DCRTL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

According to our By-Laws, DCRTL is governed by a board of directors consisting of 9 -12 persons nominated and elected for staggered three- year terms by the general membership. November is our election month! Our nominating committee will present a slate of candidates to the general membership at the November 2 Membership Event (held at our office- 2205 Carter Rd, Dubuque). Nominations from the floor, by any DCRTL member in good standing, will be accepted during this meeting. All DCRTL members are eligible to vote, but must do so in person at this meeting. Watch our November newsletter for the official slate of candidates!
Office Personnel:
Hannah Brehm  
Executive Director
Erica Ward  
Secretary

Board of Directors:
Cassie Schetgen  
Chairman
Arthur Gilloon, Esq.  
Vice-Chairman
Sara Freund  
Secretary
John Freund, Jr., Esq  
Treasurer

Board Members:
Jim Giese  
Leon Jensen
Ellen Markham  
Mike Scherr
Charles Vaske  
Maureen Ward

Contact us:
2205 Carter Road  
Dubuque, Iowa 52001  
(563) 556-5960  
DCRTL@dcrtl.org  
www.dcrtl.org

Office Hours:
Monday - Friday:  
9 am—4 pm  
Weekends: Closed

Dyersville Office:
1657 15th Avenue S.E.  
Dyersville, Iowa 52040  
(563) 875-9152

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.

October 2017

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September

Wednesday, 27th  
40 Days for Life Begins

Thursday, 28th  
40 Days for Life Picketing at Planned Parenthood in Cedar Rapids, 11am

October

RESPECT LIFE MONTH!

Sunday, 1st  
Respect Life Sunday, Lifesaver Sunday, Life Chain, 2pm in Dubuque and Dyersville

Thursday, 5th  
Membership Event: Movie at Mindframe Theater “Voiceless”, 7pm

Thursday, 12th  
Iowans for L.I.F.E. Banquet, Speaker: Matt Birk, Meadows Bishop Ballroom, Altoona, 6pm

Saturday, 14th  
Educational Booth at Fatima Conference

Sunday, 15th  
Share Your Family Day

Tuesday, 17th  
Silent Day of Solidarity

Wednesday, 18th  
PLA Luncheon with David Cordaro, Best Western Plus, Dodge St. 11:30-1pm

Tuesday, 19th  
24 Hours of Prayer for Life

16th-20th  
David Cordaro, Pro-Life Awareness Speaker in several area schools

Tuesday, 31st  
40 Days for Life Picketing at PP in Cedar Rapids, 2pm

November

NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH!

Sunday, 1st  
Membership Event

FROM OUR LIBRARY...

Hush: A Liberating Conversation about Abortion and Women’s Health

“When Director Punam Kumar Gill and producers Drew and Joses Martin heard that the health information being given to women prior to an abortion was subject to the politics of the people involved, they determined to put aside individual ideology and take an honest, scientific look, at the highly disputed and politicized information around abortions’ long-term effects on women’s health. What Punam discovers in the process is not just vital to the subject of reproductive health, but also critical to her own life, and integral to the ongoing progress of women everywhere.”

Stop by the office today to check out Hush and many more from our lending library!
Now is the time of apple pie, caramel apples and apple cider. Can you tell my stomach is writing this article? Speaking of stomachs... Flannery O'Connor once said "The truth does not change according to our ability to stomach it." The truth is that abortion kills a human being. But rather than admit the unborn child is a child, some people call it a “fetus”. By calling the child a fetus, some believe they have the right to kill the child through abortion. However, abortion is always wrong no matter what you call the unborn child. Fetus is Latin for offspring. An offspring of two human parents will always be a human being. It will always be wrong to intentionally take the life of an innocent human being.

October is Respect Life Month. During this time, and always, we respect the lives of the unborn by standing up for them. We also respect the lives of the mothers and fathers of these children. Unplanned pregnancies can bring a lot of fear and emotions. We are here to give them the support and guidance they need during this time. Our friends at Clarity Clinic do such great work walking alongside expecting mothers and giving them the care and support they need during those crucial months. Be sure to check out the information on their annual banquet!

Respect is something we should strive for in all of our relationships. It is something we should teach to our children. And it is something we should expect for all humans, both born and unborn!

