

prolifeunion.org 215-885-8150 mail@prolifeunion.org

88 Pennsylvania Avenue Oreland, Pa 19075

June 2021



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Dads Matter. Happy Fathers Day!

By: Tom Stevens, President and CEO, Pro-Life Union

Fatherhood begins from the moment of conception, yet today, forty percent (40%) of children are born to unmarried mothers. Eightysix (86%) of abortions are performed on unmarried mothers. Many men (fathers) suggest, support, or insist on abortion, or standby and say, "it's her body, so it's her choice." The epidemic of fatherlessness in our society grows annually. So, in our pro-life initiatives we have to reach, provide education, resources – and at all costs — impact, influence and encourage men. That's why the developing family life center in Philadelphia (a great partnership between the Pro-Life Union and Catholic Social Services) will include marketing, fun stuff, training, Bible studies and more to engage men. We must. There's no replacement for excellent fatherhood. Want to help? Email mail@prolifeunion.org or go to prolifeunion.org/volunteer.



Vanessa Chose Life ... the Power of Prayer!

It makes a difference when you stand in front of an abortion clinic. This week I received a text from Mark Houck who sent a group text to fifteen (15) people. It said, "Please pray for Vanessa... she is in the abortion clinic now. Doesn't want the abortion but feels pressure to go through with it." I sent a message back saying "Praying. Oh Lord, give her courage!) Others said they were praying and typed prayers. Mark wrote in the text, "Thank you...St Michael intercede... bind the demon of abortion attacking Vanessa... come Holy Spirit!" An hour later Mark texted, "Vanessa chose life... power of prayer! She is at a pro-life pregnancy resource center now."

Sign up for a regular shift at an abortion center. Now! Prolifeunion.org/volunteer or email mail@prolifeunion.org

Mark Your Calendars... It's time for a Sidewalk Servants Training!

When? Wednesday, June 30th, 2021 at 7:00 PM

Where? Saint Katherine of Siena in Wayne, PA (104 S Aberdeen Ave, Wayne, PA 19087)

Join the Pro-Life Union and the Sisters of Life as we gather to discuss and learn how to effectively bear witness outside of abortion clinics and save lives.

To RSVP email cpinto@prolifeunion.org

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls.

Amen.



Protecting the Unborn by Helping Moms

The Pro-Life Union needs your support. We are increasing our services and we have a goal of raising an additional \$5,000 by end of June to defray costs.

\$19.00 will provide a booster seat

\$29.00 will provide newborn diapers, wipes, onesies, baby wash and blankets in a special bag for new mom

\$49.00 will provide Uber/Lyft transportation for pregnant mom for prenatal visits and appointments

\$799.00 will provide first month rental assistance for a single mom

\$999.00 will pay for one month's utility bill at our maternity home for single pregnant moms and their children

Please give generously. You will impact family lives -- and enable us to continue saying in front of abortion centers (and anywhere): "We can help."

Make a donation now by visiting prolifeunion.org/give.

The Frankford Family Life Center

In October of 2021 the Frankford Family Life Center (final name still to be announced) will fully launch and we'll have the opening ceremonies events. The Pro-Life Union of Greater Philadelphia in an expanded partnership with Catholic Social Services are opening the first-ever Community-Based Culture of Life Initiative of its kind. The goal is to transform Frankford, Philadelphia into a Culture of Life by building a sustainable, self-sufficient, and permanent pro-life presence there. Through compassionate service, education, community engagement, programming and material assistance, we will build an effective effort that helps many moms and families (already serving more than 60 families) and minimizes abortion-risk in the area. Planned services include:

- Parenting, Child-Birthing, Fatherhood, Prenatal Classes and many other types of education.
- Counseling
- Providing Diapers, Wipes, Baby Supplies, Feminine Hygiene Products, Formula, Food & Baby/Children, Clothing
- Pregnancy Fitness Classes: Fitness classes for pregnant women will be taught by a certified fitness instructor (specialized in pregnancy fitness).
- Housing Assistance
- Car Seat and Crib Program, Newborn and Maternity Clothing Resources.
- Real Alternatives Information, STI/STD Information, Health and Resource Referrals.
- Fatherhood Initiatives
- Chastity/Abstinence Programming
- Moms' Coffee Clubs, Toddler Play Area and other Family Support services. seating, soft instrumental music, changing facilities.
- Grandparent's Corner
- Know God, Know Yourself, Know Others
- No cost Laundromat -- Now in operation. Thank you to the donors who gave new washers and dryers!



The Frankford Family Life Center is already serving over 58 women and counting! Right now the center is open on Thursday's and Friday's as renovations and improvements of the space are taking place. It will be staffed full-time this summer and we will be providing lunches this summer to school-aged children. We look forward to watching this center take flight fully in October!

