



# Life Matters

Discussing life matters,  
because life matters

July 2014

Editor: Jim Burke

## Upcoming Events

Tuesday, CFLI Board Meeting  
August 12

Tuesday, CFLI Work Meeting  
August 26

Tuesday, CFLI Board Meeting  
Sept 9

Tuesday, CFLI Work Meeting  
Sept 23

Wednesday, 40 Days for Life Begins  
Sept 24

**We welcome newcomers  
to our meetings**



## Not a Dull Summer

So often, summers bring fewer activities. We often think of October as Respect Life month, January has Marches for Life, and each spring and fall, we have 40 Days for Life. Summer can seem like a chance to regroup and prepare for the next season of activities.

But we have seen the closing of a few Planned Parenthood facilities in SW Iowa, the discontinuing of webcam abortions locally, and changes in leadership in organizations on both sides of life issues within the state.

It's not a dull summer. But we can always use more help in preparing for the activities we have planned for the months ahead.

- Coalition for Life of Iowa Board

Local Webcam Abortions End!

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Less than two years of abortions now at an end

## Local Webcam Abortions End!



Right after the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend, we found out that the Cedar Rapids Planned Parenthood (PP) discontinued performing webcam abortions! They had begun them less than

two years earlier, following the Labor Day weekend in 2012.

We still need to keep getting the word out that PP is still the type of organization that would inflict webcam abortions on women. Plus, they still refer women to Iowa City and other locations to get abortions.

This latest news is great news, since most facilities that discontinue webcam abortions

struggle to survive and eventually close.

Abortions bring in more than half of the money for PP nationally. So despite their numerous funding sources, it's very hard for them to survive without abortion.

It brings in so much money, that they have no reason to stop due to financial reasons. It seems clear that our prayers and presence have had an impact!

## After 10 Years: A Look Back

Ten years ago, the Cedar Rapids Clinic for Women provided abortions on the SW side of Cedar Rapids. Planned Parenthood (PP) wasn't providing abortions at the time, but they were positioning themselves for better visibility. It was roughly ten years ago when they moved to their

present facility.

Abortions ended when the Cedar Rapids Clinic for Women went out of business back in 2008, however PP would start webcam abortions in 2012. But on the day before our annual election, we heard the abortions ceased.

We have hosted several educational forums over the years, and brought pro-lifers together. We anticipate great things in the years to come!

**10 YEARS!**

# Coalition Election Results



Our annual board of directors and officer election results are in, and here are the results:

President: Jim Burke

Vice President: Tim Mason

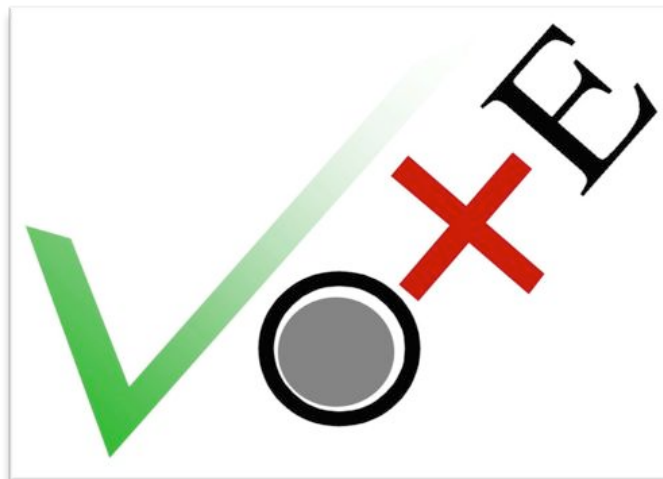
Treasurer: Russell Yount

Secretary: Bonnie Yount

Following the founding of our organization by Sue Martinek and Mary Daley, Sue served as the president for ten years. We thank her for co-founding the Coalition for Life of Iowa (CFLI) and leading it to become what it is today. Sue remains an active member of our board.

Although our treasurer remained the same, the rest of our executive board changed. Jim Burke replaces Sue as president. Tim Mason replaces Jim as vice president. Bonnie Yount fills the vacancy that formed when Aaron LaGrange resigned.

Aaron served as our secretary and as a board member for several years. Aaron plans to remain involved in various activities, but his resignation will give him more time with his family.



Lisa Gignac finished her term on our board of directors, and she did not

run again. She led the efforts this year for our Roses for Moms and Father-Daughter Dance.

Pat Semelroth joined our board, replacing Lisa. She has been involved in several of our activities in the past, and we think she's a great addition to our board.

With these changes, we still have one opening for a one-year term to finish the end of Aaron's position. If you are interested in joining our board, please contact us.

We will build off our past successes and do everything we can to achieve our mission. The Coalition for Life of Iowa promotes respect for human life from fertilization until natural death through prayer, education, and raising awareness.

