



West Virginia Developmental Disabilities Council

110 Stockton Street
Charleston, WV 25387

The West Virginia Developmental Disabilities Council
announces an important new workshop on

“First Do No Harm?” Contemporary Medical Practices That Threaten the Lives of Vulnerable People

Embassy Suites 300 Court Street, Charleston, WV

OPTIONAL SESSION: viewing and discussion of the film, *The Euthanasia Deception*, Wednesday evening, **September 5, 2018, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

MAIN SESSION: Thursday, **September 6, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:40 p.m.**

Workshop Content: This workshop provides deep background necessary to enable informed people to understand and discern how best to resist the rapidly growing trends within modern culture to legitimize the infliction of grave and often lethal harm on vulnerable citizens by medical means, such as physician-assisted suicide and other efforts to “euthanize” vulnerable people. These trends are a reality for all citizens but are especially ominous for people who are members of a socially disadvantaged class, such as those who have mental and/or physical impairments, the elderly, people who are socially marginalized, and those who are poor. Specifically, the workshop will cover the following topics:

- The sources of medical vulnerability in the realities of devaluation, deathmaking, and medical deathmaking
- Who is most likely to be harmed by these realities
- Two mutually opposed ideologies governing life & death medical decisions
- How “quality of life” thinking pervades modern culture and is actualized in contemporary medical practice
- How such practices are drenched in lies and deceptions

- Overview of an alternative positive ideology and what it implies
- What concerned people can do to combat medical deathmaking

Workshop Format: The Wednesday evening session on September 5th will consist of the viewing and general discussion of the film: *The Euthanasia Deception*, (56 minutes). The Thursday session is presented in lecture style using slides, with opportunity for participant questions, comments, and general discussion.

Registration and Fee: The workshop is free, but registration is required. Lunch will be on your own. Due to limited seating you should **register by August 24, 2018.**

Who should attend:

- Health care advocates
- Interested citizens and policymakers
- Advocates, friends, and families of people who have disabilities and other vulnerable who may be marginalized by society.
- Human service workers and medical staff
- People with developmental and other disabilities

Presenters: Jo Massarelli, Director of the SRV Implementation Project, Worcester, MA, is a consultant to the Medical Safeguards Project, an effort of physicians and nurses who seek to protect the lives of impaired people in medical settings. She has a particular interest in advocacy in hospitals. She and her colleagues teach workshops on defending vulnerable people in hospitals and on medical decision-making.

Joe Osburn, Director of the Indiana Safeguards Initiative, Indianapolis, IN, has worked in human services since 1964 in a variety of direct service, administrative, and consultative positions primarily with poor families and families with impaired children. Since 1974, his work has focused particularly on the dissemination and application of normalization/Social Role Valorization (SRV) as a major safeguard in the lives of socially vulnerable people.

REGISTRATION

NAME: _____

Contact Information: _____
(Email or phone number)

Attending: _____ Wednesday Evening Film _____ Thursday Workshop

Return by August 24th through:

Fax: 304.558.0941 Email: Linda.s.higgs@wv.gov
Mail: WVDDC 110 Stockton St., Charleston, WV 25387

CEUs pending approval from the Office of Maternal, Child and Family Health for Nursing through the WV Board of Examiners for Registered Nurses, License #WV1999-0297.
CEUs pending approval from the Bureau for Children and Families for Social Workers.