



Lifeline

Pikes Peak Citizens for Life works to protect the innocent, helpless, vulnerable members of our human family - young and old, infirm and healthy, born and preborn.

Pikes Peak Citizens For Life

October 2021

Variety of Voices are the Spice of Our Fall *Together for Life* Events



*Natasha Smith & Brittany Smith share their collaboration **Unplanned Grace** at Together for Life's September gathering.*

Save The Storks and *Pikes Peak Citizens for Life* teamed up on Sunday, September 19, at the always impressive David C. Cook building to launch a new pro-life book.

Unplanned Grace, by Brittany Smith and Natasha Smith, will open eyes and hearts to the harsh realities many women face when they experience an unexpected pregnancy and how pro-life pregnancy resource centers all over our country are coming alongside these women to help them overcome obstacles and choose life.

When a woman receives an unexpected positive pregnancy test, abortion often seems like the best or only option for her to have a fulfilling future. **Unplanned Grace beautifully challenges that belief, equipping folks to support women and men with a love that values life in every way.**

Brittany and Natasha draw on personal interviews, stories, and eye-opening facts to reveal the impact of economics, relationships, and health upon a woman's pregnancy decision, the importance of empathy for women and men facing unplanned pregnancies, and the enormous potential churches have to support women in crisis. (Adapted from the back cover of the book).

During her presentation, Natasha shared just a few of the moving stories from the book while providing a thorough overview of its contents. Natasha and Brittany answered questions from the audience including what they each found most unexpected during the process of writing the book.

Brittany was most surprised that **financial insecurity was overwhelmingly the #1 reason women gave for choosing, or considering, abortion.** She felt encouraged by the knowledge that financial need is something compassionate people can help with – this is not an insoluble problem. She was also **shocked at the sheer volume of resources available to those who find themselves in an unplanned pregnancy.** She was overwhelmed by the generosity of the pregnancy resource centers across the country and their dedication to meeting the needs of men and women in such situations.

It surprised Natasha to see how quiet churches throughout the nation are on this topic and she hopes that the book will serve as a catalyst for change and help faith leaders and the faithful to seek opportunities to walk with moms in need. Learn more about the book at www.unplannedgracebook.com.



Together For Life Upcoming Events

Sunday, October 17 | 12:30 – 3:00 pm

Theme: State of the State

Speaker: Marcie Little, Colorado for Life
Front Range Alliance Church
5210 Centennial Blvd, CSPGS 80919

Sunday, November 21 | 12:30 – 3:00 pm

Theme: The Culture of Death at the End of Life

Speaker: Connie Pratt, Disciples on the Way
Hope House at Holy Trinity Catholic Church
3101 Poinsetta Drive; CSPGS 80907

Info: julie@baileypeople.com or 401-578-4471

PPCFL Officers and Directors

President	Matt Niedzielski
Vice President	Julie Bailey
Secretary	Bernadette Johnston
Treasurer	John Combs
Newsletter	Holly Coco
Additional Directors	Shannon Kelepolo Mark Spengler Kathy Thilenius Trevor Malloy

Board meets 7pm monthly on the 2nd Monday.
Come and see what we do.

To schedule a PPCFL Presentation

Julie Bailey (719) 630-1999

Join us as a volunteer!!

Staff our office; assist with computer work; become a PPCFL church or group contact; assist with educational programs; staff an educational booth; or assist in fundraising. Feel free to bring fresh ideas or "Chair" a project... the opportunities are endless.

FREE Subscription: LifeLine Newsletter

To receive our electronic *LifeLine* subscribe online. For a paper subscription, call or email:

Phone: 719-630-1999

Email: contact@ppccitizensforlife.org

Website: www.ppccitizensforlife.org

✂ -----

Support PPCFL

All-Volunteer / Tax Exempt Organization

PPCFL is an approved tax-exempt Public Charity under the IRS Code section 501(c)(3).

Donations are tax deductible.

Our EIN is 26-0770794.

Donate Online, or Send Your Gift to:

Pikes Peak Citizens For Life
707 N. Nevada Ave, Suite R (Rear)
Colorado Springs, CO 80903-5019

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Is this a memorial? If so, for whom?

PPCFL does NOT sell or release any reader or donor information.



The President's Corner

Texas is blazing the way at present for the pro-life movement!

