

LIFE TIME

MARCH 2022 L VOLUME 25 NUMBER 3

One of the typical accusations against pro-lifers is that we only care about the baby before it's born. To equip and inspire you all, each quarter we are going to highlight one of our many members who are doing good work in the community. The work could be directly related to the pro-life cause, or something else that proves this claim as false. We hope you enjoy it!

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Kathy Slinger

Kathy Slinger was born and raised in Dubuque and has spent most of her life here. She has been married to Dan for 28 years, and together they have two beautiful daughters, Shannon and Rebecca. Her daughters are still in the area and have started raising their own families. Kathy and Dan have five grandkids that are a true joy to their hearts.



Kathy has done volunteer post-abortion support for over twenty years with the Tri-State Pregnancy Center and the Clarity Clinic Pregnancy Center in Dubuque. She now teaches others about Post Abortion Syndrome (PAS) and how to understand and help the hurting post-abortive people in their life. Kathy said, "the ministry of helping the OTHER victims of abortion is not always understood or even acknowledged. But there is a genuine need for it. Many people out there have been hurt by abortion and need our help. I know because I was one of them!" Please consider attending our next upcoming conference, "Surrounded By Love," at DCRTL to learn more about how you can help others who are experiencing the guilt of abortion. More info is below.

♥ Surrounded By Love Conference ♥ ♥♥♥ Ministry for the post abortive ♥♥♥

Ever wonder what's happening inside the hurting post-abortive woman and how you might help her? Or the hurting post-abortive father and how you might help him?

Kathy will be offering a "Surrounded by Love" workshop at DCRTL on Saturday, April 9th from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM at DCRTL (sign-in begins at 8:30 AM). A light breakfast and lunch will be provided. RSVP by Monday, April 4th, 2022. You can register by calling our office at 563.556.5960! We hope to see you there!

March 2022

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Dubuque County Right to Life, Inc. is a non-profit, non-sectarian, education organization dedicated to preserving and fostering respect for human life from conception to natural death. We educate the public about the dangers of abortion, euthanasia and infanticide.

March 2022

March 2022	
Tuesday, March 15th @ 6:30 p.m.	Healing Our Hearts Support Group <i>DCRTL Office</i>
Thursday, March 17th	Board of Director's Meeting
Friday, March 18th	DCRTL Scholarship Submission Due
Monday, March 21st	World Down Syndrome Day & Iowa Prayer Rally for Life
Thursday, March 24th @ 7:00 p.m.	Holy Hour for Respect of Life <i>St. John the Baptist Church, Peosta</i>
Friday, March 25th @ 5:00 p.m.	Mass of the Unborn <i>Church of Nativity</i>

April 2022	
Saturday, April 9th 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.	Surrounded By Love Conference <i>DCRTL Office</i>
Saturday, April 16th 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.	DCRTL Scholarship Contest <i>DCRTL Office</i>
Sunday, April 17th	Happy Easter!
Thursday, April 21st	Board of Director's Meeting
Saturday, April 23rd 10 a.m.-11 a.m.	Easter Egg Hunt & Craft Day <i>St. Columbkille Green Space</i>
Wednesday, April 27th	National Pro-Life T-shirt Day
Friday, April 29th @ 5 p.m.	LIFE Dinner <i>Grand River Center</i>

wish
lift



Postage Stamps

A NOTE FROM AUGUSTINE PAYNE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



I don't know about you, but I really like March. Sometimes we start to see signs of spring, but guaranteed, you know in your mind that spring is right around the corner. Spring is a sign of new beginnings, and I would like to tell you about a new beginning (aside from the quarterly member spotlight) at

Dubuque County Right To Life, Inc. We are starting a Meal Train that will be for those who just had a baby, as well as for those who are terminally ill. A "Meal Train" is when individuals sign up to bring a meal for a friend in need. You can just bring one meal, but together with other individuals who volunteer, you form the train.

From my own personal experience, we had various people make us a meal when Max was born, which was a huge help. Knowing how beneficial it is to us, we in turn have done it for other new parents who have been very grateful to those who formed that train.

So you may ask, why is DCRTL also focusing on the terminally ill? Because we also seek to educate the public about the harms of Euthanasia/Assisted Suicide. If we are going to educate on the harms, we also must be there to walk with those people who are suffering, and this is a way in which we all can help.

We have our first person that we will do this for, his name is Mark Puls. Mark was diagnosed with ALS just over a year ago. For more on his story and how you can help, please see page 8. If you have questions, or you know someone who would benefit from this, please let us know by calling or emailing the office.

