



*Caring* FOR THE  
*Whole Person*

*A Collaborative Initiative of the California Catholic Conference  
and the Alliance of Catholic Health Care*



CALIFORNIA  
**CATHOLIC**  
CONFERENCE



**Alliance**  
of Catholic Health Care

*Representing California's Catholic  
Health Systems and Hospitals*

## Caring for the Whole Person Initiative – Our Team

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### LORI CAPPELLO DANGBERG



Executive Vice President for the Alliance of Catholic Health Care. The Alliance is the public policy and advocacy organization of California's Catholic-affiliated health systems and hospitals. She has been working in the public policy arena for Catholic health care since 1982 and has worked extensively on health reform, non-profit community benefit, end-of-life and bioethics issues. In addition to her work on policy and legislation, she co-leads the Caring for the Whole Person Initiative, a statewide collaboration of Catholic health systems and California Catholic bishops which seeks to ensure that parishioners and patients are accompanied, loved and supported in their serious illness and end-of-life journey.

Prior to joining the Alliance, Lori served Mercy Healthcare Sacramento (then a regional health system of Dignity Health) for seven years as its Director of Advocacy and Community Partnerships. As one of the main architects of the original Statement of Common Values for Community Sponsorship, she developed a significant policy document that played a defining role in most of Dignity Health's early affiliations with non-Catholic hospitals. She also served as the lead resource and facilitator of bioethical issues and implemented the Regional Ethics Advisory Council. Before joining Mercy, Lori served for ten years with the California Association of Catholic Hospitals as the Director of Communications.

During her career in the Catholic health ministry, she has directed policy and advocacy efforts at the federal level, working with members of Congress; at the state Capitol; and worked on local government issues in the Sacramento region.

She has served on several boards, advisory councils and committees, that currently include the Center for Healthcare Policy and Research | UC Davis Health; CSU Shiley Institute for Palliative Care; Coalition for Compassionate Care California (various advisory committees); and Mercy General Hospital (Sacramento) Bioethics Committee.

Lori is very involved in her community of Granite Bay, California. After serving two elected terms, she retired as a Governing Board Member of the Eureka Union School District, which serves grades K through 8 in South Placer County. She help found The Petal Connection, a nonprofit organization that repurposes flowers that are donated to hospice and palliative care patients, and seniors within the Greater Sacramento Region.

## **MOLLY C. SHEAHAN**



Associate Director for Life & Family Issues for the California Catholic Conference. The Conference represents the public policy interests of the state's bishops, their twelve (arch)dioceses and California's 11 million Catholics. A Sacramento native, Molly is a passionate advocate for the dignity of the human person and her work includes legislative and grassroots advocacy on end-of-life care, opposition to assisted suicide, and supporting families and caregivers. She frequently speaks to parishes, colleges and conferences about end-of-life ethics and human dignity.

Molly previously worked as a legislative advocate for the Maryland bishops, as an intern on Capitol Hill, and as a project strategist for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles overseeing a portfolio of all social issues and organizing their annual walk for life called OneLife LA. Molly received her B.A. in communication arts from Franciscan University of Steubenville, and her master's in theological studies from the Pontifical John Paul II Institute for Studies in Marriage and Family.

## **EMILY WILLIAMS, MPH**



Program Manager Consultant for Caring for the Whole Person Initiative. Emily is passionate about creating responsive, cost-effective, compassionate health care. To this end, she has spent much of her public health career implementing innovative domestic and international health research and programming initiatives within public, private, academic and nonprofit domains. She is thrilled to apply her knowledge to ensure the success of the Caring for the Whole Person Initiative. Emily earned her bachelor's degree in developmental psychology from the University of California at Berkeley, and master's degree in public health at Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine.

## **JOSEPH DAO**



Program Manager Consultant for the Caring for the Whole Person Initiative. Joseph has held leadership roles in local and national church ministry and in Catholic health care mission. He now serves the Caring for the Whole Person Initiative to provide education and training around serious illness and care through the end of life to church communities across the state. He is passionate about helping local communities and health-care providers work together to deliver compassionate whole person care.

Joseph completed his undergraduate studies at the University of California, Irvine and received his Master of Arts degree in Pastoral Theology at Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles.