

[www.GospelofLifeInstitute.org](http://www.GospelofLifeInstitute.org)  
*Western Washington Pro-Life Update*

February 5, 2009

*“Euthanasia is a false solution to the drama of suffering, a solution that is not worthy of man. The real answer cannot be, in fact, to give death, as 'gentle' as this may be, but to testify to the love that helps us to face pain and agony in a humane way.”*

~ Pope Benedict XVI, Audience & Angelus, February 1, 2009 ~

## COMMENTARY AND NEWS

Most of you may already know that *now* is the Public Comment Period for the Assisted Suicide Initiative. **Your participation is critical.** Although Physician Assisted Suicide will be made legal in Washington, due to the unfortunate outcome this past election, **you** can help and you are **needed** to help reduce its use and threat by doing any and all of the following:

1. Attend the Public Hearing on **Tuesday, February 10 at 9:00 a.m.**, in Tumwater to give an oral testimony or support those giving testimonies at the Department of Health, Point Plaza East Rm. 152/153, 310 Israel Rd SE, Tumwater, WA 98501. Oral testimonies, should be 3 minutes or less. Suggestions are below. Whether you speak or not, please sign in as a concerned citizen. Numbers make a difference.
2. Comment on the Death with Dignity Act on-line at <http://www3.doh.wa.gov/policyreview/>. Suggestions are below.
3. Send your comments by mail or fax to: Carol Wozniak, P.O. Box 47814, Olympia, WA 98504-7814, 360-753-4135 (fax). Suggestions are below.
4. Pray for those who will be testifying at the hearing as well as those who will be involved in drafting and executing the Death with Dignity Act.

**Your participation will make a difference.** Most of you know that those of you who supported the fight to protect the right of conscience for pharmacists in Washington State, made a difference. The lawyers working on the Stormans, Inc. case noted that the outpouring of support by the thousands of petition letters and Public Hearing testimony and appearances on the pro-conscience side helped to prove that the pro-conscience position was not only supported by the public, but also the health care community. In other words, it is reasonable and should be given consideration. The testimony on the pharmacy issue also put evidence before the board so that they could not claim there was this glaring problem of access to Plan B, when there wasn't one or simply ignore the conscience issue, which is what they hoped to do.

**Testifying and commenting on-line and by mail is open to all regardless of age, occupation, or voting status. So please, get all your family and friends involved.**

When you testify and comment on-line and by mail, your focus should be on how the regulations should be drafted to ensure patient safety and protect health care providers. It's too late to just say that you are against PAS. Now, it's damage control. One could talk about all of the pitfalls in the law and why the State should be closing loopholes and protecting citizens.

**The following are some suggested points to raise in your comments:**

- The proposed rules should provide a mechanism for reporting potential abuse of adults. The public needs to be protected and the rules should assure transparency and accountability.
- Concerning WAC 246-978-010, Definitions, the term "self-administer" is defined as the "act of ingesting." The current definition should be stated more precisely to diminish the potential for abuse. Language should be added to clarify that the "act of ingesting" means the patient's own autonomous act of placing the lethal medication in the patient's mouth.
- Section WAC 246-978-020, Reporting, does not include anything that assures compliance with the need to report. The state should impose a fine on any attending physician who fails to file the necessary forms to the state (especially forms DOH 422-064 and DOH 422-068). A similar fine should be also imposed on any pharmacist who fails to submit form DOH 422-067 to the state.
- The section on Reporting (WAC 246-978-020) does not include anything concerning abuse. Before these rules are adopted, they should include an effective mechanism for reporting abuse, including information on to whom the report should be filed and how family members and the public can be assured that the abuse reports have been properly handled.
- Regarding WAC 246-978-040, Qualifications of witness in a long-term care facility, in addition to the three existing conditions, there should be two other requirements: (1) the witness should not receive any kind of compensation for serving as a witness; and (2) should know the patient well enough to judge whether the patient is capable of signing the request for lethal medication.



**FOCA Postcard Campaign**

The USCCB postcard campaign against the Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA) began the weekend of January 24-25, 2009. If passed, FOCA would nullify all federal and state laws restricting abortion in this country. The Archdiocese of Seattle is providing postcards and flyers to pastors for parish distribution. For more information, please visit [www.nchla.org/datasource/Idocuments/Instructions.pdf](http://www.nchla.org/datasource/Idocuments/Instructions.pdf) and [www.usccb.org/prolife/issues/FOCA/postcard.shtml](http://www.usccb.org/prolife/issues/FOCA/postcard.shtml).

In addition to writing, please call your Senators and Representative and tell them to vote "No" on FOCA. Let them and the Legislative Director know that you will not politically forgive a vote for FOCA.

Senator Patty Murray: (202) 224-2621 or (206) 553-5545

Senator Maria Cantwell: (202) 224-3441 or (206) 220-6400

Contact information for your Representative can be found at

[www.congress.org/congressorg/directory/congdir.tt](http://www.congress.org/congressorg/directory/congdir.tt)

Legislative Director: (202) 224-3121 (ask to speak with the Legislative Director for your Senators and Representative)

## EVENTS

### Embracing Life Fundraising Banquet

Embracing Life Pregnancy Center cordially invites you to their 3rd annual fundraising banquet on Friday, **February 20**, from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. Please see the [flyer](#) for additional information.

