



Life Matters

Discussing life matters,
because life matters

June 2014

Editor: Jim Burke

Upcoming Events

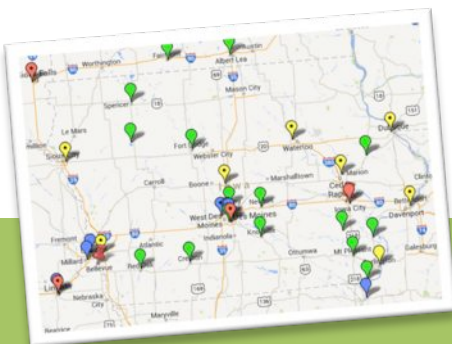
Tuesday, CFLI Board Meeting
July 8

Tuesday, CFLI Work Meeting
July 22

Tuesday, CFLI Board Meeting
August 12

Tuesday, CFLI Work Meeting
August 26

**We welcome newcomers
to our meetings**



Annual Meeting

In July, we will have our election of board members at our annual meeting. We have a few openings in both the board and executive board.

There is much to do to bring the pro-life message to the community in the year ahead, and we welcome anyone with interest in joining our board, leading activities, or helping those who do lead.

If you have an interest in pro-life activities, want to get more involved, or want to know more about the variety of things we do, then please contact us.

Imagine playing a part in promoting life even more locally. Join us!

- Coalition for Life of Iowa Board

Two More Planned Parenthoods Close!

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Learn More About the Efforts Made in SW Iowa

Father-Daughter Dance

The Father-Daughter Dance that kicked off Father's Day weekend went very well. It was our first dance, and it looked like everyone had a great time.

We thank everyone who helped coordinate and plan the event. We also thank everyone that showed up.

Do you have ideas for Father's Day events in future years? If so, contact us with your ideas.



Prayer Flash Mobs

This summer, we started up our monthly prayer flash mobs again. The photo shows just some of the people who showed up to our first one of the summer.

We provide just enough notice to make sure people know when to



show up, but not so much that appointments are rescheduled to avoid us. We've had people pray in large groups, and lots of little groups

before. Each one is unique!

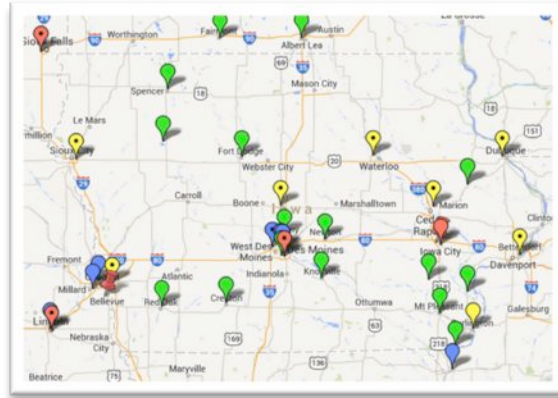
Come join us for an hour sometime this summer!

Two More Planned Parenthoods Close!

On May 31st, after praying outside the Cedar Rapids abortion facility, I stopped at a grocery store on my way home. My shopping was interrupted when my cell phone rang. It was Rod Goodemote calling. Although most people in Cedar Rapids won't know Rod, I knew he was the leader of 40 Days for Life in Red Oak, Iowa.

A few years earlier, he was living in Florida, and was about to move back to Iowa. Someone in Iowa was trying to convince him to lead 40 Days for Life. I chimed in to help recruit him. He accepted the responsibility, even though he would still spend the next month in Florida before having about a month to prepare in Iowa.

People often say they are there to help, but don't always follow it up with action, and I didn't want to be that kind of person. So Rod and I spoke and emailed back and forth several times. He reached out to media more than we do. Volunteers



there were mostly Protestant, while most of those in Cedar Rapids are Catholic. He was leading outside an abortion facility in the smallest community that provided abortions in Iowa, while we are in Iowa's second-largest county. Despite the differences, there were many things we were able to share with each other.

Rod knew people in Creston, which also had a Planned Parenthood that committed abortions. Over the past few years, he would play a major role in recruiting a leader for Creston's 40 Days for Life effort. They finally joined in this Spring.

