



# Life Matters

Discussing life matters,  
because life matters

April 2025

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**We welcome newcomers to our  
events and meetings**

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<https://coalition-for-life-of-iowa.square.site/>

## Changing Seasons

We are entering the months when we remember mothers and fathers. We look forward to offering real roses to mothers on Mother's Day at participating churches.

We are preparing for our summer activities. Most of these occur in late June.

We encourage people to contact their lawmakers regarding the matter of defunding Planned Parenthood, which can be accomplished during the federal budget reconciliation process. They aim to complete that by Memorial Day, but the sooner people let their voices be heard, the better!

The local Planned Parenthood remains temporarily closed, as it has been for at least a year and a half. But, Planned Parenthood is planning another local fundraising event on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, so they aren't giving up.

# Upcoming Events

<b>First Mondays</b> 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.	<b>CFLI Board Meetings (1<sup>st</sup> Mondays)</b> Get involved in our organization! <b>Where:</b> Contact us. <b>More:</b> <a href="mailto:coalitionforlife@gmail.com">coalitionforlife@gmail.com</a>
<b>Fri, May 2</b> 7 p.m. – 9:15 p.m.	<b>Bridgehaven Gala</b> Raise funds for a pregnancy resource center! <b>Where:</b> DoubleTree by Hilton Convention Complex. 350 1 <sup>st</sup> Ave NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52401 <b>More:</b> <a href="https://bridgehavencr.org">https://bridgehavencr.org</a>
<b>Sun, May 11</b> All Day	<b>Mother's Day</b>
<b>Sun, Jun 15</b> All Day	<b>Father's Day</b>
<b>Sat, Jun 21</b> All Day	<b>Iowa March for Life</b> Save the date for the March for Life at our state's capitol!
<b>Late June</b> 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.	<b>Linn County Fair: Community Day</b> Check back for details in the future.



## Recent Events

### **40 Days for Life**

Many of you joined us for prayer on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, when the United States Supreme Court heard a case regarding the ability of states to NOT be forced to fund abortion providers like Planned Parenthood (PP). Imagine an industry being so powerful that states have to go to court because they have felt compelled to give in the past.

We concluded our spring 40 Days for Life efforts with a baby shower for a woman who is pregnant. She was unable to attend, unfortunately. But it was great to see the gifts for her and her child. The games were also fun. Thank you to those who came, gave, and those who organized this event!

### **Fertility Care?**

People who know about NaProTechnology tend to know about the FertilityCare™ clinics. The PP affiliate that covers this area recently announced that they will offer “Fertility Care”, which seems like a lawsuit waiting to happen.

PP spent many years claiming the moral, pro-life methods didn’t

work. They proudly pointed to how they have been in business for over a century, and thus must be experts in reproductive healthcare, even though they lagged FertilityCare clinics by decades in terms of knowledge of reproductive health.

I’m sure PP doesn’t suddenly know how to do all the NaPro methods, but they might finally be trying to learn a few things. If they would have stopped all abortions and transformed overnight, we might be cautious until they had a good, proven track record. But if they continue to kill children, then try to get more women to trust them to get pregnant, it still makes the better, pro-life doctors the superior choice.

Aside from this addition to services at a very limited number of locations, this PP affiliate is scaling back in other ways. Now is the best time to achieve good things, rather than hoping for victory.

### **Iowa March for Life**

We are tied into the planning for the Iowa March for Life, which occurs in June. We travelled as a group in a bus last year. We hope to continue to do what we can to make that event a success again this year.

Last year, we heard from several pro-life lawmakers and other speakers. After hearing some great speeches, we proceeded to march for life from the Iowa Capitol Building to the Iowa Supreme Court and back. The buildings are neighboring properties, but we use a route that makes it more meaningful. It’s not just crossing a street and back.

We also watched some pro-life video content along the bus ride. We really need to avoid the common mistake that usually happens. The most common mistake is to allow people to see a little success, and focus their attention elsewhere, just as opposition grows.

Watch for updates in future newsletters for more about the upcoming March for Life in Des Moines.

