

The 2018 U.S. Health Freedom Congress

Wisdom and its Application - a sacred synthesis!

A post-Congress Summary



On June 10-12th, **thirty leading health freedom organizations and fifty additional organizations and participants representing millions of health freedom-conscious Americans** came together at the beautiful InterContinental Hotel-Riverfront in **St. Paul, Minnesota**. National Health Freedom Coalition sincerely thanks everyone who participated in the 2018 U.S. Health Freedom Congress. This event was our 12th gathering of health freedom leaders and activists. We collaborated, celebrated, and networked for future actions to create a more

unified front for the health freedom movement.



After a year away, we were all excited to see old friends and meet new ones.



We also came together to refresh the purpose of the Health Freedom Congress, which is:

Congress Purpose

- TO BRING TOGETHER KEY ORGANIZATIONS AND LEADERS IN THE UNITED STATES HEALTH FREEDOM MOVEMENT;
- TO EXPERIENCE AN EGALITARIAN GATHERING OF AUTONOMOUS AND DIVERSE LEADERS, WHERE LEADERS COMMUNICATE FACE-TO-FACE IN A LARGE ROUND (CONGRESS-STYLE FORMAT);
- TO INCREASE COLLABORATION AND INSPIRE EACH OTHER TO UNITY AND SOLIDARITY;
- TO IDENTIFY TOP HEALTH FREEDOM ISSUES AND TOPICS THAT ARE IMPACTING HEALTH FREEDOM;
- TO FIND AREAS OF COMMON GROUND AND PASS RESOLUTIONS;
- TO WORK TOGETHER TO IDENTIFY STRATEGIES FOR ENHANCED HEALTH FREEDOM; AND
- TO CELEBRATE THE HEALTH FREEDOM MOVEMENT AND GIVE AWARDS HONORING SUCCESSFUL LEADERS.

[Click here](#) to view the entire Congress Program!

The Congress began on Sunday evening, June 10th with a meet and greet which included hor d'ouvres and time to get to know participants coming in from around the country.



Our first Story of Courage was Dave Berglund. Dave is owner of Lakeview Dairy near Grand Marais, Minnesota and stands up vigorously for the right to sell dairy products, including raw milk, to people who come to his farm. Dave and his family believe in the healthy, good food that they wish to consume, and is engaged in continual struggles with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture to protect that right. One of his staunchest supporters,

Greg Gentz, also attended and explained that he is also concerned that if the state forces the dairy to be permitted, it will cost the Berglund family thousands of dollars to purchase equipment required by the state and will lead to driving small family farms out of business. Dave spoke with advocate Greg Gentz about the ongoing struggle to protect Dave's right to farm traditional food and provide them to those who choose them.



Following Dave and Greg's presentation, we were pleased to participate in a **drumming workshop given by Jaime Meyer.**

Jaime is seminary-trained and talked

about the positive effects of drumming. Drumming has been proven to lower blood pressure, dispel stress, anxiety and depression, increase self-awareness, and boost the immune system. Everyone who participated in the workshop thoroughly enjoyed it and it was a music-making event that gave us a way to relax before convening the Congress the next day.



Detailed Highlights

Monday, June 11, 2018

The Congress was convened on Monday, June 11th with Health Freedom Voting Member organizations represented in the Congress circle and introducing their organizations. General participant attendees also observed this short session.



The Congress circle was followed by the **second Story of Courage. Mark and David Geier** (father and son), talked about the challenges they faced against the Maryland Board of Physicians. The Geiers won their case, brought against the board, for breach of medical privacy and practicing medicine without a license. They recently were awarded \$2.5 million dollars in damages after years of legal challenges.

Dr. Mark and David Geier, shared their incredible story of winning their case against the Maryland Board of Physicians which began in 2011.

