

Christian Action Ministry Newsletter

Involving the Christian in Community Action

January—February, 2014 ☆ Vol. 24, Number 01

Inside

Legislative Malpractice

By
Dr. Edward J. Mahoney

Confused about Healthcare? You are not Alone!

*Is there a better way to look
at healthcare?*

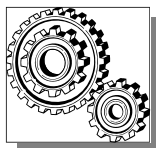
Page 2

Christian Healthcare Ministries

*An alternative to traditional
health insurance*

Page 3

If you would like to be
added to our mailing
list, please call
655-0280, email, or
contact our website
(see back page)



In the Works

*Presentation on the Con-
stitution of the United
States—Sept. 13, 2014*

Are you interested in becoming
involved? CAM is looking for
interested and active people to
act as liaisons to their church,
helping to keep the Christian
community informed. Contact
CAM at 372-6442.

Vermont legislators should be mortified that they have enacted a law to allow and promote “aid-in-dying” with virtually no protections for vulnerable patients. One might contend that they have committed legislative malpractice by cutting-and-pasting together a law that (a) has great potential to be injurious on one group of people and (b) violates the rights and conscience of another group—clear violations of their legislative oath.

S-77 (now Act 39), “An Act Relating to Patient Choices and Control at the End of Life”, raises serious problems for hospitals and other health care facilities as well as physicians and health care professionals. A close reading of the statute reveals that Act 39:

- Requires that the patient requesting hastened death be “capable” at

the time of the request; however, it allows someone other than the patient to interpret a patient’s request if the patient is unable to be understood by the physician.

- Does not require that the patient be “capable”



at the time of the lethal injection.

- Requires that the patient request a lethal drug for self-administration; however, it does not require that the patient actually self-administer the drug.

- Requires that physicians inform all terminally ill patients about all available treatment options (including a drug to hasten death) even if the patient does not ask about it.

- States that physicians are legally obligated to answer any specific questions about treatment options without withholding any requested information. There is no exemption for a physician who believes the request is premature, clinically inappropriate, or unethical.

- The prescribing physician may not contact the patient’s primary physician unless the patient consents, possibly obscuring pertinent history such as prior incapacity, depression, suicidal statements or attempts.

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”

The Declaration of Independence

- Provides legal immunity for physicians, but not for nurses, pharmacists or other involved professionals.
- Does not establish any oversight at all. The physician is only required to report to the Department of Health that he or she has written a lethal prescription (no patient name required) and has followed the procedure set forth in Act 39. The pharmacist is not required to report filling the prescription. There is no prescription tracking. No data is collected. No annual reports. The state and the public will have no idea how often this practice is occurring.
- The Department of Health is required to adopt rules about the safe disposal of unused lethal prescriptions, but there is no way for them (or anyone) to know who has these lethal doses in their possession.
- In addition — unbelievably — the legislature has declared an automatic repeal of all procedural steps as of July 1, 2016. After that date, hastening a patient's death will be as simple as treating bronchitis.

Act 39 should be a national embarrassment to Compassion and Choices, the out-of-state organization that lobbied so hard to convince our legislature that legalization of “aid-in-dying” would be good for Vermonters.

One has to wonder how carefully Governor Shumlin read this bill with such glaring errors and omissions before he signed it.

Act 39 is so egregious we cannot delay until the 2014 legislature to try to “fix” it. The legislature should be called into special session to re-address this dereliction of their sworn duty.

Edward J. Mahoney is President of the Vermont Alliance for Ethical Healthcare. Phone: 802-734-7683

Confused by Healthcare? You are not alone!

*by
Dick Trudell*

Given the disastrous rollout of the Obamacare website and the sticker shock of the premium/deductible costs people are facing, this writer wonders why people don't take more control over their own healthcare costs. When the government mandates what coverage you must have, you have lost control over the costs and are entering the realm of socialized medicine, and given up your freedom to the nanny state. One option is the Christian concept of sharing expenses among other believers. This is not an option for everyone, but should be considered by those who maintain their health, don't have pre-existing conditions, and are willing to take care of themselves. They pool their resources and pay for expenses from the pooled resources. It is not health insurance, and you become an active participant in healthcare choices and expenses. If you want the government to “take care of you”, this option is not appropriate for you. It probably is not appropriate for those on Medicare since they have already paid for their coverage over their working years. The following article describes Christian Healthcare Ministries. A maximum monthly cost for a family is currently \$450, and they have a A+BBB rating from the Better Business Bureau. Additional information can be found on their website www.chministries.org. You can download a current newsletter from them. The Christian Action Ministry is not endorsing or discouraging your participation, but feels that people taking responsibility for their own healthcare is better policy than the government doing it, (and Constitutional to boot) and your looking into this option is one way you can do that.