Whether you are truly Irish or Italian, or just pretend for a day or weekend, I would like to wish you a happy St. Patrick's Day and St. Joseph's Day.

In the fight for LIFE,

Augustine Payne

P.S. Keep an eye on the mail as we will be sending out invitations for our Annual Life Dinner which will be held on April 29th. Invite your friends to come as well.

Tax Refund Drive %

If you are expecting a tax refund this year, would you consider donating a percentage of that to Dubuque County Right To Life, Inc.? If YES, please go to our website and scroll on the homepage until you see a Tax Refund Drive section; please fill out that form to pledge your commitment. Whatever that percentage might be, it's a great way to give back, knowing your money will be put towards building a Culture of Life here in Dubuque and the surrounding areas. A thank you to Clarity Clinic for sharing their idea with us!



Memorials & Honorariums

IN MEMORY OF:

- Verna Bird.....Barbara & Daniel Nicholson
 Esther Brehm.....John & Susan Lukasik, James & Kathleen Conlon,
 Edwin & Mary Kluesner, Marvin & Maria Ney,
 Jack & Maria Smith and Kerry Koopman
 Joanne Coyle.....William & Mary Mormann
 Dan Geistkemper.....Neil & Linda Hoeger
 Robert Gerberick.....Barbara & Daniel Nicholson
 Gary Hancock.....Thomas & Beth Simpson
 Tom & Shelly Helling.....James & Kathleen Conlon
 Deacon James Kane.....Edwin & Mary Kluesner
 Sr. Donalda Kehoe, OSF.....Thomas & Beth Simpson
 Deacon James Kean.....The Kean Family and Edwin & Mary Kluesner
 Ann Murphy.....Elizabeth Ann Bray
 Shirley Nadermann.....Jack & Maria Smith
 Glynn Noonan.....Tom & Ruth Lucas
 and Neil & Linda Hoeger
 Carol Pfeiler.....Louis Pfeiler
 Linda Vander Meulen..... James & Kathleen Conlon
 Charles Vaske.....James & Kathleen Conlon, Dr. Virgil & Marian Bourek,
 Roger & Darlene Osterhaur, John & Sue Lukasik,
 John & Ellen Markham, Edwin & Mary Kluesner,
 Thomas & Beth Simpson, Mohan Kampella,
 Doris Wessels, and Colleen Myers

Life Dinner

DUBUQUE COUNTY RIGHT TO LIFE

05.29.2022

The Grand River Conference Center (500 Booth Street,
 Dubuque, Iowa)

Featuring Keynote Speaker: Dr. Anthony Levatino

More info on our speaker will be featured in April's newsletter.



PRO-LIFE COURT & LEGISLATION UPDATE



By Arthur F. Gilloon, Attorney and Board Member

We have very exciting news for you, Dear Reader.

The Iowa Senate is considering the MOMS act—“More Options for Maternal Support!” The MOMS act is landmark legislation that will ensure that every pregnant woman in Iowa receives meaningful assistance and support when she needs it most. Instead of funding Planned Parenthood and its baby-killing operation which harms women, MOMS will help women in crisis pregnancies choose life. Women need real help when faced with a crisis pregnancy and the MOMS act does just that. Both mother and child will be better off for it.

Women faced with a crisis pregnancy fear if they have their baby they won’t be able to find needed social services, family support, and financial resources.

They have pressures that push them toward abortion. MOMS will support these mothers, their babies, and help stabilize their families. MOMS will ensure access to quality prenatal and postpartum care, resulting in healthier pregnancies. Unborn children will have life, and MOMS will provide for the material needs of her new mother as well as counseling, educational services, employment services and financial aid.

MOMS will fund this aid by funding nonprofit charitable organizations in Iowa such as the 49 pregnancy resource centers already operating in Iowa, including those like Birthright, Clarity Clinic, and Mary’s Inn, all right here in Dubuque. The help provided by MOMS is real: doctor and medical care including pregnancy tests, STD tests, ultrasounds, and prenatal care; baby essentials including cribs, clothing, formula, diapers, and safety devices like car seats; counseling, referral, and care coordination services; housing and employment assistance during pregnancy and up to a year after birth; classes and education to prepare for pregnancy, birth, parenting, adoption if desired, nutrition, life skills, and employment readiness.

All of this help will be free to the expectant mothers. If passed, the MOMS act will remove the very real obstacles a pregnant woman has to choosing life. The purpose of the MOMS act in its own words is to promote “healthy pregnancies and childbirth instead of abortion.” It is a pro-life bill that every legislator could support and should support if they are truly pro-woman and pro-life.

