

Johnson County Right to Life

Engage Educate Embrace

Spring 2019



345 E. College St. Iowa City, IA 52240 www.JCRTL.org

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

UNPLANNED BRINGS HOPE AND HEALING!

Dear pro-life friend,

Americans are waking to the lies perpetrated by the abortion industry as they watch state politicians and their supporters rejoice at the passage of extreme abortion laws and even voice support for infanticide. This blatant contempt for life in the womb and beyond may tempt some to despair. But as people of faith we know this culture of death does not have the last word. We know we belong to one another and that "perfect love drives out all fear."

Increasingly the pro-life movement is supported by youth who are passionate and motivated to defend those who have no voice and bring hope and healing to mothers and fathers wounded by abortion. They intuitively embrace the humanity of the unborn baby, and the truth about the inhumanity of abortion. Vanessa Milliman, a member of St. Wenceslaus youth group, attended the March for Life in Washington, DC in January and shares her beautiful message of hope with us in this newsletter.

As the culture continues to embrace the darkness of the tomb, we rejoice in the light of Christ. May we LIVE the Resurrection of Christ 365 days a year. His victory over death emboldens us to persevere in the struggle to not only make abortion illegal but to make abortion unthinkable.

"But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Corinthians 15:57

Thank you for your continued support and I wish you and your family a blessed Easter!

In His service,
Sheryl Schwager
Sheryl Schwager
Executive Director



Have you seen the movie **Unplanned**? It tells the story of Abby Johnson who worked as a Planned Parenthood director for eight years before becoming a pro-life advocate. Despite many attempts by the media to block promotion of the movie, it opened as #1 Independent Movie and #4 Movie of the Weekend! If you didn't see the movie on the big screen, be sure to view it when it's released on DVD.

Testimonies of the impact of Unplanned

- A woman who had an abortion many years ago shared with the film directors, "I am free. I'm finally free."
- Theater employees are experiencing conversions
- Pro-choice viewers are leaving the theater pro-life
- Georgia state senators viewed the movie Unplanned before they voted on the Fetal Heartbeat Bill. Information shared with the film directors indicate that the bill would not have passed with the strength it did had they not seen the film.

It's safe to say that this is the definitive movie on abortion. What sets it apart is that the story is ongoing. Abby was the 26th out of 186 abortion workers that 40 Days for Life has helped leave the abortion industry. Learn more at: www.40daysforlife.com and www.abortionworker.com

Thank you to 40 Days for Life for providing a private screening of Unplanned for our community on March 28!

We encourage you to contact us and get involved to end abortion in our community! We can change our culture by changing hearts! Visit www.JCRTL.org

Understanding Your Fertility 101

Looking for a safe, holistic, and effective family planning method? Want to identify and treat the root cause of infertility? Tired of being told the pill is the only solution for your health issue? Learn how you can chart your cycle and what the **Creighton Model FertilityCare System** has to offer.

Contact Sheryl Schwager, FCPI at (319) 855-8475 or email at: agapefertility@gmail.com



**FERTILITY AWARENESS METHODS ARE
SAFE, EFFECTIVE, AND GREEN**



Project Rachel is a confidential post-abortion healing ministry offering hope and healing to women and men hurting from past abortions.

Local Helpline: 563-333-4107

National Helpline: 1-888-456-HOPE

E-mail: projectrachel@diodav.org

YOUR LIFE MATTERS. TEXT "HOPE" TO "73075"

A Message of Hope

"Throughout high school I have heard "pray for an end to abortion," "pro-life," "40 Days for Life," and the "March for Life." These phrases were just phrases when I first heard them. I was taught that abortion is wrong, but this never had any real meaning for me. I did not think that people would actually choose this. The reality sunk in during my junior year of high school when I went to the Life Defenders training camp sponsored by the Johnson County Right to Life. I knew from the bottom of my heart that abortion was wrong, but I was too shy to talk about the issue with anyone.



Then I went to the March for Life. This changed everything. I had my whole parish supporting me financially and with their prayers. They were happy to see youth getting involved in the pro-life movement. Again, this did not mean anything at first. At the March, I saw 500,000 people coming together to stand up for the right to life. The experience put everything together. As a teenager, I was getting involved in a spiritual and also political battle. Now, I wanted to get more involved because I saw the necessity of courageous youth who would put aside peer pressure and stand up for the truth. The March showed me that each individual's presence is important.



I wanted to share this story to spread hope to each of you. Your presence and witness have not gone unnoticed. You have inspired me and others to stand up for the right to life. I would also like to encourage those who have not yet had the opportunity to pray outside the Emma Goldman clinic to come and join us. Your presence truly does make a difference." Vanessa Milliman

You are invited to the **7th Annual Culture of Life Dinner** to honor and promote current and future pro-life healthcare providers in Iowa City and surrounding communities through the Pope Paul VI Institute Education Grant.

Culture of Life Dinner
5:15 PM Saturday April 27, 2019
St. Wenceslaus Parish Hall
 Iowa City at corner of Davenport & Dodge
 Register at www.stweno-ic.com
 Info: 915-428-0770

 Sheryl Ransel, MD, MFPIC	 Sheryl Schwager, MS, FCI
 Cassidy LaCart, BS, FCI	 Kaleigh VanHelderop, BSW, FCI
 Tami Hutchins, BS, FCI	 Alexia Sponik, MS, FCI

Honor our 2019 Grant Recipients

Learn from our new Pro-Life healthcare providers

Support our Pope Paul VI Institute Education Grants through a free will donation at the dinner

Your donations will support the Education of more teachers in the CREIGHTON MODEL FertilityCare™ System

Attend the dinner to hear witness stories from six grant recipients, and learn how medical professionals inspire a Culture of Life in their communities through the Creighton Model FertilityCare System (CrMS). In the last eight years, God has blessed the program with grants to 4 doctors, 15 practitioners, 1 educator, and 5 ambassadors.

Saturday, April 27
St. Wenceslaus Parish Hall
5:15pm

Learn more and RSVP at:
www.JCRTL.org

Sponsored by St. Wenceslaus Knights of Columbus - Council #14385

In January, the Iowa Supreme Court struck down the Fetal Heartbeat law, "finding a right to an abortion" in the Iowa Constitution. Iowa Coalition of Pro-Life Leaders continue to work with legislators on an amendment bill stating that the Iowa State Constitution does not protect the right to an abortion. Please continue to pray for this intention.



Sue Thayer shared her story of transformation at St. Mary's Parish Hall during the 40 Days for Life Prayer Campaign.

Sue worked as a Planned Parenthood director for 18 years in Storm Lake, IA., the first of 21 Iowa PP centers to close. Sue currently serves as Director of Outreach for 40 Days for Life.

Planned Parenthood is flooding Iowa with dishonest billboards.



We can fight back with your support!



This billboard will be advertised in Iowa City! We will notify you of the two locations soon!

Serena's story -

At 15 years old, Serena learned that she was pregnant. When her parents found out about the pregnancy, things became very abusive and dysfunctional at home. Serena wanted to have her baby, but culturally this was very shameful for her family to have an out of wedlock baby.

Over two weeks, Serena was broken down emotionally and verbally. She became very weak emotionally and physically to the point that she gave in and accepted what her parents were forcing her to do. Serena didn't see any other way out, being a young and vulnerable teenage girl and still dependent on her parents for support.

Read more about Serena's story of transformation at: www.saylifeiowa.com - **lowans for LIFE**

Johnson County Right to Life is thankful to partner with lowans for LIFE and the IA Coalition of Pro-Life Leaders!