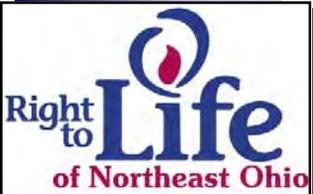


LifeLINES



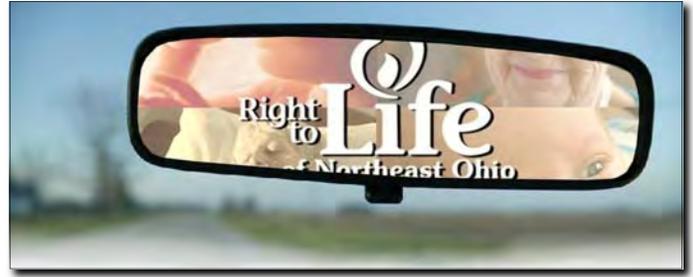
Winter 2017



Looking Back

by Denise Leipold, Executive Director

In the beginning of 2016, the Right to Life of Northeast Ohio boards of directors held a strategic planning meeting to direct the actions of the organization over the next few years to fit within our mission. We affirmed that our mission is



to promote the value and dignity of human life from conception through natural death, with no exceptions, by impacting the culture peacefully and legally through education, legislation and action. Using the organization's strategies to educate, advocate, legislate, unify and multiply, the board set several major goals.

These goals included: 1) educate and influence our churches and communities about pro-life issues; 2) educate and influence our churches and communities about legislation and candidates; 3) work/collaborate with local and national pro-life organizations as needed to develop common strategies to deal with threats to life; 4) utilize the boards and organizations' structure to work collaboratively on committees for events and initiatives; 5) identify, recruit and select individuals, internally and externally, for appropriate positions in our mission; and 6) increase our donor base.

These goals were set not only to provide a framework of action, but also to provide a consistency and credibility to our mission so we may prove to our donors and to those we serve so that we are positively influencing our culture. Many of these goals are ongoing, and are reviewed regularly at board meetings. The following are just some of the many accomplishments achieved by Right to Life of Northeast Ohio over the last year as they fit in with our designated goals:

Educate and influence our churches and communities about pro-life issues.

- We provided current news and information through our quarterly newsletter, e-mail communications, emergency alert e-blasts, our extensive websites and Facebook.

- Our staff had seven letters to the editor published in local newspapers including the *Akron Beacon Journal*, *Record Courier* and the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*. Other pro-life supporters had nine letters published over the year. In addition, in March, the *Akron Beacon Journal* published our full editorial commentary regarding infant mortality.
- We provided speakers and educational materials at several churches and schools throughout the year.
- Our *Right to Life of Northeast Ohio* booth and educational displays were present at many public events, including the *Kent Heritage Festival*, the *Summit and Portage County Fairs*, the *Cleveland Men's Fellowship Conference* and the *Bringing America Back to Life Convention*.
- We conducted sidewalk counseling and witness classes at our office to better prepare those who stand vigil at the area abortion clinics and Planned Parenthood locations.
- We sponsored the Akron premiere of the pro-life movie *Voicelless*.
- We have renewed emphasis on participation in our Cloud of Witnesses and Adopt a Day... programs to encourage individuals and organizations to pledge regular, peaceful vigil time at area abortion facilities and Planned Parenthood locations so that we are an outward sign to the community that we cannot condone abortion.

Educate and influence our churches and communities about legislation and pro-life candidates.

(Continued on page 2)

- With 2016 being a presidential election year, we beefed up our website to provide candidate and party comparison information on life issues. Comprehensive information on major party and candidate position on the life issues were also provided via our newsletter and emails, with links to other sources.
- We provided “*Voting With a Clear Conscience*” guides to many churches and organizations.
- We maintained information about current proposed bills and legislation (both state and national) on our website and sent out legislative alerts when action was warranted.
- We testified on legislative issues at the Ohio legislature, including proponent testimony on SB254 (Fetal Remains Bill), and opponent testimony on SB165 (MOLST Bill).