As I mentioned [in last month's newsletter](#), the [Sanctuary Cities for the Unborn](#) movement has helped to pass ordinances in 37 cities, most of them in Texas, that prohibit abortions in those cities. As of this writing these ordinances have passed the legal challenges thrown at them, a remarkable feat these days. This legal success appears to be the result of a legal strategy in the laws that makes enforcement of them exclusively private.

Now Texas has passed the Heartbeat Act to ban any abortions within the state after a heartbeat can be detected in the baby (approximately 6 weeks gestation). The Heartbeat Act [employs the same private enforcement strategy](#) as in the Sanctuary Cities for the Unborn ordinances and, so far, the strategy has worked in that the U.S. Supreme Court chose not to block the law and a [Biden Administration challenge to immediately block the law](#) has failed. Future challenges are undoubtedly coming, but the current successes are potentially saving thousands of people.

While at present a Heartbeat Act in Colorado is impossible, **we are working on the possibility of adding Colorado cities to the list of Sanctuary Cities for the Unborn.** If you haven't already done so, please [fill out the petition](#) at the Sanctuary Cities for the Unborn website (<https://sanctuarycitiesfortheunborn.com/online-petition>) and **encourage your friends and family to do the same.**

October is a busy month for us with the annual *Life Chain* on October 3rd, our *Roses for Life* project throughout the month, and our *Together for Life* presentation featuring *Colorado for Life* on October 17th. **Please help us build a culture of life by attending any or all of these events.**

School board elections are also approaching and we hope to get some survey responses from candidates prior to the ballots arriving in your mail. **Please check our website before casting your votes** to find out if we have any responses that could help you select candidates who support life.

Matt

Thank You 100+ Pro-Life Booth Volunteers!

Pikes Peak Citizens for Life sponsored and staffed pro-life educational booths at five events over the summer months, including the El Paso County Fair and the Colorado State Fair. (The State Fair is a joint effort with ProLife Southern Colorado).

We couldn't have this vital outreach to our communities without each and every person who stepped up to volunteer! As a whole (over 100 volunteers!), you had hundreds of conversations, handed out almost 700 "10-week baby feet" pins and 800 12-week "Precious Ones" baby models, 145 bumper stickers, 200+ small "Choose Life" stickers, and over 200 brochures on life issues!

You are all amazing, the way you step out in faith and give of your time to educate the public about the humanity and dignity of the unborn child!

THANK YOU for all you do to promote a "Culture of Life" by loving and helping women, men, and their babies!

Heartbeat Law Reverberates Beyond Texas

Many states have passed legislation protecting preborn children – only to have the laws frozen by the courts - before taking effect. On September 1st Texas became the first state to successfully enforce an abortion ban at six weeks - once an unborn baby's heartbeat is detectable.

Ed Whelan at National Review explains how Texas succeeded where other states have been blocked: *“What is most innovative—indeed, brilliant—about the Texas Heartbeat Act is that it affirmatively prohibits state officials from enforcing the Act in any way and instead authorizes private persons to bring a civil action [\$10,000 per violation] against anyone who performs or induces an abortion in violation of the Act or who knowingly aids or abets such a post-heartbeat abortion (including employers and insurers who pay for or reimburse the costs of a post-heartbeat abortion).”*

“The Texas Heartbeat Act was written this way to prevent abortion providers from obtaining pre-enforcement relief against state officials. Because state officials are not permitted to enforce the Act, they will have sovereign immunity if anyone attempts to sue them over the constitutionality of the statute ... In short, any abortion provider that wants to challenge the constitutionality of the Act must wait to be sued and assert its constitutional claims defensively in the private civil-enforcement action.”

For every week that the Texas Heartbeat law remains in effect, up to 1000 babies are spared from abortion. And those babies and mothers will have more resources than ever before because Texas didn't just ban abortion, they took the pro-life effort 100 million steps further.

“Along with passing the heartbeat law this spring, Texas state lawmakers also increased support to help pregnant and parenting mothers and babies, ensuring that they have resources to help them choose life. Among other things, they voted to invest \$100 million into the Texas Alternatives to Abortion program, which provides free counseling, parenting classes, diapers, formula, job skills training and more.”