Back in December, we heard that both Red Oak and Creston Planned Parenthoods reduced their hours to zero,

but they still accepted clients by appointment. We wanted to declare victory, but we knew not to do so too soon. A few months later, a CLOSED sign went up, making it seem even more likely that victory could be declared. But again, they were still Planned Parenthood facilities that indicated the possibility of offering abortions.

Well, when Rod called me, he was telling me that a sign went up on the door. The Red Oak Planned Parenthood was "consolidating" with an existing location, which means they were closing. He was going to have someone check Creston. A while later, we found out that Creston was also slated to close on Wed., June 18th!

We praise God for the great things happening in Iowa! The only Planned Parenthoods west of the Des Moines and Ames metro areas are in border towns. Roughly HALF of the Planned Parenthoods have closed in just 2 years!

PP's Jill June Retirement

After 30 years with Planned Parenthood, Jill June will retire at the end of June. Abortion advocates honored her earlier this month.

Under her leadership, what is now Planned Parenthood of the Heartland went from having 7 facilities to several dozen. But much of that growth came from mergers. As we have been able to report regularly in the past 2 years, many facilities have closed.

Jill received Planned Parenthood's "Stick Your Neck Out" award. She failed to cooperate with a subpoena by blocking access to information requested by a county attorney that needed information for a case. Efforts to obstruct justice and not seek some reasonable solution was championed by abortion advocates.

But many years later, when Planned Parenthood faced a multi-billion dollar lawsuit raised by a former employee, they demanded

to see evidence, which would have required a similar disclosure of patient information that they prided themselves a decade earlier for protecting. In this case, it would have required thousands of violations of federal laws in order for the whistleblower to release such information. The double standards were plentiful under Jill's leadership tenure.

Planned Parenthood of Greater Iowa merged with the affiliate that included Nebraska a few years ago, and then took on the name Planned Parenthood of the Heartland. Then, they merged with Planned Parenthood of East-Central Iowa. The Cedar Rapids facility was the main facility in the acquisition, but it had struggled to sustain the losses from the Dubuque operations. Without the merger, Cedar Rapids and Dubuque may have both been free of Planned Parenthood by now.

Soon after that merger, they acquired the affiliate in Southeast Iowa, and then facilities in Arkansas and



Eastern Oklahoma. This merger made the territory noncontiguous, since Kansas and Missouri were not under Jill's leadership.

Jill originated the concept of webcam abortions, and she would strive to spread it over this vast new territory. Many states rapidly outlawed the practice, but Iowa kept it legal. The Iowa Board of Medicine banned the procedure, but Planned Parenthood fought and successfully convinced a judge to put a stay on the ban.

We want the best for women and children in Iowa. Therefore, we hope to see more facilities close under their new leader.

Pro-Life Challenge



Pray with Us

Pray with us at our monthly prayer flash mobs. You can come out any time, but we designate a 1-hour time slot each month. If you've participated in our past activities, you probably get the invites.



Help Us Organize Future Activities!

We have more events coming up this fall. Can you help us organize 40 Days for Life? Maybe you want to help with our Life Series educational events. We have plenty of activities, and we want a wide range of people helping! We can accomplish great things together!

More Choose Life!



Earlier this spring, we learned about a woman who chose life a year earlier after seeing many of you praying outside of the Cedar Rapids Planned Parenthood abortion facility. Dubuque County Right to Life has confirmed that another woman who had come to Cedar Rapids for an abortion and had initiated her abortion in Cedar Rapids talked to people in the Dubuque area and changed her mind.

Thankfully, some doctors know how to stop webcam abortions after they begin, if caught early enough. The image above has a phone number anyone can call for help in such cases.

Prayers work anywhere. Help is more readily available than many people assume. We are thankful for your prayers locally, and for the help in this case from our friends in Dubuque.

It's also important to know how to help people while we are out praying. There's also a chance you may encounter a situation where such information could help someone, even when you aren't on the sidewalk.

Please continue to be approachable. We are the most approachable when we aren't judging people, when we present a positive message in a respectful way, and when we are honest.

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Coalition for Life of Iowa

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