Work/collaborate with local and national pro-life organizations as needed to develop common strategies to deal with threats to life

- We continue to collaborate with Heroic Media, Option Line and area pregnancy resource centers in our successful media campaign that provides life affirming resources to abortion minded individuals.
- We worked as a united front with a majority of the grass roots pro-life groups in Ohio on legislative issues throughout the year. This collaboration was successful in stopping the passage of the dangerous MOLST bill. We continue to partner with these groups to combat the possible introduction of assisted suicide legislation.
- We partnered with pro-life groups nationwide to hold protest rallies in opposition to Planned Parenthood.
- We continue to be the Akron and Ravenna hosts for the national Life Chain each October,
- Together with the Students for Life from the University of Akron, we hosted the local event for the National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children at Holy Cross Cemetery in Akron.
- We participated in the national March for Life in Washington, DC.
- We participate with area pastors and community leaders in the Love Akron mission to pray, unite and collaborate in ministry for the advancement of spiritual and social transformation in our communities.
- In addition to our collaboration with area grassroots pro-life organizations, we also network and maintain excellent communications with many national and international pro-life organizations.

Utilize the boards and organization structure to work collaboratively on committees for events and initiatives.

- Realizing that the scope of our work cannot be shouldered by just a few, our boards redefined our work and mission in order to maximize efficiency and minimize expenses.
- We reorganized our office to provide for more meeting space for future educational and membership meetings.

Identify, recruit and select individuals, internally and externally, for appropriate positions in our mission.

- We are reinstating the formation of an advisory board in order to get more effective feedback on our goals and strategies, and to provide a resource for future board and staff positions.

Increase our support and donor base.

We are deeply committed to being good stewards of the gifts that are donated to us for our cause. Much of the continuing review, restructuring, and collaboration that we do is to increase our efficiency and effectiveness in accomplishing our pro-life mission.

- We regularly review our events and activities to make sure they are relevant and sustainable.
- We have put an increased emphasis on our monthly donor program in order to better forecast income.
- Our main events in 2016 included the *Signature Media Campaign*, the annual *Celebrate Life* dinner with guest speaker Dr. Alveda King, the *Golf for Life* tournament and the *5K Run for their Lives*. These encourage active involvement and support of more committed members.

These activities represent only a fraction of what we have done, and we’re not stopping! With the election of a pro-life president and the possibility of getting more pro-life justices on the Supreme Court, the next few years are promising to be very hopeful! Despite all of this, we know that the road will be very bumpy because so many people grew up with the decreased morals and values that have become so prevalent in our society. Our job is to work on changing hearts and minds to a culture of life so that we will once again become a nation of liberty and justice for all, born and unborn! With God’s help, and with your help, I know this will happen. ■

Join our team!
WE’RE HIRING!

Right to Life of Northeast Ohio has a position in office administration available. We are looking for someone who is committed to the pro-life cause, has good organizational skills, people skills and some office experience. The candidate should be familiar with Microsoft Office and Quickbooks. For more information, contact Denise Leipold, Executive Director at 330-762-2785. Resumes may be submitted by email to dleipold@rtloneo.com.

In response to the Supreme Court's Whole Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt ruling in June, which concluded that abortion clinics in Texas did not have to comply with the same safety regulations governing other ambulatory surgical clinics, the Americans United for Life legal organization conducted a review of the health and safety violations found at 227 abortion providers in 32 states from 2008 through 2016. Their study covered only about 28% of the clinics in the U.S. during this time. Data from the other 18 states could not be gathered because of "a dearth of protective laws in some states, a lack of reporting ..., or limited public availability of information on abortion providers..."

Thirty-nine Planned Parenthood clinics in 15 states were among the clinics rated as unsafe in the December 13, 2016 report entitled, "***Unsafe: How the Public Health Crisis in America's Abortion Clinics Endangers Women.***" In addition to unsafe conditions, the investigation revealed an absence of protective laws in some states, lax state inspection protocols, and failure to enforce existing laws.

The report categorized violations charged against the clinics into 10 groups. Given space limitations, we will review only those five which pose the most serious and immediate danger to women. As numbered in the report, they are:

1. *Failure to ensure a safe and sanitary environment and to follow infection control policies.*
2. *Failure to accurately document patient records and keep medical information confidential.*
3. *Failure to ensure staff are properly trained for duties.*
4. *Unlicensed/unqualified/untrained staff providing patient care.*
10. *Failure to monitor patient vital signs.*

Listed below are the Ohio abortion clinics cited in the report and the category numbers of their violations:

- *Akron Women's Medical Group (Akron): 1*
- *Capital Care Network (Toledo): 1, 2, 3, 4, 10*
- *Capital Care Network (Cuyahoga Falls): 4*
- *Founder's Women's Health Center (Columbus): 1, 2, 3, 4*
- *Northeast Ohio Women's Center (Cleveland/South*

Euclid): 3

- *Planned Parenthood (Bedford Heights): 1, 2, 3*
- *Planned Parenthood East Health Central Ohio (Columbus): 1, 2, 3*
- *Preterm Abortion Clinic (Cleveland): 2, 3*

As noted, the above does not include violations numbered 5-9, judged to be less of an immediate threat to women. The complete report may be viewed online at Americans United for Life's website, or at our office.

