

UNPRECEDENTED PROGRESS: UNPRECEDENTED THREATS

2016 – 2017 Annual Report

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1

It was another landmark year for Compassion & Choices and our mission to improve care and expand options for people at life's end. With this report comes our respect and gratitude to steadfast and generous supporters like you.

We passed medical aid-in-dying laws in Colorado and Washington, D.C.; expanded the ranks of providers and medical associations supporting our goals; persuaded major healthcare systems to make medical aid in dying accessible; and launched our groundbreaking Truth in Treatment[™] patient-empowerment initiative.

These successes produced more than just greater visibility and acceptance for patient choices. They heightened awareness of the profound risks of passive acceptance: deferring without question to doctors' recommendations, whether or not a treatment reflects our values, priorities or even true informed consent.

Compassion & Choices' gains put medical aid in dying in a far stronger position than a generation ago. Yet in dozens of states where the full range of end-of-life options have yet to be authorized, millions of people still face systemic hurdles to their own empowerment: a yawning information and power gap between doctors and patients, physicians who reflexively apply what they judge best for every individual, patients denied the information and autonomy to choose a treatment path preserving their most cherished wishes.

We're confident these hurdles will fall, but not without continued vigorous effort. We face zealous opposition, of course. And a dramatically altered political environment has unleashed serious threats to our gains. But the sleeping giant of self-determination has awakened for good. The same community of supporters, volunteers, constituents and donors who made our 2017 successes possible will sustain an unstoppable momentum. I'm sure of it.

With great thanks and resolve,

Sartana Coals L

Barbara Coombs Lee PA, FNP, JD, President

EXPANDING OPTIONS

People should have access to a full range of healthcare options for life's end, including peacefully ending unbearable suffering. We are committed to achieving this through advocacy, education and empowerment to ensure that every American can die in accordance with their own values and priorities.

> As our California victory resonated nationwide, Compassion & Choices selected Colorado as the next state poised for success. Years of coalition building, legislative advocacy, public education and other efforts, we believed, heralded a winning grassroots-led campaign.

We chose well: In November, Coloradans approved medical aid in dying by a 65–35 margin, giving it more votes than any other measure or candidate on the ballot. Weeks later, our next victory came in Congress' backyard. By 11–2, the District of Columbia Council approved a medical aidin-dying law widely supported by residents.

Our field teams, activists and volunteers advanced medical aid-in-dying legislation in over two dozen other states. C&C's New York campaign doubled the number of Assembly sponsors for the Medical Aid in Dying Act and won the New York State Academy of Family Physicians' endorsement. Elsewhere, we persuaded seven other influential medical

associations to shift their positions to neutral — a powerful strategy to better align doctors and patients.

In the courts, Compassion & Choices worked with pro bono counsel and patient advocates to file lawsuits in Hawaii and Massachusetts, gaining widespread media coverage in the process. We thank plaintiffs John Radcliffe and Dr. Roger Kligler, both confronting terminal illness, for their heroic support.

Our media campaign featuring actor Mauricio Ochmann and journalist Jorge Ramos dramatically reduced the use of inaccurate and offensive language like "assisted suicide" in Spanish-language media — one of multiple outreach efforts to positively influence debate and discussion of our goals.



I became a petitioner for the Colorado End-of-Life Options Act because I watched my dad suffer in his dving and suffer a horrific death. My dad had wanted medical aid in dying, and I promised him that I would see his wish through so that others who want the option – and who qualify

- should have it in Colorado. As a result of the leadership, foresight and resources of Compassion & Choices and the Compassion & Choices Action Network, and the fantastic efforts of a grassroots corps of volunteers, Colorado residents now have access to this peaceful option at the end of life."

compassion

Yes

- Julie Selsberg, petitioner, Yes on Colorado End-of-Life Options

VICTORY!

Colorado just voted to authorize medical aid in dying!





Top left: 150,000+ petitions signed by Colorado voters; Mauricio Ochmann's public service announcement. Center right: Dr. Roger Kliger, physician plaintiff Bottom right: Compassion & Choices advocates at Hawaii hearing. Bottom left: Dr. Omega Silva, a D.C. physician, addresses a news conference.

