



iowa right to life

LIVE. BREATHE. DREAM.



It's a battle, but we're winning

IRTL's State of the Union
Page 3

www.iowaRTL.org

May 2011

Two saved as 40 Days grows in Iowa

DES MOINES—The peaceful prayer vigil known as **40 Days For Life** is growing in Iowa to cover even more abortion processing centers and there were at least two confirmed “saves” where women going for an abortion changed their minds.

In addition to prayer vigils that take place all year round in front of Planned Parenthood in Des Moines, Dubuque and Sioux City, pro-lifers have been praying outside of locations in Ames, Ankeny, Bettendorf, Cedar Rapids, Iowa City, Knoxville, Fairfield and Urbandale.

There were two confirmed saves, including one in Bettendorf. Jenifer Bowen, Executive Director of Iowa Right to Life also reported that a young couple drove up in a truck when she was praying outside Planned Parenthood on Army Post Road and said, “Just wanted you to know, we’re saving this one.”

IRTL invites all to a special **Celebration of Life** where participants share testimonies about what happened outside the abortion centers during 40 Days:

Celebration of Life

Grace Church
4200 East 25th Street
Des Moines
May 5 at 7:00pm

Share a testimony of what God has done outside abortion clinics in Iowa, when we simply show up and pray. For more information, contact us at 515.244.1012 or email iowa@iowaRTL.org

PP's Mega-Expansion in Iowa

New locations target community college markets

DES MOINES – Just days after Republicans lost their battle to defund Planned Parenthood nationwide, Planned Parenthood of the Heartland (PPH) celebrated by announcing the opening of six new clinics in Iowa and six in Nebraska.

The new Iowa locations have one thing in common: they are all in or near community college markets:

Carter Lake (near Council Bluffs, Iowa Western Community College)

Mason City (North Iowa Area Community College)

Muscatine (Eastern Iowa Community College in Muscatine)

Ottumwa (Indian Hills Community College)

Marshalltown (Iowa Valley Community College)

Clinton (Eastern Iowa Community



Volunteers pray outside Planned Parenthood in Urbandale, which is now offering abortions.

College in Clinton, also four-year college, Ashford University)

PPH's CEO Jill June told the *Des Moines Register* on April 14 that PPH had a \$11.5 million capital campaign for the new locations and had already raised \$7 million towards that goal.

PP Expansion...Continued on Page 2

Taxpayers Fund Abortions for Downs Syndrome Babies in Iowa

DES MOINES—One of the biggest lies told by the abortion industry is that taxpayer money does not go to fund abortions in Iowa.

Not only does federally-funded Medicaid cover abortions in Iowa, we are one of the few states that uses Medicaid funding to abort children with “fetal abnormalities,” including Downs Syndrome.

Under Iowa Code 441-78.1, 249A,

Medicaid pays for abortions in cases of rape, incest, to save the life of the mother but also if “*The physician certifies that the fetus is physically deformed, mentally deficient or afflicted with a congenital illness and the physician states the medical indication for determining the fetal condition.*”

Like Iowa, Mississippi and Washington use federal Medicaid to pay for

Downs Babies...Continued on Page 4

Ban on Late-Term Abortion Passes House, Hostage in Senate

DES MOINES—The Iowa House passed a bill on March 31 to ban abortions after 20 weeks in Iowa. Legislators are hoping to pass the bill, which is similar to one passed earlier in Nebraska.

If passed, the legislation could keep third-term abortionist LeRoy Carhart, from setting up shop in Council Bluffs. Carhart, who was once an associate of abortionist George Tiller in Kansas City, announced last fall his intention to open a late-term abortion facility in Iowa, Indianapolis and Maryland.

According to Carhart's website, he charges over \$3,000 for an abortion after 24 weeks. Tell that to anyone who thinks he's about helping women.



IRTL's Jenifer Bowen shows 30-week fetal model at a March press conference at the State Capitol in Des Moines.

The vote in the Iowa House was 60-39, with the Republican majority joined by four Democrats: Rep. Dan Muhlbauer, Rep. Brian Quirk, Rep. Kurt Swaim and Rep. Roger Thomas.

Three House Republicans joined the Democrats in voting against the bill. The three are against the late-term abortion ban because they do not think it goes far enough to ban all abortions in Iowa.

It is Iowa Right to Life's position to seek all incremental gains in life legislation, including bans on late-term abortions, bans

on webcam abortions, women's right to know legislation that offers ultrasound information to women thinking about abortion, parental notification legislation and more.

The legislation has now moved to the Senate, where it is being held up in the Government Oversight Committee by Rep. Tom Courtney, a Democrat from Burlington. But ultimately whether the bill makes it to the Senate floor for a vote is Senate Majority Leader Mike Gronstal's call.

