CATHOLIC HEALTH CARE LEADERSHIP ALLIANCE

CHRIST CENTERED CARE

August 2023 Newsletter

MyCatholicDoctor: Re-Inventing Catholic Healthcare in 2023

By Kathleen Berchelmann, M.D., Co-founder of MyCatholicDoctor

MyCatholicDoctor is re-imagining Catholic healthcare to make it accessible & affordable without changing timeless values.

Here's the bottom line – Catholic healthcare can't survive in 21st century America unless:

- Catholic clinicians are able to practice with the full voice of their faith, and
- Catholic dollars go to Catholic healthcare

MyCatholicDoctor is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit medical service organization that allows our clinicians to practice independently and with the full voice of their faith. We now represent approximately 150 clinicians offering services in 50 states. Due to our growing size and breadth of services, we are able to contract with large Catholic employer groups, bringing Catholic healthcare dollars back to Catholic clinicians.

Most MyCatholicDoctor services are telehealth, although we do offer in-person care in some locations.

We offer full-service telehealth, including specialty care and get-seen-now urgent care. We are open 24/7/365. We serve all people, regardless of their religious tradition. We accept most insurance plans and have low-self pay rates. There is no membership requirement.

We offer abortion pill reversal services in more than 40 states, on demand, and without regard to the mother's ability to pay.

We also offer other difficult-to-access services including but not limited to IVF alternatives for both men and women, addiction care, and pro-life dementia care and end-of–life care.

Our specialty services include natural family planning/fertility awareness in seven methods, billed to insurance. Our clinician Dr. Cami Joe Tice-Harroff successfully sued the Biden administration after they removed fertility awareness coverage from the Affordable Care Act. Dr. Tice-Harroff was represented by the Alliance for Defending Freedom and used her billing data from MyCatholicDoctor for this case. Praise God, she won.

As of 2022, 74% of American physicians were hospital or corporate employees, and the number is growing. Physicians and other clinicians depend on the economy of scale that comes from being part of a large organization. Insurance contracting, malpractice, technology, etc., is far more favorable for large corporate structures. But American corporate medicine operates off a lie – a lie that they are ideologically neutral. Increasingly, clinicians are not able to practice with the full voice of their faith in such employed situations. Catholic clinicians are often pigeon-holed into non-controversial services or even experience out-right religious discrimination. At very least, they are given RVU requirements that make it difficult to be truly present to patients in their suffering and provide thorough care.

MyCatholicDoctor allows clinicians to practice independently and with the full voice of their faith, while taking advantage of the economy of scale that comes from being a part of a large organization. In this way we are continuing the 2000 year tradition of Catholic healthcare without compromising timeless values. We are committed to our mission to answer the call of Jesus Christ in Luke 10:9, when He said, "Cure the sick who are there and say to them, 'the Kingdom of God has come near to you.'"