



Life Matters

Discussing life matters,
because life matters

July 2026

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Contents

- Page 2 Upcoming Events
- Page 3 Iowa City PP Closure!
- Page 4 Government Update
- Page 5 PP Closure History

We welcome newcomers to our
events and meetings

Donate Here

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

Expanding and Closing

The Iowa City Planned Parenthood (PP) will close on July 31! This leaves only two abortion sites in the state. One is the PP in Des Moines, and the other is the Emma Goldman site in Iowa City. Claims that this closure greatly limits women's access to abortion is overblown, since they sites are less than 2 miles apart from each other.

My sources were correct about the expansion of services in Saint Cloud, Minnesota. They now list abortion for that site, plus the three others that didn't have abortion earlier this year. However, three of the sites only handle pregnancies up to 3 weeks following the start of a woman's last period, and St. Cloud only handles up to 1 week. It's not clear if they had a typo or misunderstanding with that 1-week limit, since I'm unaware of any woman getting pregnant that near the start of their last period. It's either a mistake, ignorance of reproductive health, or fraud built on offering unnecessary abortions to women who may feel rushed, pressured, and/or uninformed. Perhaps they are just starting small.

Regardless, Planned Parenthood continues to make mistakes. Although the closure of their Iowa City facility made sense, other actions do not.

KEEP PRAYING! DO NOT STOP! We want PP to sell their Cedar Rapids site. But until then, we pray outside their gutted building.

Upcoming Events

First Mondays
7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

CFLI Board Meetings (1st Mondays)

Get involved in our organization!

Where: Contact us.

More: coalitionforlife@gmail.com

Sep 23 – Nov 1
1-hour time slots

40 Days for Life Prayer Vigil

Join us in praying for an end to abortion in a peaceful prayer vigil!

Where: Sidewalk outside Planned Parenthood

3425 First Ave SE, Cedar Rapids, IA

More: <https://www.40daysforlife.com/cedarrapids>

Sun, Oct 11
2 – 3:30 p.m.

Cedar Rapids Life Chain

Take to the streets and spread the pro-life message!

Where: Meet at St. Matthew's parking lot, then spread out

2310 1st Ave, Cedar Rapids, IA

More info: <https://lifeiowa.org/events/life-chain/>

Pre-registration is preferred. Contact Sue Martinek at 319-270-0054 / susjmar@aol.com

Sun, Nov 1
(save the date)

40 Days for Life Closing Rally

Join us in praying for an end to abortion in a peaceful prayer vigil!

Where: Sidewalk outside Planned Parenthood

3425 First Ave SE, Cedar Rapids, IA

More info: <https://www.40daysforlife.com/cedarrapids>

Sat, Nov 21
Doors Open: 5 p.m.

Pulse Life Advocates Christmas Gala

Hear Jim Caviezel at this year's gala! (\$150)

Where: Iowa Events Center Hall B

730 3rd St, Des Moines, IA 50309

More info/Sign-up: <https://pulseforlife.org/christmas-gala-2026/>



Iowa City PP Closure!

The Planned Parenthood (PP) affiliate in our area announced the closure of the Iowa City PP effective July 31, 2026. This site is a significant site to see close.

Granted, for the sites outside of Minnesota, this seemed like a natural next site to close. They struggle to hire people, they have competition, and the city is small compared to their other non-Minnesota sites within the affiliate. It was the weaker of the Iowa sites. They also wouldn't want to close the last site of a state like South Dakota.

But this closure brings PP's presence in the state down to just Des Moines. Eastern Iowa will be free of PP, even if there is still an abortion provider in Iowa City. Iowa will have just two abortion sites.

With the closure of the Iowa City facility, I anticipate more women going to Illinois or other states for abortions, leaving this affiliate with fewer clients and less revenue. PP's competition will also get a greater share of the business in Iowa City. This closure could create more of a financial challenge for the affiliate.

Could you imagine going to their June fundraiser in 2025, donating money, and then within a few weeks, they announced the permanent closure of their Cedar Rapids facility? Now, imagine you go to their 2026 June fundraiser and donate money, knowing only their Iowa City site remained in the area. Then, later that same month, PP announced the closure of the Iowa City site. I wonder how long it will take their donors in this area to feel scammed or the fatigue of donating to a cause that fails to deliver.

It's bad enough that PP gets donors to give money for what many people consider good services, even though the federal government tended to cover those costs (other than in the past year). This meant their donations could pay for lawyers, abortions, profits, and growth, but not the services they likely wanted to support.

It's hard for a shrinking business to hire people. Who wants to work at a business that may close within 2 years? Then, you have to find work elsewhere. But many reputable medical providers don't want to hire former PP employees. So, if you

can't depend on working there for more than a few years, you could be destroying your future career.

The faster they close sites, the less revenue they make. The less revenue they make, the faster they close sites. The more they close, the harder it is to hire and to get donors. There is a significant trend of collapse in progress. However, it's possible to stop the trend. Thus, we must continue to remain active in our efforts to promote a culture of life and pray for an end to the culture of death.

The PP affiliate in this area can be seen as having the Twin City metro area sites, the non-metro Minnesota sites, and the non-Minnesota sites. I will step through each of these over the next few months to describe them in more detail. Prior to the closure of the Iowa City site, these three categories each have five sites, for a total of fifteen. With the closure of the Iowa City facility, the out-of-state (relative to Minnesota) sites will only have four locations, and the total will shrink to 14 sites.