The report also identified the following Ohio clinics as "repeat offenders" who "refuse or fail to remedy deficiencies or violations identified by state health officials during routine inspections.": **Akron Women's Medical Group, Founder's Women's Health Center, Planned Parenthood Bedford Heights and Planned Parenthood East Health Central Ohio.** It also identifies Ohio and six other states as having a problem with appropriately and consistently enforcing state abortion laws.

Finally, although Ohio was not mentioned in this context, the report notes the rising prevalence of circuit rider abortionists who "shatter the myth that abortion is 'between a woman and her doctor.'" Such persons are not resident in or near the communities where the abortions are performed, but drive or fly in, and are gone shortly thereafter. Hence they are unavailable to the patient should complications arise. Even more localized abortionists are typically strangers to the patients prior to the procedure. Two large-scale surveys of women at abortion clinics found 7% or fewer cited personal or fetal health concerns as the reason for their abortions, which could prompt them to consult their personal physician, although even some of these might prefer the anonymity of an abortionist. ■



Do you know someone who exemplifies the value of caring and whose unselfish contributions to the protection of life from conception through natural death deserve recognition?

Right to Life of Northeast Ohio is accepting nominations for our annual volunteer recognition to be presented on April 22, 2017 at our annual "Celebrate Life" dinner. Awards to be presented are the **Marie McNeill Life Education Award**, **Defender of Life Award**, and **Champion of Life Award**. Submission deadline for nominations is March 31, 2017. For a full description of awards and nomination form, visit our website at www.RTLofNEO.com/awards_nominations.

Abortion policy was one of the major issues in the 2016 elections. Unlike previous elections, in which many candidates tried to minimize their position on this issue, the party platforms and their nominees clearly staked out totally opposite positions. Even Planned Parenthood's CEO Cecile Richards said, "I think that Roe vs. Wade was on the ballot in this election."

A national poll of voters taken on election day by The Polling Company/Woman Trend found that 49% said that abortion affected their vote. Of these, 63% said they voted for candidates who opposed abortion, while only 37% voted for candidates who favored abortion. The result was reflected in the fact that National Right to Life's political action affiliates celebrated victories in 83.3% of the 60 federal races they supported. This was in spite of the fact that Planned Parenthood said it would spend nearly \$30 million to target pro-life candidates, and NARAL spent hundreds of thousands of dollars on digital ads. Results were equally encouraging in our state, with 90% of Ohio RTL PAC candidates winning election. Donald Trump carried the state by an 8.5% margin.

As of January 15, President-Elect Trump had nominated or appointed at least 13 pro-life persons to various positions in his administration. These included the following particularly relevant to the abortion issue: Terry



Branstad, Ambassador to China, Kellyanne Conway, Special Counselor, Betsy DeVos, Secretary of Education, Nikki Haley, UN Ambassador, Mick Mulvaney, Director of Management and Budget, Tom Price, Secretary of HHS, Jeff Sessions, Attorney General, and Kathy Talenko, Health Policy Advisor. President

-Elect Trump has also promised to appoint pro-life judges to the Supreme Court and other federal courts.

The list of pro-life legislation and policies to be enacted by this administration is long and pro-lifers are hopeful that they will be accomplished. They include reinstating the Mexico City Policy to ensure that the U.S. does not promote or fund abortion overseas, enforcing the Weldon Amendment to stop states from unlawfully discriminating against health providers who refuse to pay for or cover abortion, repeal the HHS mandate requiring taxpayers to pay for contraceptives, abortifacients and sterilization, reinstate conscience protections for health care providers, pass the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act prohibiting abortion after 20 weeks gestation, reinstate observance of the Hyde Amendment prohibiting federal taxes to pay for abortion except in rare cases, defund Planned Parenthood, and defund the UN Population Fund which has participated in China's coercive one-child program. Most of the above pro-life policies were rescinded or ignored by the Obama administration. ■

Why Defund Planned Parenthood?

