

# Life Matters

Discussing life matters,  
because life matters

June 2013



Editor: Jim Burke

## Upcoming Events

Tuesday, CFLI Board Meeting  
July 9

Tuesday, CFLI Work Meeting  
July 23

Tuesday, CFLI Board Meeting  
August 13

**We welcome newcomers  
to our meetings**

## Congressional Hearing

Sue Martinek, our co-founder and president testified before a Congressional hearing regarding the way the IRS handled our organization and others when we applied for 501c3 tax-exempt status. People across the nation have thanked us for standing up and speaking out. Thankfully, Congress heard what the IRS did.

The Thomas More Society, which originally represented us in 2009, had other clients affected. They covered the majority of the cost of the trip. We thank them and people who donated money to specifically address the costs of this trip. They allowed us to focus our resources on our mission.

Again, we hope justice will be served, and that other organizations don't have to go through what we did.



Unexpected Effects of Planned Parenthood  
What They Don't Realize They're Doing

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# Honoring Fathers on Father’s Day

For quite a while, we’ve wanted to do something to honor fathers on Father’s Day. This year, we distributed magnets with the message, “Thanks, Dad, for life!”

We distributed the magnets at some local churches that have participated in our activities previously. The image at the right shows

the design and message that appeared on the magnets.

Thank you to fathers, and to everyone that took part in this effort.



## Choose Life Plates are on the Road!

As reported last month, the Choose Life license plates reached their goal. Now, the plates are available.

That means that anyone can order them whenever they want. They are available at the same place you would normally pick up any other license plates.

Several members of our organization have already received their Choose Life plates and have brought the message to the road.

Keep your eyes open for the life-affirming message. We encourage you to get similar plates if you haven’t already acquired them.

They do cost a little more than a standard plate, and costs \$5 more on an

annual basis. But that’s an inexpensive way to bring the message to others.

Women facing an unplanned pregnancy often look for any sign to choose life. This is a literal sign, and for some women, that’s enough.

We hope you consider these plates if you don’t have one, and we’re very happy they are on the roadways.

# Unexpected Effects of Planned Parenthood

## What They Don't Realize They're Doing

When Planned Parenthood (PP) of East-Central Iowa tried to grow, they opened a facility in Monticello and Dubuque in 2008. They closed the Monticello facility in 2010, after it strained their resources. It was only open 2 days per week, which most business owners know is inadequate to pay bills for all but the most profitable businesses. The Dubuque facility remained open, despite also draining resources.

The bad decision to grow without demand and to keep open facilities that failed to perform nearly broke the affiliate. PP of the Heartland acquired the affiliate. Over time, they cut hours, which normally helps minimize costs. But things still weren't working out for them, so they poured more funds into the money pit to change locations and add more



services. Yet, the hours were cut further earlier this year.

Dubuque's office is only open 15 hours per week! If they expand their hours, their costs go up. But if they get so little use of the facility, it just drains their resources.

Similarly, Red Oak in Southwest Iowa is only open 2 days per week for a total of 11 hours/week. That's barely more than 40 hours per month!

Red Oak has seen a rapid increase in their pro-life activities in the past year. The longer PP keeps that facility open, the more it offers a point of opposition in that community.

It's our silence that usually

leads to the spread of the abortion agenda.

Whenever PP or other abortion providers exist in a community, it creates a reaction that grows with time.

Imagine pouring money into failed business ventures and not realizing how much it strengthens the efforts of people who don't want you in their community. A few years ago, we found out Iowa has more PP facilities per capita than all but one other state. As PP faces challenging times, it's interesting to see how they scale back hours, but manage to keep the motivation for the pro-life movement present in as many places as possible.

## The Content of Our Prayers

One interpretation of the IRS questions of our prayer meetings led people to say they asked for the content of our prayers. People rightfully raised concerns over such questions. We decided it might make sense for people to know some of the many things we pray for.

We pray for the employees, that they may recognize what they are doing and choose a better career. We pray for the women entering, that they may choose life-affirming options, such as adoption or pregnancy resource centers like Bridgehaven.

We pray for men that enter, that they support women with life-affirming attitudes. We pray for the families of the parents of unplanned pregnancies, that they provide life-affirming support.