The rest of Monday was not that of a typical congress. That said, this year we tried something different. Instead of holding Open Space for two consecutive days with all attendees participating, we took one day to draw insight from eight of our longstanding voting member organization leaders, whose shared their Words of Wisdom, under the theme of *Wisdom And It's Application: A Sacred Synthesis*.



the 2018 Congress. [See Diane's video.](#)

Our first **Wisdom Speaker was Diane Miller**, co-founder of the National Health Freedom Coalition (host of the US Health Freedom Congress) and co-moderator of



Speaker. [See Jerri's video.](#)

Jerri Johnson, President and co-founders of National Health Freedom Action (and several other MN based organizations) was our **second Wisdom**



Wisdom Speaker. [Scott's video here.](#)

After lunch, we had 6 additional Wisdom speakers beginning with **Scott Tips from National Health Federation**, our third



Next, our **fourth Wisdom Speaker was Peter McCarthy** from Texas Health Freedom Coalition. [Click here for Peter's video.](#)



Leo Cashman, co-founder and Treasurer/Secretary of National Health Freedom Coalition and President of DAMS (Dental Amalgam Mercury Solutions) **was our fifth Wisdom Speaker.** [See Leo's video.](#)



Following Leo Cashman was our **sixth Wisdom Speaker, Julie Whitman Kline** of Trinity School of Natural Health and Healthkeepers Alliance. [See her video here.](#)



Camilla Rees, Electromagnetic Health.org was our **seventh Wisdom Speaker.** [See Camilla's video.](#)



Our eighth and final **Wisdom Speaker was Robert Scott Bell** of the **Robert Scott Bell Show.** [See Robert's video by clicking here.](#)



Wisdom Speakers - Diane Miller, Robert Scott Bell, Peter McCarthy, Camilla Rees, Leo Cashman and Jerri Johnson

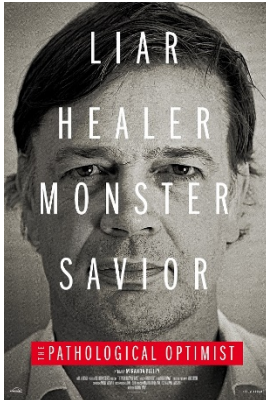
Monday evening events included:



Diane Miller, attorney and Director of Law and Public Policy for NHFC and NHFA, **presented a workshop, entitled Lobbying 101.**

Diane provided her top recommendations for individuals who wish to get involved in advocating for things they are concerned about, and for those who want to lobby a bill forward at a legislature. Her goal is

to help citizens understand and implement successful lobbying strategies. See Diane's workshop [video here](#).



The final Monday evening event was the showing of the movie: The Pathological Optimist, A Profile of Andrew Wakefield.

This was a powerful documentary showing what Dr. Wakefield and his entire family went through because of his research and belief linking the MMR vaccine with autism. This film gives no clear cut point of view but is informative

and thought provoking. Copies of the film were available for sale. If you are still interested in purchasing a copy, please contact us at judy@nationalhealthfreedom.org.



Tuesday, June 12th

Tuesday morning began with the third Story of Courage - David Stephan



David Stephan shared his story of courage and strength after the Supreme Court of Canada threw out his case, citing 'wrongful conviction' only days before he flew to Minnesota to be able to be with us.



David's faith has taught him that love is the only way forward. "As my healing from this betterness largely came, not only through my learning to share love with those around me, but also in the love that was shared with me, I have found myself beginning to love those who I once deemed unlovable." Everyone was filled with compassion and touched after hearing his story.

To view all Stories of Courage, [please click here](#).

A Day of Open space and Coalition Building

The Open Space Sessions (morning and afternoon) were remarkable and were facilitated by Denise Lewis PremeSchak of Voice for HOPE, who walked leaders through the Open Space activity. Small



group sessions gave leaders an opportunity to voice their priorities, develop focus groups, state their unique perspectives

on issues before them, and then report back to the larger group with their comments and recommendations. These wonderful words and phrases were written on colored papers and posted for all to see.



We need to use our connection to activate ourselves and our base if we are going to make a difference for our movement now, and not fall under the agenda of controlled opposition which seeks to censor and silence our message.



The purpose of the Congress is to inspire new connections in our immediate family so we can activate the extended family. Collaboration is foremost on the agenda on the Congress. Several Action Steps came out of Open Space. We must now activate in bigger ways to utilize what we know. We have the technology and the leadership



within our health freedom family.

Our final Story of Courage - Michelle Krinsky, RN

Michelle Krinsky, RN, was terminated for refusing the flu vaccine after 29 years as a neonatal nurse. She next begins her case with the EEOC for the right for all to file a religious exemption.



The entire two-day event culminated on Tuesday Evening with the Health Freedom Awards Banquet and Keynote address by Jim Turner, Esq. of Citizens for Health.



Jim Turner's presentation was entitled "***Health Freedom: Use It or Lose It.***" His remarkable presentation was an overview historically of his 50 years as an attorney and his involvement in the health freedom movement and included audience interaction with questions and answered that generated even more in-depth sharings. [Click here](#) to view the Keynote Address.