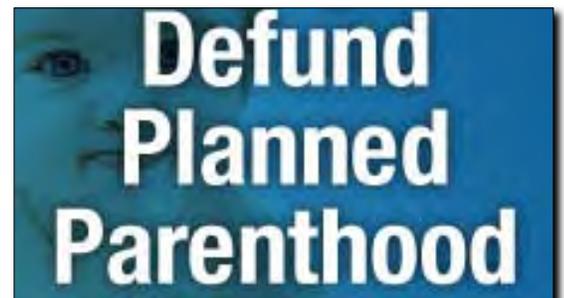
by Dr. Ray Adamek

The Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF) and the Charlotte Lozier Institute (CLI, a pro-life research group) just released a report to Congress documenting the abuses, potential fraudulent activity and illegal use of taxpayer money by Planned Parenthood (PP). Based on multiple federal and state audits and reviews of Planned Parenthood bookkeeping and other practices, they found that nearly 25% of Planned Parenthood businesses have been implicated in financial fraud or mismanagement.

Federal audits show that PP wasted at least \$12.8 million in taxpayer funds. As one example of fraud, the report noted that in 2013, PP accepted nearly \$3 million in grants from the Susan G. Komen Foundation to provide mammograms, clinical breast exams, and breast health education for low income women. However, "not a single PP facility had mammography equipment on site or performed any mammograms. Nor was any PP clinic capable of or licensed for mammography..." "Furthermore ...PP affiliates apparently were 'double-dipping': ... billing Medicaid for the entire amount" of the bill already paid by the grant or other insurance.

Not only does PP not deserve the tax money of pro-lifers, the government can't afford it, being \$20 trillion in debt, and PP does not need it. Their last nine annual reports indicate that their average annual profit (excess of revenue over expenses) was \$72.6 million per year!

Readers may see the entire ADF report, titled, "Profit. No Matter What," on their website at www.adflegal.org. Chuck Donovan, CLI president, said, "This report joins earlier findings on issues of human trafficking, failure to report statutory rape, [and] alleged violations of fetal organ [sales] that reinforce the need for Congress to reallocate funds to agencies that respect human life and put women first." For more details, click on "Issues" on our website, and then on "Abortion" and then "Eleven Reasons Why Tax Money Should Not Go to Planned Parenthood." ■



A Tragic Anniversary—Roe v Wade: The Facts

The following information was provided by our friends at the Human Family Research Center:

1. When 1973 began, abortion was not allowed in most of the United States. A majority of Americans decided that abortion, which ends the life of a child, should be against the law. Thirty-three (33) states, including Ohio, had specifically rejected efforts to remove legal protections for unborn children. Thirteen (13) other states severely limited protections for unborn children and for (4) removed all legal protection before viability (when the child can survive outside the womb, at approximately 24 weeks of pregnancy).
2. On January 22, 1973, (44 years ago) the United States Supreme Court, in its Roe v Wade decision, declared that the American people were wrong and that pregnant women must be allowed to obtain an abortion for any reason up to viability (about 24 weeks). States may outlaw abortion after viability, but Roe does not require this. Roe says it's legal for a state to permit abortion up to the moment of birth.
3. Since Roe more than 59 million abortions have occurred in the United States.
4. When Roe is overruled by the United States Supreme Court, each state will have the opportunity to decide whether or not abortion should be illegal. Eleven states* (representing 20% of the U.S. population) have abortion prohibitions that could go into effect after Roe, but the state would have the power to decide what the law should be. The goal will always be to protect every child in the United States from abortion.



* Ohio does not have a prior anti-abortion law in place. For more details about Roe v Wade, visit our website, click on "Issues", then "Abortion", then scroll down to the article "Roe v Wade: A Bad Decision Yields Terrible Consequences".

If there was a way to stop an abortion before the law was changed, would you?

Our time proven media campaign has proven to be the best way to accomplish this.