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Matt Birk is an NFL star and pro-life warrior who stands up for his beliefs. He was named the 2011 Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year for his off-the-field service as well as his playing excellence. He is a member of the Super Bowl XLVII champion Baltimore Ravens. Matt and his wife Adrianna are raising seven children, all under the age of 14.

You can register at www.iowansforlife.org or call 515-255-4113
Cost: $50 per person; $500 table of 8
FUNDRAISING BANQUET

The annual Clarity Clinic fundraising banquet is coming soon! They are very excited to have J.J. Jasper as the speaker this year. He is a best-selling author, comedian, and radio personality for American Family Life Radio. The banquet is FREE of charge and includes a sit down dinner. There will be an appeal at the end of the evening, but there is no obligation to give. Dress is Sunday apparel and no children, please! We hope you can make it to this beautiful evening where we will be celebrating the gift of life!

Visit partnersofclarityclinic.com EVENTS page to register for the banquet.

Thursday, October 26, 2017
Grand River Center
Doors open at 5:45pm
Dinner and program 6:30-8:30pm

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. About 1 in 8 U.S. women will develop invasive breast cancer over the course of their lives. This effects not only the women who have the cancer but also their family and friends. While we may be aware that breast cancer is fairly common, we may not be aware that there is a link between abortion and an increased risk of breast cancer. Angela Lanfranchi, MD, FACS is a Clinical Assistant Professor of Surgery at UMDNJ Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and Vice-President and co-founder of the Breast Cancer Prevention Institute. She specializes in the treatment of breast cancer. In her article “Abortion and Breast Cancer: The link that won’t go away” Angela writes, “Over the last thirty years, 48 million abortions have been done on American women and breast cancer incidence has risen 40%. Actuary Patrick Carroll, looking at data from several countries, concluded that abortion is the greatest predictor of a country’s breast cancer rate”. To learn more, check out the documentary Hush: A Liberating Conversation about Abortion and Women’s Health, which is available at the DCRTL office.
ICELAND “ERADICATING” DOWN SYNDROME THROUGH ABORTION

Valerio Catoia is a 17 year old Italian boy who saved a girl from drowning this summer. Valerio, who has Down syndrome, was enjoying a beach day with his father and sister when they saw the tide dragging two girls out to sea. Thanks to their quick response and a first aide course, both girls were saved. The Italian Sports Minister met with Valerio to show his gratitude and award him with a medal.

While Italy is celebrating the accomplishments of Valerio, other countries are celebrating the extermination of people with Down syndrome. A recent article from CBS News claims that Iceland has nearly wiped out Down syndrome due to the rise of prenatal screening tests. Iceland has not found a cure for Down syndrome but simply is eliminating the people that have Down syndrome. Women are not being force to abort their children and neutral counseling is given to each expecting mother. However, some would argue that even offering the test points the mothers in a certain direction. Other countries are not far behind in their effort to eliminate children with Down syndrome. According to CBS News, 77% of women who received a prenatal Down syndrome diagnosis in France aborted their babies and it was 98% in Denmark. The United States was estimated at 67%. These tests only claim an 85% correct diagnosis rate. Abortion is never the answer to a problem. This is a genocide happening right in our midst.

SAFE HAVEN LAWS

Last month a little girl was found abandoned in the bushes near an apartment building in Texas. She was only a few hours old when she was found by a neighbor who was walking to work. A similar case was reported in New York where 2 sisters found an infant hidden in the bushes behind their neighbor’s home. Both of these situations could have cost the life of a child had a neighbor not been near. One way to help avoid abandoning children is to be educated on the safe haven laws that each state has.

According to the Iowa Department of Human Services, “The Safe Haven Act is a law that allows parents- or another person who has the parent’s authorization- to leave an infant up to 14 days old at a hospital or health care facility without fear of prosecution for abandonment” Every state has Safe Haven laws but requirements differ. In Wisconsin, a parent can leave their child with a police officer, emergency medical staff or hospital staff member up to 72 hours after birth. Illinois allows children up to 30 days old to be handed to anyone working at a hospital, fire or police station, or any emergency care facility. This can be done anonymously and will give a child the opportunity to be adopted into a loving family.
40 DAYS FOR LIFE, Sept. 27 - Nov. 5

LIFESAVER SUNDAY, October 1: Lifesavers will be offered after Masses and services in area churches on the weekend of Sept. 30/Oct. 1. Be a LIFESAVER! All proceeds will be used for DCRTL educational efforts. It is a great way to kick off our Respect Life Month!