PROTECTING PROGRESS

A dramatically shifted political environment in 2017 has put decades of hard-won progress toward patient autonomy at life's end in jeopardy. Through advocacy in the courts and legislatures, we will protect our gains and the growing local and national momentum they've ignited.

> In February, the U.S. Supreme Court nomination of Neil Gorsuch, a vehement opponent of medical aid in dying, was a critical opportunity to tell Congress that his views are dramatically out of step with their constituents. Thousands contacted their representatives and helped us spotlight the judge's threat to a generation of medical aid-in-dying cases.

tions Committee. We feared for D.C. residents and the entire country, as the brazen overreach threatened a nationwide ban. So we mobilized thousands to call on representatives to reject the amendment. We expect this to be a recurring threat in the annual federal appropriations processes going forward.

passed by the House Appropria-

This helped position us for our first successful federal win in a decade! In Congress, we staved off a Resolution of Disapproval to nullify the new D.C. law, then took aim at a matching amendment

Compassion & Choices defeated opponents who sought to undermine medical aid-in-dying laws in Montana, Colorado, Vermont and California. 66 Compassion & Choices could not have been a better partner in our ongoing efforts to prevent Congress from repealing the D.C. Death with Dignity Act. The congressional, legal and local legislative experience of its talented staff has helped us mount a successful campaign to defend the medical aid-in-dying law passed by the District of Columbia Council."

- Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton (D.C.)

MONTANA: We stopped two bills, including one calling for doctors writing medical aid-in-dying prescriptions to be executed.

• COLORADO: We narrowly won an amendment to restore funding for the new law after a legislator sought to cripple state monitoring requirements.

VERMONT: We helped dismiss a lawsuit that would allow doctors to not disclose all end-of-life options to patients on purported religious liberty grounds.

CALIFORNIA: We opposed a suit challenging the End of Life Option Act's legality. The judge denied opponents' request to suspend the law but ruled the suit could proceed. The case remains a serious threat.

IMPLEMENTING MEDICAL **AID-IN-DYING LAWS**

Laws bring little, if any, benefit when people can't access them. Yet our entrenched health system often fails to respect or recognize hard-won legal options for terminally ill patients. Without a concerted effort to dismantle the paternalistic, outmoded status guo, polling shows millions of people will be subjected to unwanted treatment that directly contravenes their values and priorities.

> Compassion & Choices supported successful implementation of medical aid-in-dying laws through Access Campaigns nationwide, helping secure the laws' long-term viability and resident confidence that the option will be available when and if needed.

A year into our California Access Campaign, nearly 500 healthcare facilities and over 100 hospice locations have adopted policies supporting patients who choose medical aid in dying. Further, 80 percent of private insurers cover the cost of medication. Among them: Huntington Hospital, which originally forbade its 800 affiliated physicians from participating in the law. A powerful community campaign pressured Huntington to drop its opposition and take out a full-page ad in the Los Angeles Times to announce the reversal.

Our Access Campaign in Colorado provided education and model policies to every healthcare

system and hospice in the state, and participated in webinar and conference events. All of the large secular systems and two major hospice networks adopted policies to support patient access.

In Oregon, our Access Campaign secured a 70 percent increase in physician participation in medical aid in dying. And outreach from a patient and our staff led the Portland Clinic to drop its 18-year prohibition.

C&C advocates in Vermont helped persuade the Dartmouth-Hitchcock health system to allow policyholders to access medical aid in dying. Our Access Campaign's first year catalyzed a 400 percent increase in medical aid-in-dying prescriptions, signaling public faith in the law and its long-term success.

Below: Huntington Hospital's full-page advertisement in the Los Angeles Times reversing its opposition to the End of Life Option Act. Huntington will participate in the law and allow its physicians to decide for themselves.