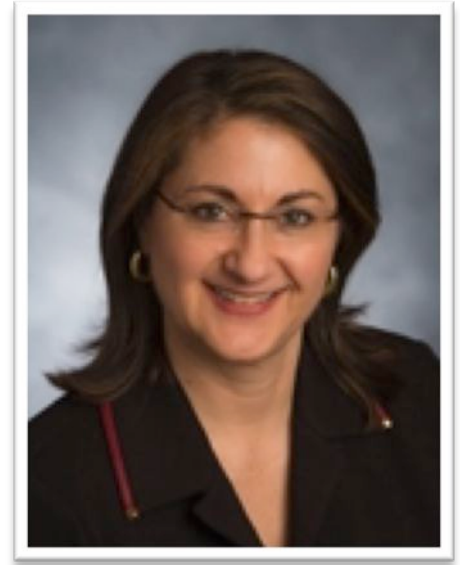
## PPH's New President

Planned Parenthood of the Heartland (PPH) experienced a change of leadership within the past month. As reported last month, Jill June left PPH after 30 years with them.

Suzanna de Baca replaces Jill June as the president and CEO of PPH. Suzanna has previously served on their board of directors, in addition to the one that served Minnesota and the Dakotas. She has

worked with various non-profit organizations over the past 20 years.

She brings with her significant knowledge of business and finance. With the past history of PPH acquiring other Planned Parenthood affiliates, it will be interesting to see if more mergers occur. With Suzanna's strong ties to the MN/ND/SD affiliate, that could become the next acquisition. Also, will PPH



recognize the facilities they have kept open despite massive losses? We will wait and see.

## 40 Days for Life

For the last few years, we've led local 40 Days for Life activities. We will continue to do this when it begins again on September 24<sup>th</sup>. Although we've had an online vigil calendar, few people used it, and the user interface was not good.

The national team has completely replaced their website, which should vastly improve the user experience. We already have a new page for our

local campaign, but in the weeks ahead, we will roll out the new features.

We will start preparing to ramp up for this fall's 40 Days for Life campaign very soon. If you would like to increase your involvement beyond praying, we would gladly welcome your help. There's always more that can be done.

The results we've seen already have been spectacular. We can only

imagine what might happen this fall!





## Pro-Life Challenge



### Like Us on Facebook and Share Our Posts

We can reach far more people when you like us on Facebook. We reach even more when you share our posts. With privacy settings, you can even choose who sees the posts you share.



### Invite Friends to Like Us on Facebook

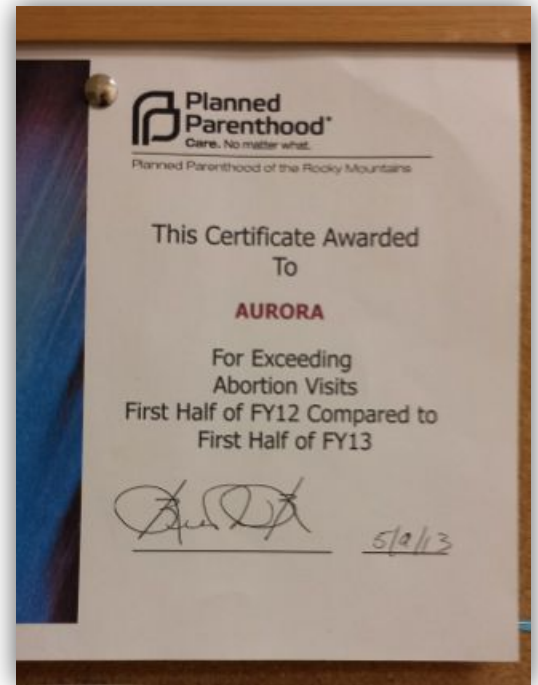
The more people we can reach on Facebook, the more we can spread the life-affirming message! We want to reach more people using Facebook and through our emails. If you value our mission, please invite others to gain access to our messages.

## Abortion Quotas

For many years now, Abby Johnson tried to inform people, saying that Planned Parenthood's internal goals reveal a desire for ever increasing numbers of abortions. This is the opposite of their public statements, where they usually tout the "safe, legal, and rare" line.

A photo from the Aurora, Colorado Planned Parenthood facility has confirmed Abby's allegations. The photo shows a certificate that was awarded for exceeding their abortion goals. They only get this award when they have more abortions than their quota. It's not awarded for reducing abortions.

We want to make sure that more people will come to realize the lies that Planned Parenthood tells. People donate money, expecting Planned Parenthood to



prevent and reduce the number of abortions. Planned Parenthood shouldn't use such donations to achieve their internal goals to increase the number of abortions.

Invite your friends to join us. Don't miss opportunities when the news covers abortion or other life matters. Those opportunities can provide chances to respectfully reveal the truth about abortion.

**CFLI Board**

Jim Burke (President)  
Mary Cherion  
Sue Martinek  
Tim Mason (Vice President)  
Pat Semelroth  
Steve Speirs  
Bonnie Yount (Secretary)  
Russell Yount (Treasurer)



## Spread the Word!

Do you know other pro-life people who 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

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