LIFE CHAIN, October 1: Please join area pro-lifers at one of our local Life Chains. Signs will be provided.
- Dubuque: Along Highway 20 at Bluff St, 2-3pm (parking available)
- Dyersville: Along Highway 136 at Beckman Catholic High School, 2-3pm (parking at Beckman)

The Life Chain is a national effort with thousands of cities participating. It is a peaceful, prayerful witness to our belief in the sanctity of all human life. We will be praying for the millions of victims of abortion and all women in unplanned pregnancies. We will pray for all public officials. We will pray for a deeper respect for the ill, the handicapped and the aged. You need not address anyone, just stand in silence holding a sign with a message you choose. Stand up for life with tens of thousands of pro-lifers throughout the US and Canada.

VOICELESS, Thursday, October 5: 7pm Mindframe Theatre, 555 JFK Rd (Behind Kennedy Mall). Come see the FREE movie! “When Jesse Dean, a recently discharged soldier, moves to Philadelphia to take a new job as an outreach leader at an old church whose membership has been declining, he discovers there’s an abortion clinic directly across the street. A major confrontation ensues, which requires him to put everything on the line... not just his job, but his freedom and marriage as well.” Join us for what has been called the best pro-life film of the year!

LIFE IS...A JOURNEY! Student Contests: Many of our area students will be marching with hundreds of thousands of other pro-lifers from across the nation as we attend the National March for Life in Washington DC this January. As part of their participation requirements, students are asked to write a pro-life essay describing their knowledge of and commitment to defending LIFE. This year’s theme is Life is... A Journey! 5th Grade students also participate in a poster contest with the same theme. We look forward to the amazing results!

SHARE YOUR FAMILY DAY, Sunday October 15: On this day, share yourself and your family with someone. Visit a friend, a relative, a nursing home resident or someone at Hills & Dales, etc- use your imagination. Deliver cookies to an elderly neighbor or call someone you appreciate and tell them so. Do you know of someone who may be lonely? Someone you haven’t seen for a long time? Someone you owe an apology to? Babysit for a young mother. Invite your pastor to dinner. Make someone else’s day! You may be surprised what it can do for you!

SILENT DAY OF SOLIDARITY, Tuesday October 17: Are you willing to give up your voice for one day for those who have no voice? Students from all around the country will stand in solidarity with those 4,000 American citizens silenced against their wills through abortion on this day. We ask all local student pro-life groups to participate. Wear a red armband and remain silent for the day. If anyone asks why you are silent, hand them a flyer (they can be picked up at DCRTL) explaining that your silence is a voice for the 1/3 of your generation that will never have a voice. Please speak to school staff and teachers to let them know you are participating in this event.

Others can join in the silence too! Take a silent lunch. Choose just one hour some time during the day to remain silent.
RESPECT LIFE LUNCHEON WITH DAVID CORDARO, Wednesday October 18, 11:30am-1pm, Best Western Plus, Dodge St, Dubuque: After serving as the President of ISU Students for Life for two years, David Cordaro knew he was called to continue serving the pro-life cause. He is currently the Upper Midwest Regional Coordinator for Students for Life of America. His passion is breaking down stereotypes of pro-lifers and finding commonalities among all people.

RESPECT LIFE LUNCHEON
Wednesday, October 18, 2017
11:30am-1:00pm
Best Western Plus Hotel- Dubuque
Cost: $10/ DCRTL Member; $20/ Non-Members
(Please pay at the door)

24 HOURS OF PRAYER FOR LIFE, Thursday, October 19: One essential tool in strengthening the Culture of Life is prayer. Thursday, October 19 has been designated as a day of prayer for “Healing Our Culture”. It is simple- just pray wherever you are- in your home, your car, your office, your church- it does not matter where you pray, just that you do! We need volunteers to pray for one hour during all 24 hours of that day. So we can be sure all 24 hours are covered, please call the office to sign up for a designated time (563-556-5960). Your prayers are important!

