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Breaking: New Institute for Public Policy & Advocacy Launched to Defend Against Attacks on Catholic Health Care

Washington, D.C. – Today, the Catholic Health Care Leadership Alliance held a press conference announcing the launch of the CHCLA Institute for Public Policy & Advocacy. In the wake of state constitutional amendments permitting abortion, including just yesterday in Ohio, and the consistent position of the Biden administration seeking to diminish conscience rights protections for Catholic health care professionals and institutions, the CHCLA Institute for Public Policy & Advocacy brings a new, united voice to advance Catholic teaching in health care and confront the misconceptions of Catholic teaching on health care being advanced in the media.

Dr. Steven White, President of the Catholic Health Care Leadership Alliance (CHCLA) and former president of the Catholic Medical Association, stated today:

"Tragically today, US Public Policy in healthcare increasingly undermines human dignity, the sanctity of life and medical rights of conscience. The Mission of the CHCLA is to uphold these rights to ensure that patients can receive, and medical professionals can practice medicine in accordance with the moral, ethical and social teaching of the Catholic Church. This requires our commitment to advocating for public policies that not only protect, but promote the Truth, Beauty and Goodness of the Catholic healthcare ministry practiced in harmony with the mind and heart of Jesus Christ for two millennia."

Louis Brown, Executive Director of the Christ Medicus Foundation and the Director of the CHCLA Institute for Public Policy & Advocacy commented:

"We look forward to collaborating with policy makers in a non-partisan fashion and engaging with faith leaders and health care leaders from all backgrounds to advance the common good of the American people consistent with our Catholic faith."

Joshua McCaig, the founding president of the Catholic Bar Association and CHCLA Vice-President, commented:

"Unfortunately, the ability of Catholics to practice in the health care profession is constantly being challeged through anti-Catholic legislation and regulations seeking to diminish, and in some cases destroy, conscience rights protections. The CHCLA Institute for Public Policy and Advocacy will speak out against any legislation or regulation that seeks to impact the conscience rights and religious liberty freedoms of Catholic health care professionals and patients to provide and receive health care in accordance with the teachings of the Church."

Joseph Meaney, Ph.D., President of The National Catholic Bioethics Center, and a member of the CHCLA Board, provided the following statement:

"I am so pleased that CHCLA is bringing its faithful Catholic perspective to public policy questions and the NCBC is looking forward to actively assisting these efforts through our expertise in bioethics."

Andrew Kubick, with Religious Freedom Institute, who gratiously provided the venue for the event today, offered this statement

"It is in partnerships with individuals and groups, like the Catholic Health Care Leadership Alliance and this new Institute, where shared values, including upholding the dignity of the human person, unite us in our mission to advance religious freedom for everyone."

Grace-Marie Turner, with Galen Institute, who has a long history working with health care policy initiatives and understands the importance of building coaltitions stated

"Legislators look to organizations like the CHCLA to recommend policy initiatives to advance patient-centered health care and also to provide warnings about threats to religious freedom and conscience rights."

If you would like to set up an interview with Dr. Steven White, Louis Brown, or Joshua McCaig of CHCLA, please contact info@catholichealthalliance.org.

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About the Catholic Health Care Leadership Alliance

The Catholic Health Care Leadership Alliance is an alliance of faithful Catholic organizations that supports the rights of patients and professionals to receive and provide health care in accordance with the moral, ethical, and social teachings of Jesus Christ and His Church through ongoing evangelization, education, advocacy, and mutual support. For more information, please visit www.catholichealthalliance.org.