



Supporters at D.C.'s lobby day listening to Dr. Omega Silva speak

SPECIAL WINTER ACTION: Help Authorize Medical Aid in Dying in Washington, D.C.!

As you may know, the D.C. City Council passed and Mayor Bowser signed the Death with Dignity Act of 2015 in November. Like laws in California and Colorado, the Act allows a terminally ill, mentally capable adult with a prognosis of six months or less to live to request from their doctor a prescription for medication that they can choose to self-ingest to bring about a peaceful death.

After a bill is signed by D.C.'s mayor, it must be reviewed by Congress before it becomes law. During this 30-day review period, any member of Congress can introduce legislation to nullify a law, and all members of Congress can vote on that legislation.

The D.C. bill has been transmitted to Congress, and a joint resolution to overturn the Death with Dignity Act has been filed by Senator James Lankford (OK) and Representative Brad Wenstrup (OH).

Every Compassion & Choices supporter in every state can oppose H.J. Res 27/S.J. Res 4. And help win this fight! Contact your U.S. representative and U.S. senator to request that they respect the wishes of District of Columbia residents and allow medical aid in dying to be authorized in our nation's capital.

Program Track:
Federal Policy / Medical
Aid in Dying

Activity Dates:
ASAP

Action:
Call, email or write your U.S. congressperson and U.S. senator and ask them to support Washington, D.C.'s Death with Dignity Act of 2015.

- Resources:**
- › Find Your U.S. Congressperson: House.gov/representatives/find
 - › Find Your U.S. Senators: Senate.gov/senators/contact
 - › [Letter to Congress with Talking Points](#)
 - › [Letter Writing Toolkit](#)
 - › Congressional Switchboard: 202.224.3121

EDUCATE: Speak Out Locally



Schedule and deliver a presentation at a local community venue.

Create a list of clubs, organizations or other local community venues where you might give a short presentation about Compassion & Choices. Reach out to all of them and make the case for inviting you to speak. Once you have something scheduled, use the Public Speaking & Storytelling Program Handbook to create an appropriate basic presentation for your audience. Local public speaking is a key way to educate others and grow the movement.

Program Track:

Public Speaking & Storytelling

Activity Dates:

Until April 30, 2017

Action:

Pitch, schedule and deliver one local speaking engagement to educate your community about end-of-life care and promote Compassion & Choices.

Resources:

- › [Public Speaking Toolkit](#)
- › [Public Speaking 101 Video](#)

ADVOCATE: Call Your Congressperson



Help us educate Congress on end-of-life care and choice.

Call and/or write your member of Congress to let them know that Compassion & Choices will be presenting a Capitol Hill briefing on end-of-life care on February 24th at 3pm in the Rayburn Building. Ask your member of Congress to attend the briefing (once it is scheduled), or to send a member of their staff. Include a link to the Federal Policy Agenda in your email communications. If you are close by, plan on attending as well. Let your local Action Team Leader or staff contact know if you plan on attending.

Program Track:

Federal Policy

Activity Dates:

Until February 28, 2017

Action:

Call and or write your member of Congress and urge them to attend the Capitol Hill briefing:

*February 24; 3pm
2168 Rayburn Building
45 Independence Ave SW
Washington, DC 20515*

If you are able, attend as well.

Resources:

- › [Federal Policy Agenda](#)
- › [Letter Writing Toolkit](#)
- › Congressional switchboard: 202.244.3121

C&C needs Action Teams in every state
and that means we need ...

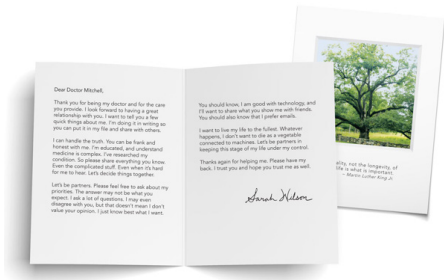
LEADERS LIKE YOU

To step up and lead a Compassion & Choices volunteer action team in your state please email: volunteer@CompassionAndChoices.org



**CONTACT Your Lawmakers
and Ask Them to Consider
Medical Aid in Dying**

SUPPORT: Personalize Your Trust Card™



Create a personalized Trust Card to help build the foundation for honest conversations with your doctor.

Visit TrustCard.org to create a personalized Trust Card. The Trust Card is the first in a series of tools that will be released through Compassion & Choices' newest initiative, Truth in Treatment. The Trust Card is an online tool designed to build trusting

doctor-patient relationships. It is especially helpful when people have a new diagnosis and are visiting a new doctor. It's a way to break the ice and discuss important topics that otherwise might not come up, such as how to align treatment with your values and priorities.

Program Track:
Truth in Treatment

Activity Dates:
Until April 15, 2017

Action:
Visit TrustCard.org to create a personalized Trust Card. Then share your story at TruthInTreatment.org.

Resources:
› TrustCard.org
› TruthInTreatment.org

TRAININGS + EVENTS

"Doctors for Dignity"

By Rebecca Thoman
Campaign Manager for Doctors for Dignity

Brownbag Series
Feb 1st; 3pm EST/12pm PST

Dr. Rebecca Thoman will discuss Doctors for Dignity, a Compassion & Choices initiative aiming to recruit, train and mobilize physicians to advocate for medical aid-in-dying legislation in their states. She will talk about why the Doctors for Dignity program was

established, what she's looking to achieve during the current legislative season and how volunteers can help.

"Building Local Support for Medical Aid in Dying Through Resolutions"

By Toni Broaddus
State Advocacy Director

Brownbag Series
Mar 1st; 3pm EST/12pm PST

Toni Broaddus, who led Compassion & Choices' legislative victory in California, will talk to volunteers about the importance of building local support for medical aid in dying. She will focus on one strategy in particular: working with local elected officials to pass resolutions in support of medical aid in dying.

To listen to recordings of previous sessions [click here](#).

NEWS + RESOURCES

Recent News Articles

- » **Washington Post:** ["Archbishop Desmond Tutu: When my time comes, I want the option of an assisted death"](#)
- » **Washington Post:** ["D.C. becomes seventh jurisdiction to allow terminally ill to end their lives"](#)

- » **The Hill:** ["Medical aid in dying: A hallmark of patient-centered care"](#)
- » **Denver Post:** ["Coloradans already inquiring about new medical aid in dying law"](#)
- » **LifeWay:** ["Most Americans Say Assisted Suicide is Morally Acceptable"](#)

Resources for Volunteers

- » House Party Host Handbook
- » Video for Terminally Ill People
- » Local Resolutions Handbook

Click the titles to go to the news stories and resources in this section.