CEMETERY OF THE INNOCENTS: 400 wooden crosses are placed in rows to symbolize 1/10 of the number of babies killed by abortion each and every day in our nation. The crosses will stand in various locations throughout the month of October. Set-up and take-down assistance is needed. If you are able to help, please call John and Sue Lukasik at 563-870-4665. The crosses make a powerful statement without saying a word.

A Quotable Quote
“Life is inherently risky. There is only one big risk you should avoid at all costs, and that is the risk of doing nothing.”

– Denis Waitley

Check out our advertisers.
Memorials & Honorariums

**In Memory of:**
- Delores Biermann, given by Angela Kruse
- Joan Marie Kammer-Tallman, given by Leo Tallman
- Vincent Crimmins, given by David & Liz Cushman, Duane & Jane Meyer, Richard & Brenda Hartig, Stephen & Marilyn Bell, Tom & Ruth Becker and Tom & Ruth Lucas

**In Honor Of:**
- Jon Conlon, given by Jim & Kathy Conlon
- Rick & Dianne Ackley’s 50th Wedding Anniversary, given by Jim & Kathy Conlon
- Verna Fangman’s Birthday, given by Bob & Doris Wessels

When a gift is given in memory or in honor of a loved one, an acknowledgement card is sent to the person or family you designate. With gifts of $250 or greater, their name is engraved on our memorial plaque which is displayed in our office. Simply send us, along with your gift, the name of the person you are honoring and the name and address of the family to whom you’d like the acknowledgement sent. We’ll be happy to send out cards.

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**Thank You!**

Ann Gebhart, for copy paper

Brian Pellitier, for keeping the office tidy

Margie Sutter, for help with Life Savers

Our faithful newsletter volunteers

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According to the 40 Days for Life website, “The mission of the campaign is to bring together the body of Christ in a spirit of unity during a focused 40-day campaign of prayer, fasting, and peaceful activism, with the purpose of repentance, to seek God’s favor to turn hearts and minds from a culture of death to a culture of life, thus bringing an end to abortion.”

With Planned Parenthood gone from Dubuque, it is our chance to help close the next closest location. We can help our pro-life friends at Coalition for Life in Cedar Rapids by taking a few hours at their 40 Days for Life Campaign. This year it will take place from Wednesday, September 27 - Sunday, November 5, 2017. DCRTL will be taking a few hours of prayer throughout the month.

**Thursday, September 28th at 11am- noon.** We will meet at DCRTL at 9am to car pool, with a pick-up in Peosta at 9:15am. Home by 3pm with a lunch break.

**Tuesday, October 31st at 2pm-3pm.** We will meet at DCRTL at noon to car pool, with a pick-up in Peosta at 12:15pm. Home by 5pm.

Contact the office (563-556-5960) if you would like to join us! Feel free to grab a few friends and sign up on your own as well!
The 45th anniversary of the infamous Roe v. Wade decision that decriminalized abortion will be observed in our nation’s capital with the annual National March for Life. Since 1994, DCRTL has led pilgrimages to this event. Our message to the Iowa Congressional Delegation- and all of America- is that we must return protection to the unborn children. The violence of abortion must stop.

Would you like to be a part of this year’s pilgrimage? Approximately 300 people from our area will be participating. There is room for YOU! Some details are subject to change, but the general schedule is as follows:

Wednesday, January 17: Departure from Dyersville and Dubuque in the evening
Thursday, January 18: Arrive in D.C./Attend Pro-Life Mass
Friday, January 19: M4L Rally/March/Night Tour of Monuments
Saturday, January 20: Free Day/Depart for home after Mass in the evening
Sunday, January 21: Arrive at home – approximately noon

We will continue our pilgrimage to Washington in the years to come. We’ll stand up and speak out until the hearts, minds and laws of America reflect protection for the children. We’ll continue our travels and our efforts until that victorious day when we travel to Washington for a Celebration of Life!

Call DCRTL today to register for this amazing pro-life pilgrimage or send in the registration form (below) along with your $150 deposit. Total cost of the trip is $400.

March for Life Pilgrimage

Name

Address

Phone ___________________________ Cell_______________________________

Email

Others traveling with you:

Call DCRTL if you have questions.