Unfortunately, every Democrat senator on the Human Resources Committee voted against MOMS, including Dubuque Senator Pam Jochum. Fortunately, the MOMS bill was passed out of subcommittee to a full committee. Hopefully it will work its way up to the full Senate for a vote and then be sent to the Iowa House of Representatives for its consideration in this legislative session.

All around the country, pro-life legislatures are promoting laws that protect the Unborn and help women in crisis pregnancies in very real ways. The MOMS act in Iowa is another example of a positive pro-life answer to crisis pregnancies that doesn’t include killing an Unborn child or harming her mother through abortion.

DCRTL, Inc. will keep you up-to-date on the progress of MOMS in the Iowa legislature. You are encouraged to contact your senators and representatives in Des Moines to tell them how you feel about this historic legislation.

HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY



Dubuque County Right to Life awards up to \$10,000 worth of scholarships to graduating high school seniors who plan to attend college.

EXPECTATIONS:

- Students must submit a written copy of an original speech (5-10 minutes in length) on the topic “How Abortion & Euthanasia Destroy the Respect of Disabled Individuals.”
- Students must submit evidence of service hours logged in the cause of protecting human life.
- Students must submit one (1) recommendation letter describing individual commitment to some aspect of the DCRTL mission.

Please go to www.dctrl.org/scholarships for more information and to apply. The deadline to apply is **Friday, March 18, 2022**. Finalists must be available to participate in a speech presentation at the DCRTL office on the morning of Saturday, April 16, 2022. Contact Augustine Payne for more information at 563-556-5960.



... Jean Blaser, Beth & Tom Simpson, Patrick Swaney, Laura Dolehide, Marian Bourek, Beth & Natalie Clemens, Lynne Gibbs, Gerda Hartman, and Sara McDonald for all of your help in stuffing and addressing our membership envelopes!

... Beth & Tom Simpson and Jeff Eagan for donating bottled water to our DCRTL office!

... Mike Brehm for fixing our cabinetry in the DCRTL conference room!



HEALING OUR HEARTS (POST-ABORTION SUPPORT GROUP)



Meetings will be held at Dubuque County Right to Life, Inc (2205 Carter Road, Dubuque, Iowa). March 15th, 2022 @ 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. We will be meeting every 3rd Tuesday of the month).

We are here to help all people who have been involved in an abortion experience. You will have a safe place to heal from a past abortion. Whether you had the abortion, drove someone to the clinic, paid for the abortion, or was the man who didn't stop the abortion, or an industry worker, we are here to help you.



PULS FAMILY

We're the Puls and Beecher Family. God brought our families together 14 years ago. What a gift - God is so kind. A year ago this past January, Mark got the first diagnosis of ALS, a terminal illness for which there is no cure. We were referred to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN, seeking a second opinion. There we would receive a confirmation that Mark had ALS. We were advised to make memories and start preparing for the disease that will eventually take everything away from Mark...including his life.

It's been just over a year since that diagnosis. Mark is now wheelchair-bound. His breathing and strength continue to weaken daily. God has given us so many blessings and graces in the journey. Thank you so much for your kindness and thoughtfulness in considering to help us out. Everything helps with the carrying of this cross. Please pray for us as we do our best to do God's will.



MEAL TRAIN

You can help the Puls family carry this cross by providing a meal for their family. DCRTL has set up a meal train link located on our website at www.dctrl.org; scroll down until you see a listing of current Meal Trains; Click the coral button that says "Sign up to Donate a meal"; a separate tab will open where you can choose a day and the meal you would like to provide. If you have any questions, please call the office at 563-556-5960.



March 21st is celebrated around the world as World Down Syndrome Day! First observed in 2006, World Down Syndrome Day was placed on the 21st day of the 3rd month, to signify the uniqueness of the triplication (trisomy) of the 21st chromosome causing Down syndrome. In some countries, the abortion rate for Down syndrome can be as high as 90% in the United Kingdom, 98% in Denmark and 100% in Iceland.

In the United States, 67-85% of children who are diagnosed with Down syndrome in utero are aborted. In an effort to stop the discrimination against children with Down syndrome, many states have enacted legislation to prohibit the eugenic practice of Down syndrome discrimination abortion. Join us to create a voice for advocating for the rights, inclusion and well-being of people with Down syndrome on March 21st. Each year the voice of people with Down syndrome, and those who live and work with them, grows louder!