TAKE ACTION: Please contact and ask your state senator to support the late-term abortion ban (House File 657.)

Find your Senator:
<http://www.legis.iowa.gov/Legislators/senate.aspx>

Planned Parenthood's Mega-Expansion in Iowa

PP Expansion...Continued from Page 1

As IRTL News reported last month, Planned Parenthood's abortions by webcam have allowed Iowa's largest abortion provider to increase abortions in Iowa way beyond what they offer in other states.

Without the new locations, Planned Parenthood already has more locations that do abortion in Iowa (26 now, 32 with the new sites) than all of Iowa's bordering states combined (see chart to the right.)

Why hasn't PP of the Heartland gobbled up PP of SE Iowa?

Planned Parenthood announced in December that PP of the Heartland, based in Des Moines and PP of East Central Iowa, based in Cedar Rapids, would merge.

It is assumed at sometime PPH will also gobble up PP of SE Iowa, which includes Burlington, Fort Madison, Keokuk, Mount Pleasant and Washington. PPH already has many donors from that area and its new locations certainly encroach on PPSEI turf.

None of PPSEI's sites currently offer abortion. Could this be PPH's next cash cow?

For years, Planned Parenthood has claimed that the majority of its work is for "prevention": that Planned Parenthood's birth control distribution and anything-goes sex ed aimed at small children will reduce the need for abortion in Iowa. Clearly, we can see with their current expansion, that has all been a lie. Abortion is profitable for Planned Parenthood and Iowa is a killing field.

	<u>Planned Parenthood Locations</u>	<u>Planned Parenthoods That Do Abortions</u>
Iowa:	32	23*
Illinois:	18	6
Wisconsin:	27	3
Missouri:	17	2
Minnesota:	24	1
Nebraska:	4	1
Kansas:	3	1
South Dakota:	2	1

*After expansion, assuming that the six new PP locations in Iowa will have abortions.

Stats: From www.plannedparenthood.org

Iowa Right to Life State of the Union It's a battle, but we're winning

IRTL Book Sales Cutting into PP Profits

With over \$5 million from taxpayers in the state of Iowa alone, Planned Parenthood has money to expand like crazy. But like David with rock in hand, IRTL is making some dents.

From 2009 to 2010, Planned Parenthood's book sales were down by over \$67,000. And by the number of TV commercials they ran for their spring sale, their prospects seem to be shrinking even more.

IRTL first started the book sales a few years ago, after hearing too many people say, "I don't like Planned Parenthood, but a book sale is a book sale." We wanted Iowans to shop with a clear conscience without growing Iowa's abortion industry. "Thanks to our enthusiastic and determined force of volunteers, our learning curve has been short," said Rhonda Phillips, IRTL's Book Sale Coordinator. "We are growing and our Fall Sale will be even bigger."

Since IRTL's proceeds go to keep pro-life pregnancy centers open, they save even more women from the jaws of Planned Parenthood, costing them even more income.



David and Goliath:
Never forget who won.

Medical Board: 1; Petitioners: 10,000



IRTL's Jenifer Bowen at the August press conference outside the Iowa Board of Medicine.

Members of the Iowa Medical Board treated pro-lifers with disdain during the brief, and very limited public hearing on Planned Parenthood's webcam abortions. After such an open display of anti-life bias it was no shock in January when the Medical Board sided with Planned Parenthood, after their "investigation" (wink, wink) into the legality of abortions by webcam with no doctor present to examine the woman.

IRTL organized volunteers who collected thousands of signatures that were presented to the board. In doing so,

the volunteers educated the public on the issue of webcam abortions, the dangers of chemical/ RU-486 abortions and mobilized voters for upcoming elections.

"It didn't go our way this time," said IRTL Executive Director Jenifer Bowen, "But all of these volunteers laid the groundwork for future legislative success by educating the public. In the long run, we will win."

Vigils Increase, Pro-Lifers Go the Distance

During this year's 40 Days for Life, prayer vigils increased outside Planned Parenthood locations throughout Iowa (See *Two Saved as 40 Days Grows in Iowa*, Page 1). Hats off to one pro-life group in particular, **Heart of Iowa Pro-Life, based in Oskaloosa**, did not have a Planned Parenthood in their town. So they drove 30 minutes and prayed outside the one in Knoxville.

When asked in an interview with radio KNIA/KRLS AM about the reactions of people driving by, Sharon Horn of Heart of Iowa Pro-Life said, "We've had a lot of thumbs up, a lot of honks." Thumbs up from the rest of us, too.