Health Freedom Awards were presented at the banquet to five outstanding health freedom leaders and/or organizations: **Ohio Advocates for Medical Freedom (OAMF)**, **Food for Maine's Future**, **John Melnychuk** (California Health Freedom Coalition) and **Kirk Bashaw** (Sunshine Health Freedom Foundation), **Dr. Mark Geier and David Geier** and **Jim Turner, Esq.**

2018 U.S. Health Freedom AWARDEES

Ohio Advocates for Medical Freedom

(OMAF): AWARDED "for their coordination of the Region5 states in standing up to the federal Office of Child Care, which was attempting to condition receipt of federal funds under the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 2014 upon Ohio needing to do corrective action involving eliminating vaccine exemptions based on "conscience" from their existing law. Their successful resistance resulted in a determination by the Office of Child Care that states have flexibility in deciding how to address exemptions and that NO STATE would be under corrective action for exemption language." [See video.](#)



Food for Maine's Future: AWARDED "for passing into law Maine LD 725, titled An Act to Recognize Local Control Regarding Food Systems. With the passage of LD 725, which states that "a municipal government may regulate by ordinance local food systems, and the state shall recognize such ordinances", Maine became the second state in the nation to allow consumers to buy directly from farmers and food producers regardless of the state and federal licensing and inspections that would otherwise apply."



[See video.](#)

John Melnychuk (California Health Freedom Coalition) and Kirk Bashaw (Sunshine Health Freedom Foundation):



AWARDED "for their leadership and quick action to amend California Senate Bill 796, amending the Naturopathic Physician law, to retain the protection of the traditional naturopath titles for CA. They were truly instrumental in activating the CA natural health community to support their efforts so that the titles "naturopath," "naturopathic practitioner," and "traditional naturopath" remain in the public domain."



[See video.](#)



Dr. Mark Geier and David Geier:

AWARDED "for their courageous, successful legal challenges against the Maryland Board of Physicians. Dr. Mark Geier and David Geier won their case, brought against the Board, for breach of medical privacy and obtained \$2.5 million in damages – half of which to be paid individually by the Board's members and attorney." [See video.](#)

Jim Turner, Esq.:

AWARDED "for his decades-long dedication to and passion for the Health Freedom movement and for inspiring others to become health freedom leaders themselves."

[Watch Jim Turner's video Here.](#)



The 2018 Voting Members and attendees forged alliances and collaborative plans to ensure the vision of health freedom in our country. We encourage you to know and support these organizations and join in the health freedom movement.

Voting member organizations present included:

- Alliance for Natural Health, USA
- California Health Freedom Coalition
- Citizens for Health
- CoMed, Inc.
- Consumers for Dental Choice
- DAMS, Inc. (Dental Amalgam Mercury Solutions)
- ElectromagneticHealth.org
- Farm and Ranch Freedom Alliance
- Farm to Consumer Legal Defense Fund
- Health Choice
- Health Freedom Action Massachusetts
- HealthKeepers Alliance
- Michigan Natural Health Coalition
- Minnesota Natural Health Coalition
- Minnesota Natural Health Legal Reform Project
- Moms Across America
- National Health Federation
- National Health Freedom Action
- National Health Freedom Coalition
- National Vaccine Information Center (NVIC)
- North American Society of Homeopaths (NASH)
- Sunshine Health Freedom Foundation
- Texas Health Freedom Coalition
- The Robert Scott Bell Show
- Truehope, Inc.
- Voice for HOPE - Healers Of Planet Earth
- Weston A. Price Foundation

Wisconsin Health Freedom Coalition

Each aspect of the Congress inspired and motivated leaders to work together to strengthen the entire health freedom movement. One resolution was passed by the 2018 Health Freedom Congress. **Click below** on the resolution passed and see the endorsing voting member organizations.

Resolution 1: [Model Safe Harbor Legislation](#)



A Big **Thank You** to the **NHFC Board of Directors** and the **2018 Congress Volunteers** for all their support in making this event happen! We couldn't have done it without you!

And **THANK YOU** to Judy Buroker, Congress Event Planner and Registrar and Rosanne Lindsay, Congress Program Director and Co-moderator.

In **SUMMARY**: The coming together of these organizations and leaders marks another historic event in the movement to bring freedom in health back to all health-seekers of our country.

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