> An open letter to our community regarding the End of Life Option Act. To our valued patients, friends, colleagues, partners, and con

This morning — like every morning since the dawn of medicine — nurses, doctors, and those supporting them will pass an invisible baton at shift change to their colleagues who will continue delivering care to patients in need. As one aspect of this care, medical professionals will comfort and counsel patients confronting difficult prognoses, challenging treatments and questions about their futures. At Humington Hoopital, we hink about these conversations every day, even more so in light of the passage of California Senate Bill 128, the End of IIE Option Act

conversions every day, even more so in inguto the passage of camorina semiar bail 126, the End of Life Option Act. Regardless of culture, faith or politics, we can all agree that death is a sensitive and complex topic with no easy answers. We have all hold the hand of a friend or family memb nearing the end of their life and learned that no training or experience can lessen the sorror of losing a loved one. As medical professionals, we have seen significant progress in how we can make patients in their final days most comfortable. At Huntington Hospital we have been a pioneer in investing significantly in palliative, spiritual and other whole-person care to ensure that dignity and comfort are central to our culture. When terminally ill patients die to ensure that dignity and confect are central to our culture. When terminally ill patients die ator hospital, we do everything in our power to ensure the prasent pictures compassion and dignity. That will not change with this law. What is different under this law is the option for patients to be able to end their lives with the assistance of a physician. Earlier this year, our hospital began ongoing, thoughful deliberations about whether and how to participate in this new law. In June, as the law cume into effect, we amount that we would participate in the ast while we complete our deliberations. Now, after careful evaluation of the law, its consequences, what is right for our community and — most important — what is consistent with our vision to sever our community with linkens and dignity, our board of directors determined that **Huntington Hospital will continue to participate in Bead Of Life Optime At.** As has always been the case, physicians will individually decide whether they will participate rom. As members of our community, its link important thay to know that we head and and

As members of our community, it is important that you know that we heard and understood your feelings on the matter. In conversations with our physicians, palliative can experts, nurses, bioethicists, patients and community, the most critical factor in the end-of

life discussion is individual choice. Itel discussions in individual choice. We fully respect those who disagaree with the law and we expect it will be quite rare that partents choose to end their lives in our hospital. In Oregon, for example, which has had a similar statute in place ince 1998, placents have overwherhing disedied to exercise this option outside of a loopital setting. According to the most recent Oregon data, 900 of the 939 andents who terminated their lives choice to do so in their homes or non-hospital locations. To better understand how the End of Life Option Act applies to you personally, or to to better understand now the End of Life Option Ret applies to you personany, or to someone you love, we encourage you to have a conversation with your physician. We are grateful for the opportunity to share our perspective, our process and, ultimately, our decision. We look forward to continuing this dialogue with our community.



Compassion & Choices' Doc2Doc consultation program has educated the California healthcare community about how to help interested patients access the state's End of Life Option Act. Equally important, the law has spurred conversations with terminally ill adults about all their end-of-life care options. including hospice and palliative care, to minimize suffering and maximize quality of life."

- Dr. Lucille Ridgill, Medical Director of the Coastal Cities office for VITAS Healthcare, the nation's leading provider of end-of-life care





Healthcare Facilities Support Patient Choice

CO ACCESS



All Large Secular Systems and **Two Major Hospice Networks Adopted Policies to Support** Patient Access

OR ACCESS



Aid in Dying

VT ACCESS



EMPOWERING PEOPLE

Compassion & Choices is committed to empowering people to get care that is consistent with their values and priorities throughout the final chapter of their life, including their death. We offer tools to help people take charge of their healthcare, navigate a challenging health system and ultimately achieve a peaceful death.

TRUTH in[™] treatment





and

With visionary support from donors, Compassion & Choices launched our *Truth in Treatment*[™] initiative to ignite a movement that empowers people to raise their voice in a health system that rarely offers them real options. We released two online tools — the *Trust Card*[™] and *Diagnosis Decoder*[™] — to help people change how and when they question doctors about treatment options and outcomes, increasing the likelihood they will choose an end-of-life path in line with their values.

To further boost patient empowerment, we launched an online *Find Care* tool in California, Colorado and Oregon. The unique service helps residents in these authorized states choose healthcare facilities and providers that will support their end-of-life preferences, including medical aid in dying.

To improve end-of-life care on a person-to-person basis, we continued to provide confidential support, free of charge, through our End-of-Life Consultation program. This allows patients, their loved ones and caregivers to speak to trained experts about navigating the health system.

We also launched a completely updated *End-of-Life Information Center* at CompassionAndChoices. org/information. This authoritative and comprehensive resource addresses all end-of-life needs, from state-specific advance directive forms to a full range of downloadable planning documents and worksheets.