### 40 Days for Life

The Spring 2009 [40 Days for Life](#) campaign is scheduled to take place between Ash Wednesday, **February 25**, and April 5. Please mark your calendars and plan on participating at one of the following locations:

[Bremerton](#)

[Centralia](#)

[Everett](#)

[Olympia](#)

[Renton](#)

[Tacoma](#)

[Tri-Cities](#)

### It's About Life Conference

Fr. Frank Pavone, National Director of Priests for Life, is coming to Olympia and Seattle April 18-19, 2009.

Fr. Frank Pavone will be at the Planned Parenthood Abortion Mill in Olympia on Saturday, April 18, 2009, at 3 p.m. He will then preach at the 5 p.m. Mass at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Olympia. Mass will be followed by dinner and an evening conference. Tickets are available from the Knights of Columbus.

On Divine Mercy Sunday, April 19, Fr. Frank Pavone will preach at the 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m. Masses at Holy Family Church in Seattle. That afternoon Fr. Frank will lead the Hour of Mercy Prayers, beginning at 3 p.m., in front of the Madison Street Planned Parenthood (2001 E Madison Street). At 5:30 p.m. Fr. Frank will speak at a Social/Dinner/Conference at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Seattle.

**Dinner tickets for both nights are \$25 per person.** Tickets are limited and will go quickly.

Please see the [flyer](#) for more information. Contact Tom Hruska (360-561-5548) or Matt Ulrich (206-546-3923) for tickets.

### Bremerton Prayer Vigil

Please join us in praying outside the Bremerton Planned Parenthood abortuary, 623 Riddell Rd. in East Bremerton, on **Wednesdays from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.** We pray the Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet.

### **Helpers of God's Precious Infants**

For more information regarding upcoming Prayer Vigils, please visit [Helper's of God's Precious Infants](#).

### **Holy Family, Seattle Activities**

We have a weekly Friday morning prayer vigil in front of the West Seattle Planned Parenthood at 9641 28th Ave SW. We leave from Holy Family Parish (9622 - 20th Ave SW) at 7:15 a.m. As the weather gets colder, we especially welcome those who can join us, either walking from the parish at 7:15 a.m. or in front of the clinic from 7:30 to 8:10 a.m. We walk back to the parish in time for the 8:30 a.m. Friday morning Mass. All are welcome to participate.

### **Olympia Activities**

Mondays, 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Sidewalk counseling and prayer at Olympia's Planned Parenthood (Meet at Planned Parenthood). Fr. Lee Perry from St. George Byzantine Church leads prayers. All faiths are welcomed and respected.

Fridays, 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Some Catholics meet on Fridays at St. Michael Parish for 9:00 a.m. Mass, and pray the Rosary for Life at 9:45. They then join the sidewalk counselors who have been at Planned Parenthood beginning at 8:00 a.m. The counselors are able to offer immediate help (Shelter Home for Pregnant Teens) to those arriving for abortions. At 12:30 we break for lunch. The day's activities **usually** end around lunchtime with ecumenical prayer. For more information, please contact Ed Sauley at 360-480-9329 or [www.SHOWTHETRUTH.org](http://www.SHOWTHETRUTH.org)

### **Show the Truth Cross State Tour**

We have numerous one day tours which we schedule so as to assist the local pro-lifers with their outreach.

Please call Ed Sauley at 360-480-9329 for directions and information, or check the [SHOW THE TRUTH](#) web page.

### **Tacoma Stands Up For Life**

Sidewalk counseling and Rosary Brigade.

Date: Every Wednesday morning

**Location 1:** Cedar River Abortion Mill, 14th and Martin Luther King Way in Tacoma Hill Top area

Sidewalk Counseling: 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

Rosary: 10:30 - 11:00 a.m.

**Location 2:** Planned Parenthood Abortion Mill, 813 M L K Way

Rosary: 11:15 -12:00 noon

Everyone with a heart for life and the "little ones" are invited to join us as we pray and tell the truth.

For information contact: Bud Niebergall at 564-5241 or Stan Schack at 564-7822.

**Please visit <http://gospeloflifeinstitute.org/vigils.htm> for additional prayer vigil dates, times, and locations.**

## **SUPPORT**

**Rachel's Vineyard**

If you wish to attend a [Rachel's Vineyard](#) retreat at one of the locations below, please call or e-mail the contact person listed or call toll-free 877 HOPE 4 ME.

## Washington

- **Auburn**  
Contact: Noemi 206-450-7814  
Next Retreat: TBA  
Note: Espanol
- **Ellensburg**  
Sponsor: Diocese of Yakima  
Contact: [Nancy Murray](#) 509 554 9415  
Next retreat: TBA
- **Longbranch**  
Contact: [Valerie Jacobs](#) 800 822 HOPE  
Next retreat: **February 20 - 22, 2009**
- **Stanwood**  
Contact: [Valerie Jacobs](#) 800 822 HOPE  
Next retreat: May 15 - 17, 2009
- **Vancouver**  
Contact: [Valerie Jacobs](#) 800 822 HOPE  
Next retreat: TBA  
Note: Espanol

## Oregon

- **Eugene**  
Contact: [Lori Eckstine](#) 800 249 8074 or 541 521 5186  
Next retreat: TBA
- **Medford**  
Contact: [Lori Eckstine](#) 800 249 8074 or 541 521 5186  
Next retreat: **March 6 - 8, 2009**
- **Portland**  
Contact: [Lori Eckstine](#) 800 249 8074 or 541 521 5186  
Next retreat: April 24 - 26, 2009