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CMF

Christian Medical Fellowship



November 2017

Fighting for Christian values CMF Christmas Appeal – £80,000 needed

Vulnerable people are being marginalised in a health service facing greater demand with fewer resources.

Freedom of conscience is under attack and Christians are being censured and criminalised simply for expressing ethical views that just ten years ago would have been regarded as mainstream.

The BMA, RCOG and Royal College of Midwives are backing the complete decriminalisation of abortion.

Two cases seeking to overturn the ban on assisted suicide are slowly making their way through the courts.

The Education Secretary wants to allow people to 'change gender' simply on self-declaration and has the Prime Minister's backing.

These things are not happening by accident.

An atheist worldview and secular humanist ethics are increasingly dominating the 'mountains of culture' in the UK (parliament, courts, institutions, universities, media, arts, entertainment).

This is resulting in increasing hostility to Christian faith and values and erosion of liberties for Christians and the vulnerable and marginalised groups for whom we advocate.



Advocacy – being a voice for the voiceless

CMF's Public Policy and Advocacy work seeks to oppose further erosion of laws and practice whilst promoting positive Christian alternatives.

Defending the poor and needy deeply resonates with the heart of God (Jeremiah 22:16).

Advocacy – being a voice for the voiceless – is the first of six strategic priorities in our 2020 ACTIVE programme.

Our overall strategy is to inform and equip three groups of people: CMF members, members of Parliament/policy makers and church members.

We do this by producing resources, undertaking research, networking with like-minded organisations, attending and organising strategic policy meetings, presenting talks, responding to public consultations, speaking on the media and meeting with parliamentarians and decision-makers.



CMF's advocacy work makes up only 8% of our annual budget but we punch well above our weight in this area. This is despite staff being only part-time – our head of Advocacy Philippa Taylor, our senior researcher Rick Thomas and our junior researcher Andre Woolgar each only work two days per week.

They are backed one day per week each by our CEO Peter Saunders and Connections Manager Steve Fouch.

CMF strives not to duplicate work done by others but to work in partnership with other organisations and alliances. We bring to the table our unique expertise in providing a biblically sound, rigorous, evidence-based perspective on issues at the interface of Christianity and medicine.

What do we do?

Our work in Public Policy and advocacy costs about £100,000 each year. This enables us to be active in:

- **Resource provision** – *CMF Files*, blog posts, parliamentary briefings and questions, *Triple Helix* and *Nucleus* articles and reviews, booklets and books
- **Public consultation submissions** – Twelve completed in 2016. Six so far in 2017.
- **Research** – Sourcing information and carrying out literature research, attending conferences and meetings
- **Communicating/Media** – Media interviews, press releases, blog posts, talks/presentations to CMF/church/pro-life groups, Public Policy newsletter, and social media
- **Advocacy and strategic networking** – With like-minded organisations and individuals in UK and internationally, meeting with MPs/policy makers

Key policy areas

With such limited resources we cannot be actively engaged in every issue so we focus on those where no one else is speaking and where a Christian voice is most needed, such as:

- **Euthanasia/assisted suicide** – Keeping a watching brief on further attempts to weaken the law, and promoting palliative care and support
- **Abortion** – Working with cobelligerent allies to ensure existing law is upheld and to seek law reform through media, courts and parliament
- **Conscience and Civil liberties** – Working to ensure conscience rights of Christian health professionals are upheld and not further eroded
- **Sex and relationships** – Opposing sex education which undermines Christian values, pornography and the condom culture whilst promoting abstinence and marital faithfulness
- **Marriage** – Defending and promoting traditional marriage. Opposing its further redefinition and the deconstruction of gender
- **Vulnerable people** – Working to ensure that marginalised groups have good access to high quality healthcare

Christmas Appeal

Will you stand with us in this fight?

Only 40% of our annual income comes from members' subscriptions and we deliberately try to keep subscriptions for students, nurses and F1 doctors low.

We therefore continue to rely heavily on our 4,500 qualified members who are able to make gifts over and above their subscription. Knowing that many members prefer the flexibility of giving in response to specific appeals rather than regularly, we had already planned at the beginning of this year to raise £80,000 of our £1.35 million budget through this Christmas appeal.

The CMF Board of Trustees meets on 2 December to agree budgets for 2018. **Your prompt response will help us plan responsibly and wisely for next year.** Would you be able to help us by making a special gift to the ministry of CMF today?

If you would like to give regularly by direct debit then this allows us to plan our ministries even more effectively. Of course, if your gift is eligible for Gift Aid, then we can claim your tax back as well, at no extra cost to you. You can also give online at www.cmf.org.uk/appeal.

We are on target to reach our budget this year provided the response to this annual Christmas appeal runs according to plan.

Thank you for prayerfully considering this request.

'Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.' (Proverbs 31:8,9)

Yours sincerely

Peter Saunders
CMF Chief Executive

Ken Toop
Chairman, Board of Trustees



CMF CHRISTMAS 2017 APPEAL

RESPONSE FORM

Thank you for supporting the ministry of CMF. Please indicate how you would like to give.

I would like to make a one-off gift of:

£5 £10 £25 £50 £100 £250 £ other

I enclose my cheque/charity voucher made payable to **Christian Medical Fellowship**

Or if you would like to make a donation by debit or credit card please visit
www.cmf.org.uk/appeal to give online or call the CMF office on: 020 7234 9660

I am a UK taxpayer. If CMF does not already hold a Gift Aid declaration
please send one to me

Please return your completed form, with your gift, in the Freepost envelope provided, or to:

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