We merged with DeathWise, a 6-year-old group established to help people conduct end-of-life planning in innovative, interactive ways. The merger enables us to provide people with the latest information, guidance, tools and other resources to live their last chapter in comfort, dignity and control.



FACT Most people would choose improved quality of life over interventions that could prolong life but reduce their quality of life.

vet



FACT Patients consistently overestimate benefits and underestimate harms of medical tests and procedures.



FACT

1 in 3 people near the end of life receive non-beneficial treatments (treatment given with little or no hope of any effect).



Truth in Treatment[™] A Social Movement for Patient Empowerment



Top left: A screenshot of the Truth in Treatment™ website. Bottom left: The Truth in Treatment informational brochure.

66 Nearly every physician that I have met since I was diagnosed with breast cancer assumed my highest priority was quantity of life. As a result, I have undergone a number of burdensome procedures and painful treatments which I believe I would have refused if I knew then what I know now because my highest priority is quality of life. But since I started using the Truth in Treatment Trust Card and Diagnosis Decoder, these tools have helped me establish a foundation of strong communication with my doctors so I can ask good questions about the benefits and burdens of my treatment options and make fully informed healthcare decisions."

- Debbie Stuckey, psychologist with stage 3 breast cancer, Washington, D.C.

Combined Statement of Financial Position*

Assets

Current Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents: Operating Investments Pledges receivable-current portion Investments Prepaid expenses Beneficial interest in charitable remainder trusts Other current assets	847,722 1,914,276 3,109,000 10,262,276 184,908 157,385 215
Total current assets	16,475,782
Property, Equipment and Improvements, at Cost	
Furniture, fixtures and equipment Leasehold improvements	435,886 62,446
	498,332
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	406,407
Total property, equipment and improvements	91,925
Other Assets	
Pledges receivable net of current portion Intangible assets Deposits	591,000 13,430 30,875
Total other assets	635,305

TOTAL ASSETS

Liabilities and Net Assets

Current Liabilities

Accounts payable	197,444
Accrued payroll and vacation	465,207
Total current liabilities	662,651
Long-Term Liabilities	
Gift annuity payments due	478,662
Total long-term liabilities	478,662
Total liabilities	1,141,313

Net Assets

Unrestricted:	
Operating	14,714,575
Net investments in property, equipment and improvements	91,925
Temporarily restricted	1,255,199
Total net assets	16,061,699
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	17,203,012

Combined Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets*

For the Year Ended June 30, 2017

Revenue and Other Support

Conferences and events	
Contributions	13,156,766
Membership fees	119,888
Foundation revenue	125,000
Investment income, net of expenses	98,336
Realized and unrealized gain on investments	510,759
Loss on sale of asset	(3,810)
Other income	632,336
Total revenue and other support	14,639,275
Expenses	
Programs	15,344,656
General and administrative	1,957,383
Fundraising	1,298,198
Total expenses	18,600,237
Decrease in net assets	(3,960,962)
Net Assets, Beginning	
Total net assets, beginning,	20,022,661
NET ASSETS, ENDING	16,061,699

Costs*

17,203,012

For the Year Ended June 30, 2017



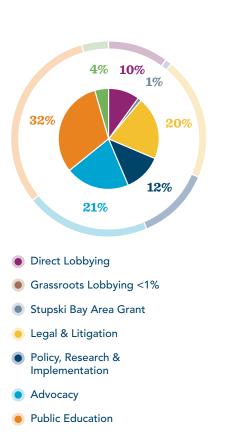
* Compassion & Choices and Compassion & Choices Action Network

Financials

Revised Program Expenses and Ratios*

For the Year Ended June 30, 2017

For a detailed look at how Compassion & Choices' expenses are distributed by program area, please see the pie chart and table. Helping donors stay informed is our best practice.



• End-of-Life Consultation

	Compassion & Choices	Compassion & Choices Action Network	TOTAL
Direct Lobbying	613,770	996,467	1,610,237
Grassroots Lobbying	56,033	_	56,033
Stupski Bay Area Grant	87,818	_	87,818
Legal & Litigation	3,238,086	_	3,238,086
Policy, Research & Implemen- tation	1,897,144	8,787	1,905,931
Advocacy	3,215,957	52,977	3,268,933
Public Education	4,630,996	356,921	4,987,917
End-of-Life Consultation	662,254	_	662,254
TOTAL	14,402,058	1,415,152	15,817,210

* Compassion & Choices and Compassion & Choices Action Network

Thank You to Our Extraordinary Donors

Compassion & Choices and the Compassion & Choices Action Network deeply appreciate the generosity of our donors — more than 50,000 individuals, families and foundations. Our incredible successes over the past year are a direct result of your philanthropic support. Gifts from \$1 to more than \$1,000,000 propel us further and ensure the future of our movement. Many give to us annually; others join our Legacy Circle and include Compassion & Choices in their estate plans. While space limitations allow us to list only donors of \$1,000 or more, we value every contribution we receive. Thank you for your commitment, which provides the cornerstone from which we will continue to grow.

Circle of Choice (\$50,000+)

Anonymous Mr. and Mrs. William Biggs Ms. Emily C. Bond* The Driftwood Fund Earth and Humanity Foundation Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund Hawai'i Community Foundation Ms. Inge Humbert* Katie McGrath & J. J. Abrams Family Foundation Marilyn and Jeffrey Katzenberg The Marilyn & Jeffrey Katzenberg Foundation The Leon Fund of The Community Foundation Serving Richmond and Central Virginia Lynn and Jack Loacker Ms. Alice S. Maram* Mr. Raymond Netherwood In memory of Leonard Nimoy Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Nussbaum Mr. Charles A. Ranney* Raymond James Charitable Éndowment Fund Schwab Charitable Fund Mr. Richard Strachan Ms. Joyce L. Stupski Stupski Family Fund of the Hawai'i Community Foundation Thoracic Foundation Vanguard Charitable Endowment Ms. Jeanne Wilson*

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Circle of Love (\$2,500+)

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Thank You to Our Incredible Pro Bono Legal Teams

Compassion & Choices thanks the law firms and attorneys that gave so generously of their time and expertise this past year. Collectively they contributed thousands of hours of service totaling 2.2 million of dollars in pro bono legal fees. They were instrumental in our efforts to protect and expand the movement. In particular, we would like to recognize the following:

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Profile of a Supporter

ary Klein loves life, spending time with her partner of 37 years, Stella Dawson, and their two German Shepherds. She stays active, visiting family and friends, and enjoying the rich culture of Washington, D.C.

In 2014 Mary was diagnosed with latestage ovarian cancer, which put her on the path to becoming a staunch advocate for medical aid in dying in the District.

Stella told Yahoo! News that she "was not surprised at all" when Mary decided to help pass the law: "Mary was always a very strong, very courageous, very independent person. I knew that she would want things on her own terms." Mary appeared in dozens of news pieces this year advocating to authorize, and then protect, D.C.'s Death with Dignity Act.

First she met with D.C. Council members and their staff, saying, "Everyone should have the right to decide how they want to die. Whatever the person's choice is, I respect that, and I only ask that they respect mine." The D.C. Council listened to her and many other advocates, then passed the Death with Dignity Act 11–2.

Mary's contribution to Compassion & Choices has been enormous. She spoke at hearings and press conferences, attended meetings, and she and Stella have supported Compassion & Choices financially. When the D.C. law faced opposition in Congress, Mary was ready to fight for what she had worked so hard to pass. The U.S. House recently approved an amendment to overturn D.C.'s Death with Dignity Act. "They voted to impose their will and beliefs on me and take away the most personal of decisions: How to die. I am counting on members of the Senate from the six states with medical aid-in-dying laws and those senators who are focusing on urgent national issues — not on overturning a law implemented by a local government — to strip this amendment from the final appropriations bill."

> Mary Klein (right) with her partner, Stella Dawson (left), and their German Shepherd Adina on Assateague Island, Maryland.



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To our donors, allies, coalition partners, supporters, foundation funders, volunteers, activists, pro bono firms, clients and friends: **THANK YOU!** We owe our 2017 successes to your courage, commitment and generosity. Together, we will continue our progress and achieve the full range of **end-of-life options for every American**.