Keep up the prayers! Keep up the momentum! 🙏



Government Update

National

Federal funding ban of abortion providers and Planned Parenthood expired on the 4th of July. So, Planned Parenthood started getting funding, again. Although such funds aren't supposed to be used for political purposes, they had pledged \$2 million for pro-abortion candidates on June 26. They qualified to receive over half a billion dollars around July 5. On July 9, they increased the political campaign pledge to \$47 million. The amount seems almost like a political tithe.

There are serious concerns about whether a pro-life majority can remain in the U.S. House and/or Senate. This election is critical!

There are still many federal candidates pushing the pro-abortion rhetoric. Many of them push for abortion at any stage for any reason with no safeguards. Politics tends to polarize this issue, despite most people being somewhere in the middle. Four years ago, the Dobbs ruling energized the abortion movement, but that's fading.

Iowa

On July 1, Iowa's new law began prohibiting the distribution of abortion pills, unless the prescriber has met with the client in person. People question whether this will change anything, since it could be challenging to enforce, but it's an attempt to address the issues with shipping abortion pills to clients without having a doctor involved.

This is an election year when we will elect a new governor and U.S. senator. State and national happenings could swing votes. We encourage people to become active in the political process. Some pro-life organizations are paying \$20/hour when you get involved with helping the pro-life movement in a political way.

Utah (Active Abortion Case)

Utah has an abortion case addressing constitutionality. This case could decide if life is protected from conception or not. Abortion is allowed up to 18 weeks (most abortions are legal) for now. This case could go on for several more months.

Missouri

The Missouri 2024 election created a constitutional "right" to abortion. PP doesn't waste time. They quickly sued to eliminate 30 laws regarding abortion, including laws most people consider common sense. Judge Jerri Zhang sided with PP, making their law pro-abortion.

Missouri provides an example of what happens when votes enabling abortion pass. Swift action strikes down decades of sensible protections of life and health. It also happens when pro-abortion lawmakers gain the majority.

Keep Praying

Pray for the protection of human life throughout the states. Pray for an end of the culture of death. Pray for the protection of life to prevail in governments in our nation and world. Pro-life lawmakers help, but don't always prevent them from achieving good things. We need to pray and to contact lawmakers to let our voices be heard. The abortion industry adapts. It's important to achieve results this year! 🙏

Pro-Life Challenge



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

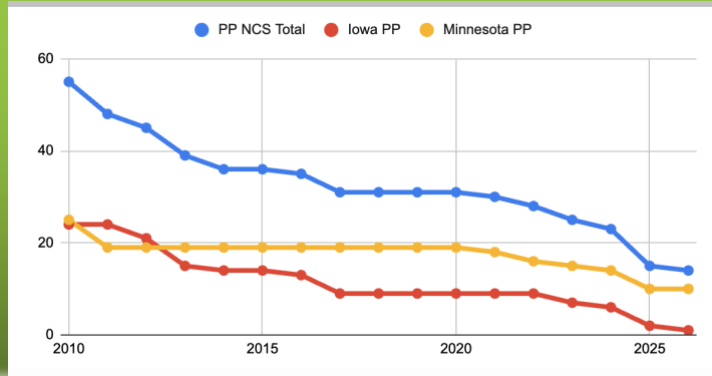
For people to prioritize the value of human life;
Students for Life in Iowa;
lawmakers & judges;
religious leaders; success for other pro-life groups

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!



PP Closure History

In April of 2011, Planned Parenthood wanted to expand to 12 new locations in Iowa and Nebraska within 5 years. The list of 24 closures within Iowa since then (15 years ago) include:

- 2012: Storm Lake
- 2012: Knoxville
- 2012: Newton
- 2013: Fort Madison
- 2013: Spencer
- 2013: Ankeny
- 2013: Fort Dodge
- 2013: Mount Pleasant
- 2013: Washington
- 2014: Creston
- 2014: Red Oak
- 2016: Dubuque
- 2017: Burlington
- 2017: Keokuk
- 2017: Quad Cities
- 2017: Des Moines: mHC ('14-'17)
- 2023: Cedar Falls
- 2023: Council Bluffs
- 2024: Des Moines: Rosenfeld
- 2025: Ames
- 2025: Cedar Rapids (2023 temp)
- 2025: Sioux City (2017 temp)
- 2025: Urbandale
- 2026: Iowa City

This doesn't count the 18 closures in other states that are now part of the same affiliate:

- 2011: Lincoln, NE (1 of 2)
- 2011: Albert Lea, MN
- 2011: Brainard, MN
- 2011: Fairmont, MN
- 2011: Owatonna, MN
- 2011: Red Wing, MN
- 2011: Thief River Falls, MN
- 2014: Omaha, NE (1 of 2)
- 2014: Rapid City, SD
- 2021: Minneapolis, MN (1 of 2)
- 2022: Grand Rapids, MN
- 2022: Virginia, MN
- 2023: Willmar, MN
- 2024: Woodbury, MN
- 2025: Alexandria, MN
- 2025: Apple Valley, MN
- 2025: Bemidji, MN
- 2025: Richfield, MN

These only list the Planned Parenthood sites that closed, not any independent providers that closed. Imagine announcing the plan to open 12 new locations, then close 24 sites in 15 years, leaving one in Iowa. The combined lists have 42 closures! It's been an amazing 15 years! 🌱

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- 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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Coalition for Life of Iowa

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