

ADVOCACY MINISTRIES

www.elca.org/dcs/advocacy.html

Corporate Social Responsibility



9625 Perry Highway
Pittsburgh, PA 15237
412-367-7575
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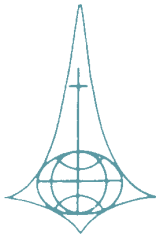
www.elca.org/dcs/corp.html



Lutheran Office for Governmental Affairs

122 C Street, NW, Suite 125
Washington, DC 20001
202-783-7507
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www.loga.org



Lutheran Office for World Community

777 UN Plaza
New York, NY 10017
212-808-5360
Fax: 212-808-5480

www.elca.org/dcs/lowc.html

State Public Policy Advocacy Offices



Arizona, California, Colorado,
Delaware, Illinois, Iowa, Maryland,
Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska,
Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico,
New York, North Carolina,
Oregon, Pennsylvania, South
Carolina, Washington, Wisconsin

www.elca.org/dcs/state.html



Basic Principles of Advocacy Ministry



DIVISION FOR CHURCH IN SOCIETY
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
LUTHERAN OFFICE FOR GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
LUTHERAN OFFICE FOR WORLD COMMUNITY
STATE PUBLIC POLICY ADVOCACY OFFICES

The Advocacy Ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

Advocate for just, sound and compassionate public social policies based upon the officially adopted social justice policy positions of the ELCA.

Recognize and draw upon the ELCA's historical experience in providing human and social services by individuals, congregations and social ministry organizations.

Implement ELCA public policy advocacy to national and international governmental bodies in consultation with other churchwide units, and coordinate its public policy advocacy to state governmental bodies. (ELCA Constitution Continuing Resolution 16.11.E971i)

Give expression to the ELCA's concern for corporate social responsibility, both in its internal affairs and its interaction in the broad society. (ELCA Constitution Continuing Resolution 16.11.E971j)

These principles guide this ministry in its many settings:

Advocacy is a public witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ where the church speaks with and on behalf of others in need, articulating positions consistent with our faith.

Committed to supporting individual Lutherans, the ministry of advocacy provides information and communication about current justice-related policy issues, using many communication technologies and strategies.

Working in coalitions with other faith-based, secular, and service organizations with common commitments is a priority for the advocacy ministries of the ELCA in its many settings. We believe that such partnerships strengthen the church's voice for increased effectiveness.

Our policy base consists of the ELCA social statements, messages, social policy resolutions and statements or actions of predecessor church bodies. We use these documents to review, analyze and evaluate all issues. We also take into consideration the view of ecumenical and international bodies in which the ELCA holds membership.

Criteria for making decisions:

When making a decision about a particular issue the following questions may be asked:

- Is there a policy base for addressing the issue in the official statements or actions of the ELCA or its predecessor church bodies?
- How urgent is the need to be addressed?
- How many people are affected by the problems?
- Is this a timely issue?
- Will it be possible to address the issue in upcoming public policy deliberations?
- What is the possibility of achieving the desired outcome?
- How basic is this issue—e.g. does it cause or contribute to other problems about which the church is concerned?
- Is there a special reason for the ELCA to take a leading role in addressing this issue?
- Is there sufficient staff time for effective advocacy?