Dick Trudell is President of the Christian Action Ministry and attends Community Bible Church in South Burlington



"The principle of spending money to be paid by posterity, under the name of funding, is but swindling futurity on a large scale."

Thomas Jefferson, letter to John Taylor, 1816

Christian Healthcare Ministries: A Not So Novel Approach to HealthCare

by
Dan Treat

I want to make my Fellow Believers aware of a health care option that will put them in compliance with the Affordable Care Act and at the same time, allow them to be a blessing to brethren in other states.

Christian Healthcare Ministries (CHM) was founded on the principle put forth in Galatians 6:2; "Bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ." In the book of Acts it says "There were no needy persons among them. For as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold and laid it as the apostle's feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need." (Acts 4:34-35). What follow is a general overview of how membership works. For more specific information or to request a

copy of ministry guidelines, go to www.chministries.org or call 1-800-791-6225.

At CHM, members share each other's health care costs. There are three sharing levels, if you will: Gold, Silver and Bronze. At the Gold level, a member pays a monthly sharing amount of \$150. In the event of a medical incident, a Gold member is responsible for the first \$500 of medical expenses. A Silver member has a monthly sharing amount of \$85 and is responsible for the first \$1000 of a bill. A Bronze member pays \$45/ month and is responsible for the first \$5000.

An important part of the process involves seeking reductions from health care providers. Insurance companies are often able to get significant write

offs from medical bills. CHM encourages its members to ask for reductions and will help them negotiate with doctors, hospitals and other Health Care Providers.

Bill sharing at the Silver and Bronze levels is somewhat more limited than Gold. At these levels, only inpatient and outpatient hospital incidents are eligible for sharing. At the Gold level, incident related prescriptions and office visits are also eligible for sharing. The Gold level is also highly recommended for pregnancy related costs.

CHM puts out a monthly newsletter which includes, among other things, the Prayer Page. The Prayer Page lists the names of members who have experienced injuries or illness prior to having joined CHM. Members

are asked to contribute above and beyond their usual sharing amounts to help those with pre-existing conditions, though they are not required to do so.

Space does not allow me to describe all the additional features of membership. More information can be obtained by going to www.chministries.org and requesting a copy of ministry guidelines. I will say that if you join, you can get one month's membership for free for every referral you make.

*Dan Treat is xxx
and attends xxx*



"For decades, we have piled deficit upon deficit, mortgaging our future and our children's future for the temporary convenience of the present. To continue this long trend is to guarantee tremendous social, cultural, political, and economic upheavals. You and I, as individuals, can, by borrowing, live beyond our means, but for only a limited period of time. Why, then, should we think that collectively, as a nation, we are not bound by that same limitation?"

President Ronald Reagan



What can I do?



Faith without works is dead
James 2:17

e-mail : camnet@surfglobal.net

www.christianactionministry.com

A NUCLEAR IRAN AND THE NEW MIDDLE EAST

Dr. Mordechai Kedar

**Monday, January 13, 2014
7:00 P.M.**

Silver Maple Ballroom, UVM Davis Center



Sponsored by *We Stand With Israel*
in association with *Vermont Students for Israel*, and *Chabad at UVM*

The Middle East is undergoing a profound and historic transformation. Many are trying to understand the developments in Iran and in the Arab and Muslim world. Additionally, Iran and its nuclear program is a concern to many states in the Middle East and beyond. What motivates the Ayatollahs? How can the world deal with such a regime? What can be done to remove the threat? Dr. Mordechai Kedar, Director of the Center for the Study of the Middle East and Islam (under formation), research associate of the Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies and lecturer in the Department of Arabic at Bar-Ilan University in Israel, is one of Israel's leading figures in understanding the Arab world. He is the Middle East analyst of the daily newspaper "Makor Rishon" as well as other publications. Dr. Kedar is a frequent guest in the Israeli, Arab and international media. In January of 2011, Dr. Kedar gave a very insightful presentation on Capitol Hill on "Why is the Middle East Such a Difficult Area for Americans and Westerners to Understand?"

The **Christian Action Ministry Network, Inc.** is an educational nonprofit public charity supported entirely by volunteers and contributions from the public. Personal, church and business donations are encouraged and are tax-deductible under the IRS Code 501(C)3. The information provided herein does not necessarily reflect the views of any particular church or individual associated with the Christian Action Ministry Network.

- ✉ CAM Network, Inc.
PO Box 1067
Williston, VT 05495
- ☎ (802) 372-6442



Next Meetings

January 7, 7:00 pm
No. Ave. Alliance Church
Burlington, Vt.
February 18, 7:00 pm
Parkinson home
Williston, VT

**Making A Difference
in
Vermont!**