modifications to make caregiving safer and easier.



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# **Alliance Partners**

- AALFA Family Clinic
- American Academy of Medical Ethics
- American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD)
- Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living (APRIL)
- Autistic Self Advocacy Network (ASAN)
- Benedictine Health System
- Betsy's Team
- Catholic Eldercare
- Catholic Faith Community Nurse Ministry Association
- Catholic Health Association of Minnesota
- Center for Bioethics and Culture
- Center for Disability Rights
- Christian Medical and Dental Association
- Curatio Apostolate of Catholic Healthcare Professionals
- Democrats for Life
- Diocese of Winona Guild of the Catholic Medical Association (Rochester)
- Disability Justice Network
- Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund
- Euthanasia Prevention Coalition
- Euthanasia Prevention Coalition USA
- Franciscan Brothers of Peace
- Gianna Homes
- Human Life Alliance
- International Association for Hospice and Palliative Care
- Islamic Center of Minnesota
- Jewish War Veterans
- Knights of Columbus Minnesota State Council
- Life Legal Minnesota
- Lutherans for Life
- Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, Minnesota North District
- Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, Minnesota South District
- Metropolitan Center for Independent Living

- Military Order of the Purple Heart Department of Minnesota
- Minnesota Catholic Conference
- Minnesota Family Council
- Minnesota Rural Health Association
- Muslim American Society
- National Catholic Partnership on Disability (NCPD)
- National Council on Independent Living
- North Star Law & Policy Center
- Not Dead Yet
- Order of Malta
- Our Family Encounter
- Our Lady of Peace Hospice & Home Care
- Paralyzed Veterans of America, Minnesota Chapter
- Patients Rights Action Fund
- Physicians for Compassionate Care Education Foundation (PCCEF)
- Prenatal Partners for Life
- Pro-life Healthcare Alliance
- Sacred Heart Guardians and Shelter
- Saint Paul and Minneapolis Guild of the Catholic Medical Association
- Scholl Institute of Bioethics
- St. Joseph Business Guild
- St. Raphael Guild of the Catholic Medical Association (Duluth)
- Students for Life
- The Arc Minnesota
- The Heart and Mind Connection
- The Lutheran Home Association
- The People's Patriot Project
- Transform Minnesota
- True North Legal
- Twincitiesgo
- University of Minnesota Students for Human Life
- University of St. Thomas Prolife Center
- University of St. Thomas Catholic Medical Association
- Wounded Warriors United Minnesota

# Learn more at EthicalCareMN.org

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