Youth is on our side

Lila Rose exposing Planned Parenthood with her undercover investigations...Abby Johnson writing about leaving the abortion industry in *Unplanned*...the pro-life ranks are so full of exciting new faces!



Lila Rose

Two years ago a Gallup poll showed that the majority of Americans identify themselves as "pro-life" rather than "pro-choice." Last year, the trend continued with 47 percent of Americans calling themselves pro-life vs. 45 percent identifying themselves as "pro-choice." The number of people calling themselves pro-life is increasing in all age categories, but particularly among young adults (age 18-29.)



Our future: young pro-lifers volunteer at Iowa Right to Life.

We are seeing it here in Iowa—there are many teenagers volunteering and the college pro-life groups are growing, as evidenced by the Pro-Life Conference recently organized by Iowa State University Students for Life.

Want to get involved? Visit www.iowaRTL.org and click on the Get Involved section.

IOWA RIGHT TO LIFE
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Perform Service Hours with Iowa Right to Life!

Earn service hours for school or for a Confirmation program. Or just because it's the right thing to do!

For more information, contact us at iowa@iowaRTL.org or call 515.244.1012.

Pro-Life Briefs From Around the State...

U of I Vulgar Professor is Planned Parenthood Donor

IOWA CITY—This may come as a surprise to no one, but the University of Iowa Professor of Anthropology and Women's Studies who made national headlines in April when she emailed an expletive from her official university account to the College Republicans is a Planned Parenthood donor.



Ellen (call me "Professor") Lewin, whose email to the Hawkeye College Republicans said, "F%*@ YOU, REPUBLICANS," was listed as a donor in Planned Parenthood's 2009 Annual Report.

Lewin sent the offensive email on

April 18 in response to the College Republicans' email announcement for "Conservative Coming Out Week," where they promoted events such as a blood drive and Animal Rights Barbecue.

Christie Vilsack Sets Sights on Steve King's Seat

AMES—Speaking of universities and Planned Parenthood donors, there are a lot of them in Ames. In fact, Ames could be Planned Parenthood's largest donor market after Des Moines. ISU must have more professors and staff that donate to Planned Parenthood than they have cows in the barn.

It's no wonder Christie Vilsack has made a home purchase there for a potential run at Rep. Steve King's seat. Ames is loaded with her people.

It will be a tough run against the popular King, for Vilsack, last seen heading up the Warren Buffet-funded Iowa Initiative Stork campaign disaster.

The *Avoid the Stork* campaign was eerily similar to a failed 1970s federal campaign called, *Stop the Stork*. The current stork campaign ran ambiguous TV commercials with a person in a stork costume and posted billboards along Iowa's interstates with text that was so small it is unreadable.

Christie Vilsack resigned from her \$127,000 job as Executive Director of the Iowa Initiative and the Stork campaign in March 2011.

Barring some Al Franken-ish late-in-the-game mass ballot discovery, we think Rep. King is safe.



DONATE to IRTL ONLINE! For your convenience, Iowa Right to Life has a way to donate online through Paypal. It's fast, it's free and it's secure! Visit: <http://iowaRTL.org/about-us/donate/>

Downs... Continued from Page 1

abortions in the case of fetal abnormality, according to the pro-abortion Guttmacher Institute, which was once a research-arm for Planned Parenthood. Another 17 states use state money to pay for all or most abortions.

The Hyde Amendment, named for former Rep. Henry Hyde, prohibited the use of federal funds for abortion, except in the case of rape, incest and to save the life of the mother. The Hyde Amendment went into effect in 1977.

To better understand Iowa's abortion laws, please visit the "Get the Facts" section of IRTL's website: <http://iowartl.org/irlc/get-the-facts/legislation/iowa-law/>

Iowa Right to Life Book Sale Earns \$35,000

DES MOINES—Iowa Right to Life's Spring Book Sale brought in \$35,000.

As always, the proceeds will go to pro-life pregnancy centers across the state of Iowa.



IRTL Book Sale Coordinator Rhonda Phillips unpacks books with a smile.

Thank you to all of our wonderful Book Sale volunteers who for many months, sorted, priced and boxed donated books, DVDs, CDs and magazines. Thank you also to our volunteers who worked at the sale—unpacking, organizing, selling and cleaning up. What a difference you make across Iowa in the lives of mothers in need and their children!

We are already gearing up for the Fall Book Sale, which is expected to be bigger than ever. The next sale will be September 27-October 1, 2011.

To volunteer at the Iowa Right to Life Book Sale or to donate books, please contact Rhonda Phillips at 515.205.8024 or email her at rhonda@iowaRTL.org