We pray for the lives of the children lost to abortion. We pray for the protection of children who are at risk of being aborted. We pray for the care of newborns

that could be put up for adoption or left at safe-haven locations like hospitals if parents protect the life of their children but find themselves unable to take care of them. We pray for women who have had abortions, that they find healing.

We also pray for people who drive by. Some offer support, and we say prayers of thanks. We also pray for those that curse us, that they may find understanding, love and peacefulness.

We pray for the people who support mothers and fathers. We pray for an increase in the number of people standing up for life.

Our Father, Who art in heaven  
Hallowed be Thy Name;  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass  
against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

We pray that men respect women, so rapes do not occur. We pray for parents of children with special needs, that they may find the strength to love their child and not give in to the fear that they may not be able to financially support their child or dedicate enough time to them. We pray that people value life and approach their lives in ways that avoids unplanned pregnancies.

Some people pray for the elderly, that they are treated with dignity instead of being euthanized. Some people pray for others that are suicidal, that they may find value and purpose in their lives.

We pray for plenty of other things, but this is a short list, even though it filled most of this page. In the future, we may include specific prayer requests and prayers.

## Pro-Life Challenge



### Wear the Pro-Life Message

If you have shirts or pro-life pins, like the precious feet pins, wear them to public events. It's summer, and it's a great way to keep life issues in the forefront. It also shows support for life, which makes more people willing to discuss the issue.



### Don't have such items?

Many items work best when bought in larger quantities. Contact us, and the next time we do a bulk order of something, we can keep you in the loop. If we know what you are looking for, it can guide what we order next.

## Simple Way to Help

For a few years, we've raised money by using goodsearch.com. The website uses the Yahoo search engine, but contributes money to non-profit organizations.

We earn 1 cent per web search. There are also ways to earn money for online purchases, using their goodshop portion of their website. Now, they allow us to raise money when people play online games, watch TV ads, and other things.

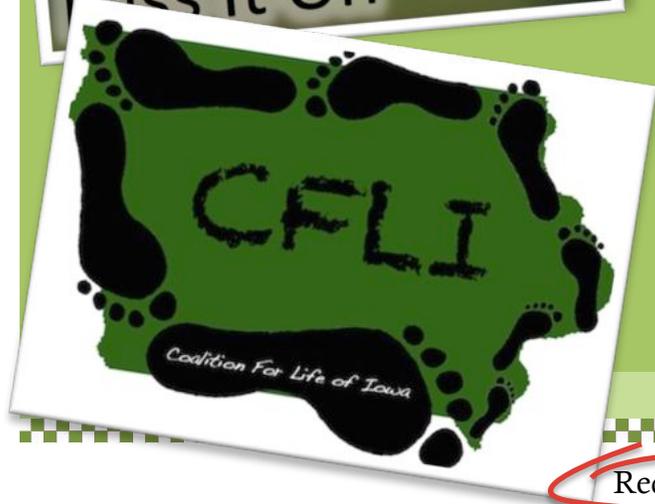
The important part is to designate the Coalition for Life of Iowa as your charity. The site raises money for many organizations, and without designating a charity, it doesn't do us any good.

In the upper right corner of the site, you should see Log

In or your user name if you are logged in. If it says Log In, click it, and set up an account or use the buttons to use Facebook or other methods of identifying yourself. Then, identify us as your charity. Then, as long as you are logged in, your activity on their site will raise money for our local efforts.

It's important to make sure you are logged in periodically, and especially after upgrading web browsers. As long as you are logged in, your searches raise a penny per search. That may not seem like much, but we have hundreds of searches performed by our members each month. In the course of a year, we earn quite a bit of money for things we do anyway.





## Spread the Word!

Do you know other pro-life people that might like to subscribe to this newsletter?

- Tell them about it
- Forward a copy to them
- Print a copy to hand to friends

Do you have ideas you want discussed in future issues? Contact us with your suggestion. We may consider including your article if you prefer to write your own.

Did you spot some issues with this newsletter that really bug you? Then perhaps you'd like to help edit it. Contact us to see how you can help.

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## Remember, Life Matters!

Request electronic copies by email: [coalitionforlife@gmail.com](mailto:coalitionforlife@gmail.com)

## Coalition for Life of Iowa

P.O. Box 864  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406