Would You Pray For Us?

We need your prayerful support! The Frankford Family Life Center is an exciting new mission, but it will be hard work, so we need all the help we can get. Please consider starting a prayer team to help lift up this project as we move forward! And pray that it impacts the community and decreases abortion in the area.

We need volunteers (adults and college-aged).

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A Tribute to Kim Bennet

During the pandemic last year, Pro-Life Unon Board of Directors Member, Kim Bennett, needed to resign our Board because of family matters. Now after 36 years of service, Kim Bennett has made a prayerful decision to transition from her role as program director of PLU's Member Organization and partner, AlphaCare. Kim made this decision so that she could be of service to her family during a time when they need her most. AlphaCare is an effective pregnancy resource center located in University City,

Kim has been the single most influential person in AlphaCare's growth as a ministry. She has served as a leader, a mentor, a strategist, an advocate and a friend to thousands throughout her tenure. Her integrity serving Christ in word and deed has exponentially brought hope, health and healing to her beloved city.

Kim wanted to share this message... "Thank you to everyone who has made these last 36 years of ministry such a joy. I love Alpha-Care deeply, and I have loved serving alongside each of you. I am grateful to be a part of this mission, and I will continue to serve AlphaCare—and the families of Philadelphia—in whatever way I can."



Maternity Homes All Share Affair

Back in April, the Pro-Life Union hosted a one-hour interactive online meeting for maternity homes. We were joined by Guiding Star Ministries, Our Lady's House, Blessed Margaret Home, and Cradle of Hope. We had the oppurtuinity to gather to discuss and share some of the challenges maternity homes are facing in this season of life

and discuss some potential solutions for those challenges! It was a fruitful meeting that allowed for the directors of these maternity homes to be reminded that they are not alone in the challenges they face.

If you feel encouraged to do so, call your local maternity home and find out what donations they are in need of. Covid-19 has taken a toll on so many maternity homes, so there is no better time than the present to find out how you can help!



Three Pro-Life Bills Passed

Tom Shaheen, Pennsylvania Family Institute

In May, two different PA committees ran legislation that recognizes the humanity of the unborn child. This also presents a great opportunity for your involvement in helping to see each of these legislative efforts continue.

In the PA House Health Committee, led by pro-life champion Chairwoman Rep. Kathy Rapp (R-Warren), there were three important bills that were passed, the Heartbeat Bill, the Down Syndrome Protection Act and the Unborn Child Dignity Act. All three of these bills are not new to us as they have been introduced in past legislative sessions and have seen varying degrees of success through the legislative process.

As State Representative Stephanie Borowicz (R-Clinton) - prime sponsor of the Heartbeat Bill - told Tom Shaheen of Pennsylvania Family Institute as she was walking out, "Three yes votes on pro-life bills. What a great day!" Indeed.

For more about these bills and to use our action alert to contact your elected officials on all three, go to pafamily.org/prolife.

Concurrently, in the House Judiciary Committee, led by State Representative Rob Kauffman (R-Franklin), legislation was passed that helps to close a loophole in our criminal law regarding the recognition of the unborn child in murder prosecutions. For more about this bill and to take action, visit pafamily.org.

Pregnant and Need Help? Call (610)-626-4006

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Current Volunteer Needs:

We are in immediete need of volunteers for the following rolls/tasks:

- Graphic Designer for several immediate projects
- Receptionist for the Frankford Family Life Center (clearances required)
- Summer Meals Program Assistant Frankford Family Life Center (clearances required)

If you or someone you know is avaliable to help with any of the above roles, please contact: cpinto@prolifeunion.org

Thank You for Your Donations!



Last month we reached out asking for donations of diapers, wipes, and formula.

Since then, we have been blessed with so many generous donations and we could not be more grateful!

We are always in need of donations as we have regular deliveries to different maternity homes and family service centers!

To inquire about what items we are most in need of email cpinto@prolifeunion.org.





Tom Stevens President and CEO tstevens@prolifeunion.org

Board Members

Fr. Chris Walsh – Chairman Paul DeCamara – Vice Chair Helene Hallowell – Secretary Estela Bugg Marlene Downing Ashley Garecht Liana Hollendonner Richara Krajewski Lisa Liccione Patrick Stanton

Medical Advisor, Monique Ruberu, M.D.

Help Us Reach Our \$10,000 Goal This Month!

We've had quite a few non-budget expenses this year including \$11,000 for the Philadelphia March for Life (thank you to our generous partners and donors who covered \$4,500 of the expense), the \$6,700 disinfection for Guiding Star Maternity home in response to Covid outbreak, and we need \$6,200 more towards our goal. Please help us hit this goal and get us back on budget.