The law specifically excludes any punishment for women who undergo abortions and it doesn't prohibit women from traveling outside the state to receive an abortion – which leads to a Colorado connection.

What The Texas Heartbeat Law Means for Colorado Springs

Rich Bennett, President of LifeNetwork described the local impact in a message to supporters, “Texas pro-life law sparks opportunities here.”

“In the two weeks since this law was enacted, because we are so easily found online for crisis pregnancy key words, we are already having women from Texas call our centers asking if we might help them...”

Increasingly, Colorado will be a destination for Texas women who are seeking help in an unexpected pregnancy. Our Colorado Springs Pregnancy Centers are committed to showing care and compassion to these women who reach out to us before terminating their pregnancy. We have already had several powerful conversations with these women, some of whom have expressed openness to then consider other options. “

With their annual [fundraising efforts](#) in full swing, now is a great time to support the great work of LifeNetwork!

References: LifeNews.Com, Micaiah Bilger, <https://www.lifeneews.com/2021/09/01/texas-has-become-the-first-state-in-america-to-ban-abortions> 1 Sept 2021
NationalReview.com, Ed Whelan <https://www.nationalreview.com/bench-memos/a-quick-primer-on-litigation-over-texas-heartbeat-act/> 30 August 2021

 40 DAYS FOR LIFE.

Fall Vigil: Sept 22 – Oct 31

40 Days for Life is a community-based campaign that draws attention to the evil of abortion through the use of a three-point program:

- prayer and fasting
- sidewalk vigil
- community outreach

Throughout 40 days *hundreds of people will come and pray at the sidewalk* –for an end to abortion in our city.

Please join the Vigil for Life on the sidewalk in front of Planned Parenthood at 3480 Centennial Blvd.

To participate in the local effort, visit: <https://40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/Colorado-springs>

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

**Midpoint Rally
& Brown Bag Lunch**

**Thursday Oct 7th 11:00am-1:00 pm
Corpus Christi Catholic Church
2318 N. Cascade Ave, COS 80907**

Special Event with Dr. Pat Castle, founder of Life Runners, and Bernadette Costello, experienced Sidewalk Advocate and Exec Asst to Dr. Castle. Hosted by 40 Days for Life - Colorado Springs and Diocesan Respect Life Apostolate

Join Us To: Learn More about integrating Healing Ministry into your prayer and presence on the sidewalk

Please Bring Your Own Lunch

RSVP or direct questions to Julie Bailey, jbailey@diocs.org or 401-578-4471



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Newsletter by Email

To receive your newsletter by email, sign up at www.ppcitizensforlife.org/our-how/newsletters/

If you have received the paper newsletter in error, please call 719-630-1999 or email contact@ppcitizensforlife.org



It's National Respect Life Month! Support *Roses for Life*

Throughout October - at Church or [Online](#)

Beginning Oct 1st and continuing throughout **National Respect Life Month**, volunteers carry red roses to churches across Colorado Springs – to remind our local citizens to CELEBRATE LIFE!

This annual event is also a fundraiser that helps PPCFL provide life-affirming presentations and educational booths, and sponsor pro-life messages year-round.

Again for 2021, we are offering an on-line option. Visit <https://www.ppcitizensforlife.org/donate/> and list "Roses for Life" in the designation field – to receive a "virtual rose" in an upcoming *LifeLine* newsletter.

Sharing the facts is as critical as raising the funds, **please help us spread the message... FOR LIFE!**



Together for Life October 17 – Details on page 1.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE thru Oct 31st – More details inside.

PIKES PEAK LIFE CHAIN



Sunday OCTOBER 3, 2021
1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

FREE SIGNS PROVIDED

Life Chain is a **peaceful public witness** of pro-life individuals praying for our nation and for an end to abortion. This visual statement of solidarity acknowledges the sad truth that abortion kills children, and the need to defend the sanctity of all human life.

COLO SPRINGS – Academy Blvd at Austin Bluffs Pkwy
Free signs provided on both sides of Academy (Parking available at Rocky Mountain Calvary)

MONUMENT Tri-Lakes Life Chain – Highway 105
Line up along Highway 105
Signs: Safeway parking lot OR Park & Ride lot east of I-25.

More Info: Linda Kracht at newlifeinhim.jesus@gmail.com or Stephanie Kemp at stephanierkemp@gmail.com