### **Linn County Fair**

We signed up to have a booth at the Linn County Fair again this year. We will be there on Community Appreciation Day. We plan to have a variety of hands-on activities for children. Watch for updates, and we hope to see you at the fair! 🍷



## Government Update

### National

Congress aims to reconcile their budget by Memorial Day weekend. That leaves just a few weeks for them to complete that process. It takes a literal act of Congress to defund Planned Parenthood. That normally doesn't happen, since it usually takes 60 votes in the Senate to bring a bill to a vote. However, the budget reconciliation process does NOT require that many votes. Thus, pro-lifers realize the need to get pro-lifers to contact their federal lawmakers to make it clear that they want Planned Parenthood (and other abortion providers) defunded.

If Congress would do such a thing during a presidential election year, abortion businesses would simply stay open, hoping to have favorable outcomes from an election. But if they accomplish such a thing in the first year of a presidential administration, it's unlikely they would wait four years or more in hopes of getting funding. If Congress acts this year, we should expect many closures. Weaker sites like ours could end up closing.

### Iowa

This session hasn't been as strong of a session for pro-life bills in the Iowa legislature. Progress can still be made, but it can take people contacting their lawmakers and letting them know what matters to you.

### Illinois

Illinois once again decided abortion is nothing like real healthcare. The Illinois House passed a bill that isn't law, yet. But the bill aims to make the abortion pill legal in their state, even if the FDA finds the pill is dangerous.

A federal court ruled against an Illinois law that compelled speech by forcing medical professionals to tell patients the benefits of killing children via abortion, even if they recognize killing is not a valid solution.

Illinois keeps pushing for unconstitutional laws, and laws that fail to defend life. At times, they are kept in check by the courts. At times, we see abortion businesses close, despite favorable treatment.

### Maryland

The culture of death is persistent. Maryland's legislature kept a bill from becoming law that would have legalized assisted suicide. It was the eighth time they did that! Death is pushed as a solution in so many ways, and people will continue to do it for many years. Thus, the pro-life movement has plenty to do for a long time, even if all lives were protected by law.

### Keep Praying

**Pray for the protection of human life throughout the states.** Pray for the closure of the businesses that kill for money. Pray for the protection of life to prevail in the legislative sessions across the country. Even when pro-lifers are in positions to set public policy, it's possible that others will prevent them from achieving good things. We need to pray and to contact lawmakers to let our voices be heard. The abortion industry tends to adapt, but there's a real chance a significant amount of their funding could be eliminated. It's important to achieve results this year! 🙏



## Pro-Life Challenge



Please pray for God to work in the lives of people, in particular:

For people to prioritize the value of human life;  
Students for Life in Iowa;  
lawmakers & judges;  
religious leaders

## VOLUNTEER



## Help Us!

Use your skills to help pro-life efforts, and invite friends and family to attend our events. Invite them to help us out. Many hands make for light work!



# National Closures

Facilities across the country are closing, some are places where abortions took place, and some are just places owned by abortion businesses.

One closure that's making major news in pro-life circles. Warren Hern spent exactly 50 years to the day performing abortions in his own practice in Boulder, Colorado before he retired on January 22 this year. In total, he spent nearly 55 years committing abortions. He was one of the few abortionists who performed late-term abortions. If someone sought an abortion 36 weeks into a pregnancy, he was willing to do that. His business didn't close right away, but it is closing just months after his retirement.

Closer to home, pro-lifers in Rockford, Illinois noticed that the normal process wasn't followed when allowing an abortionist to operate his business, after moving from Madison, Wisconsin a few years ago. They filed a lawsuit and prevailed. That facility will close in May. He owns the property where the other abortion business in Rockford is, but he does

not plan to do business anymore. He will let others do that work. That still cuts the abortion businesses in half.

This one means a bit more to me, not only because it's in a neighboring state where abortion laws are so permissive of abortion, but because I am friends with someone who lives next door to the abortion business. When the abortion business moved in, he contacted me to get ideas of what to do. Let's just say his property had messages to offer real help to the women who parked in the parking lot. I suggested he keep such signs up for a while, in case women come who don't realize the place is closed.

Planned Parenthood is closing two sites in Utah, four sites in Michigan, recently closed four sites in Illinois, and even closed one in Vermont. Closures are accelerating in states where abortion has been welcomed in the past.

Sites are closing around the country, and the PP here has issues. Funding is declining. It's a critical time to pray to get PP sites to close and to promote better alternatives. 🙏

### **CFLI Board**

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## 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
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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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