Instead of advertising pro-life messages, we use media dollars where it is most effective.....trying to change the hearts and minds of those women who are considering an abortion. These messages put vulnerable abortion-minded individuals in touch with life-affirming resources in order to save lives. Through research based messaging in our partnership with Heroic Media and area pregnancy resource centers, we utilize the internet, phone applications, television advertising, billboard and public transportation ads that are NOT branded as coming from Right to Life. We are able to monitor results and effectiveness....**and it's working!**

In order to continue saving lives and not wait until laws against abortion are enacted, we need to keep this campaign going. Please....take part in this extremely important effort to save the lives of innocent human beings NOW!

To view more details about this critical strategy to save lives, visit our website, click on "Events", then click on "Signature Media Campaign".

Tiffany's Story

Tiffany is a twenty-one year old college student who faced an unplanned pregnancy. The father of the baby lives in another city, and has a family of his own. Tiffany's mother told her that if she got pregnant, she would not speak to her again. Tiffany felt that the only option was abortion, so she searched online for information about getting one. She clicked on a Heroic Media ad that led her to call Pregnancy Solutions and Services in Akron, Ohio. Tiffany agreed to come in for an appointment.



The staff met with Tiffany, and listened to her concerns about the pregnancy. Tiffany had an ultrasound at her appointment, and saw her 11 week-old baby on the screen. During the ultrasound, Tiffany was emotional. She knew that she could not abort her child. Tiffany realized that she was considering an abortion because she wanted to please others more than herself. She was brave enough to choose life for her baby! Praise God for saving this baby from abortion!

Isaiah 40:31: "...but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

heroic MEDIA

This is just one of the success stories that was achieved because of the Right to Life of Northeast Ohio media campaign.



2017

Celebrate Life!

Dinner

Saturday
April 22, 2017

Prime 93
Restaurant & Banquet Center
4315 Manchester Rd.
Akron OH 44319

with
Keynote Speaker

Ohio Attorney General

**Mike
DeWine**



Attorney General DeWine has a long and distinguished career in public service focusing on protecting Ohio children and families. DeWine served as Greene County Prosecuting Attorney, in the Ohio State Senate, in the United States House of Representatives, as Ohio Lieutenant Governor and in the United States Senate. His pro-life record includes:

- Voted YES on notifying parents of minors who get out-of-state abortions.
- Voted YES on banning partial birth abortions except for maternal life
- Voted YES on maintaining ban on Military Base Abortions
- Voted YES on banning partial birth abortions
- Voted YES on banning human cloning
- authored the Unborn Victims of Violence Act, which stated that an unborn child is a separate victim when a mother is attacked
- authored the "DeWine Amendment" to prohibit the use of federal tax dollars to pay for insurance to provide abortion coverage

Your support of Right to Life of Northeast Ohio goes toward our mission of protecting innocent human lives from conception through natural death...no exceptions.

Life Education Fund is a 501c3 affiliate with Right to Life of Northeast Ohio. Contributions to Life Education Fund are tax deductible under IRS rules and regulations.

5pm Social Hour **6pm Dinner**
Limited seating available!

Check our website soon for more details!
www.RightToLifeofNortheastOhio.com



572 West Market St. Suite 2 • Akron, OH 44303
 330-762-2785
www.RightToLifeofNortheastOhio.com

Our Mission

Protecting the sanctity of human life from conception through natural death...NO EXCEPTIONS

The Main Issues

*Abortion
 Embryonic Stem Cell Research & Cloning
 Euthanasia & End of Life Decisions*

Our Goal

Building the Culture of Life

Our Strategies

Educate with the facts concerning life issues
Legislate by promoting laws protecting innocent human lives
Advocate as a voice for the voiceless
Unify those seeking to defend life
Multiply our voices to increase in strength

Right to Life
 of
Northeast Ohio

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Executive Director

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*Youth For Life of Northeast Ohio
 is a program of
 Right to Life of Northeast Ohio.*

*Life Education Fund is a 501c3
 affiliate with Right to Life of
 Northeast Ohio.*

*Contributions to Life Education Fund
 are tax deductible under IRS rules.*

PLEASE HELP US...

...to continue in our fight to
 protect innocent human life
 from conception through
 natural death...

NO EXCEPTIONS!

*You can use the envelope
enclosed with this newsletter
 to make a donation by mail*

or

CALL

330-762-2785

or

*make a secure online
 donation at:*

<https://rtlfofneo.nationbuilder.com/donate>

**A woman has the
 right to do what
 she wants with
 her own body...**

even if she's still in the womb.



www.RightToLifeofNortheastOhio.com