HIS MOTHER CHOOSE LIFE LEAVING A LASTING IMPRESSION

A player in this year's Super Bowl LVI got a chance at every football player's dream - and it's all because his mother chose life despite intense pressure to have an abortion more than two decades ago. Bradley Mattes of the Life Issues Institute wrote about the previously unknown story of Marquise Copeland, a defensive lineman for the Los Angeles Rams.

Marquise's mother, Tenisha Copeland faced immense pressure to have an abortion while pregnant with him — but thanks to the help and support of a pro-life ministry, she was empowered to give birth to her son and raise him. "The pressure she endured from family and friends to abort was so intense, it put her in a state of clinical depression, requiring hospitalization; when Tenisha came to Open Door, she did so directly from the hospital."

Open Door is a maternity home in Ohio founded by Greg and Annie Miller. The Millers created it as a "residential ministry," with Annie specifically viewing each mother who stayed with them as a spiritual daughter and the children born to them as her grandchildren. Young mothers came to Open Door because those who should have been their supportive network were instead coercing them to abort their babies.

Marquise and his mother are examples that God has a purpose for each and every child from moment of conception, regardless of how it happened.

TO CELEBRATE WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY

One Tennessee teen with Down syndrome felt like his dream came true in January when he started for his high school's basketball team on a senior night.

Maddox Shields is a student at Halls High School in Knoxville, Tennessee, and for four years, he's been the manager for the boy's basketball team." His team manager role started back in middle school, but it wasn't always a positive experience. His mother recalled him being excluded from being in the locker room at games and from attending practices or away games. But everything changed for Maddox when he got to high school. At the same time Maddox started as a manager, Clint Shields was also stepping into a new role as coach. Shields commented, "I thought it would bring us together a lot and help build our culture within our program, and it has."

Maddox continued being the team's manager throughout his high school career. Traditionally on senior night, all the seniors start the game. The team also wanted Maddox to start that day. On January 28th, he would get the chance to start. The student section in the stands went wild when Maddox scored a basket during warmups. Moments later during the game, he missed a layup, but he got a second chance thanks to a teammate's rebound. He made shot the second time and the whole gym celebrated. Then, with a healthy lead in the last few minutes of the game, Maddox was subbed back in, and he scored the final two points in Halls High School's 84-59 victory before being mobbed by ecstatic teammates.

Maddox's mom Tina was teary-eyed after the game, saying, "I remember when they told us (he had Down syndrome) ... and there are certain things you dream of, and you want him to be a part of things. This is that moment you dream of, and all week I've just been so giddy."

Mass for the unborn



Friday, March 25 2022

5:00pm Mass, Stations of the Cross to follow after Mass.

Church of Nativity (1225 Alta Vista St, Dubuque, IA 52001)

In honor of the Feast of the Annunciation and the International Day of the Unborn Child, Dubuque County Right to Life is sponsoring a Mass for the Unborn. This Mass will be held on Friday, March 25th (precisely nine months before Christmas) at The Church of Nativity in Dubuque.

The principal celebrant will be Rev. Martin Coolidge, Associate Pastor at St. Patrick's & Cathedral of St. Raphael. All priests are invited to concelebrate. Following Mass, there will be the stations of the cross.

Please note that the Church of Nativity begins their parish mission that night at 7:00 pm with keynote speaker; John Edwards, from the podcast "Just a Guy in the Pew." If you plan to attend both the Mass of the Unborn and the parish mission, know that the Church of Nativity is generously donating dinner. So please join us for this special evening. Everyone is welcome!



Are you in the process of filing your taxes? Have you made contributions to DCRTL?

If you answered yes to both of those questions. I want you to know that all contributions made to DCRTL are tax deductible. If you are in need of a tax form, please call our office at 563-556-5960 and request one!



We are sad to inform you that Paige has decided to move on and pursue other ambitions. However, we are grateful for her efforts in the short time she was here and wish her the best in her future endeavors. If you, or you know anyone interested in the Executive Assistant position, please reach out. For more details on the position, reach out to Augustine Payne.

A superior candidate will be ambitious, trustworthy, and passionate across all Pro-Life matters. This position will require the capacity to execute specific projects while balancing critical day-to-day office operations in an organized and competent manner. Specific abilities to succeed in this role are Communication, professionalism, team-oriented, and customer service skills. Prior experience with technology (Microsoft Office Programs, social media, contact database management, mail merge, etc.) is desired. Compensation will be commensurate with experience.

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Jeremiah 1:5*



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Larry Friedman



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Mike Martin
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