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The Pro-Life Union of Greater Philadelphia affirms the sanctity of life through leadership, service to those making the choice for life, and witness to a culture of love.

## April 2017

### Redeemed



For many years, the Pro-Life Union organized prayer and witness at the Women’s Medical Clinic, owned by Kermit Gosnell. Every second Saturday, a faithful group would pray from 9-10 am and reach out to women as they walked in to the clinic. It was always strangely quiet on Saturday mornings, and it was only after the arrest of Gosnell that we learned that he was offering abortions at odd hours, well past legal limits and in a filthy clinic. It is still strange to walk past the former clinic. The entry way is a mess and the sign still sits in the window.

So, it was with great joy that we visited the new location of Alpha Care, located next to the former clinic. Alpha is a member organization of the Pro-Life Union and they serve families by providing pregnancy tests, counseling, ultrasounds and support. Alpha moved its office to Lancaster Avenue and now shares a wall with the former Gosnell clinic. The opening of Alpha on Lancaster Avenue is truly an answer to the heartfelt prayers that the Gosnell facility would close. It is incredibly amazing to see a light shine in the darkness.

### One Hour

In the middle of Forty Days for Life we were given an amazing gift – a snowstorm! Sure, the snow that fell was not entirely welcomed by most of us and it took us by surprise. Yet, on that day, the abortion facilities throughout our area were closed. That means no children lost their lives to abortion! Women were given another chance to think about their pregnancy.

By the time this Update reaches you, the spring 40 Days for Life Campaign will be almost complete. What an incredible gift this outreach has been for the country and for Philadelphia. The two busiest abortion companies in our City were stationed with a loving, faithful presence every day of the Campaign. The stories of conversations and discussions with women and people in the community are powerful. God’s grace has inspired so many to commit to an hour or more. Please think about whether you could join us at one of the campaigns.

### Abortion in PA 2015

The following facts were pulled from the state released report on abortion statistics for Pennsylvania for 2015. The numbers give insight into the abortion industry. Eighty seven percent of women having an abortion are unmarried, they lack support and feel alienated and alone. Abortion is viewed as the answer. Division is sowed among the couple. We see and hear this reality from the women and men we meet at abortion facilities. Pray for conversion and for unity among couples. Pray that they see the life created as a gift!

Bucks:	1,101
Chester:	907
Delaware:	1,843
Montgomery:	1,585
Philadelphia:	12,032

The Black population in Pennsylvania is just 10.5%, yet over 41% of abortions were performed on Black mothers.

- 31,818 abortions were performed in PA
- 15,820 abortions were performed on White women
- 13,332 abortions were performed on Black women
- 3,050 abortions were performed on women of Hispanic origin
- 87% (27,923) abortions were performed on unmarried women

### Talking Points

Planned Parenthood is on the defense as calls for defunding the abortion giant continue. Actual medical services at PP continue to decrease while abortion remains a cornerstone of their business. Breast cancer screenings, PAP tests, and HPV treatments have all fallen significantly at PP facilities. Planned Parenthood responded to President Trump’s offer to continue funding their organization on the condition they stop performing abortions. The response, **“Planned Parenthood is proud to provide abortion...”** speaks for itself. Abortion is Planned Parenthood’s brand. And, no matter what, they will defend and provide abortions. One last point - Cecile Richard’s income last year was \$957, 952.

### Celebrating at the Parade

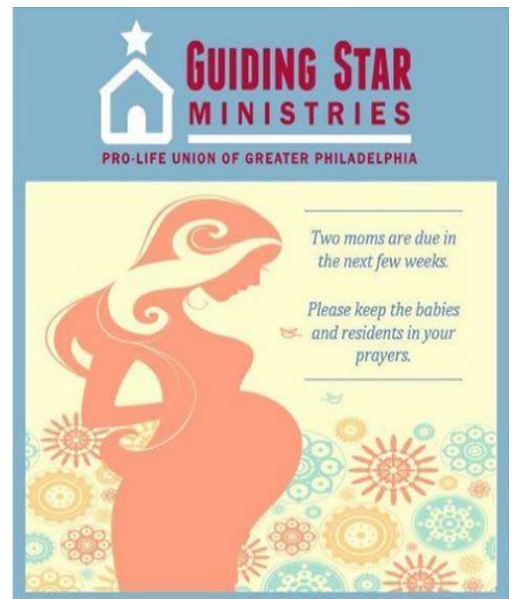
It was a cold day in Philadelphia for the St. Patrick’s Day Parade, but joyful families lining the Parade route warmed hearts. The Pro-Life Union was once again blessed to march in the parade and we had a great group of families join us behind the Pro-Life Union banner. The children did an excellent job distributing our cards celebrating life and St. Patrick. Thanks to everyone who joined us!



## Guiding Star Update

One recent morning at Guiding Star, the moms were in the kitchen cleaning, talking and learning how to make an Irish Soda Bread. One of the moms, who is just weeks away from delivering, began talking about her day. As she shared some of the challenges she faced, the other moms encouraged her, while one of the babies pointed to her very pregnant belly. The staff and residents went on to chat about St. Patrick, Guardian Angels and planting a vegetable garden. Guiding Star is more than a shelter. We hope that by striving to build a true sense of community, the lives of the women, families and neighbors we meet in this endeavor will embrace a culture of life and love that will take root in all of our hearts. On May 19<sup>th</sup>, the Pro-Life Union, St. Benedict's Parish and Guiding Star will join together for a Community Baby Shower to celebrate the gift of life while honoring our moms!

We are excited for one of our residents who is moving out and into her own place, and we look forward to welcoming new residents in the coming weeks. Two of our moms will deliver in the next four weeks. Please pray for our families!



## Party with a Purpose

Join us for this event to support our maternity home Guiding Star Ministries. We are looking forward to a night with good food, dancing and fun with great friends on Friday May 5<sup>th</sup> at St. Anthony of Padua Church in the Parish Hall. Address is 259 Forest Ave., Ambler, PA. Tickets are \$35 per person. Payment for tickets and/or sponsorships: Payable to Guiding Star, 88 Pennsylvania Ave., Oreland PA 19075.

### SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- \$1,000 GOLD SPONSOR/ 8 tickets, public recognition, display table, table signage, e-recognition
- \$500 SILVER SPONSOR /4 tickets, shared display area, table signage, e-recognition
- \$250 BRONZE SPONSOR/ 2 tickets, table signage, e-recognition

## Support a Mom

The moms at Guiding Star often need a support person for the birth of their child. While some of our residents have a family member or friend that will be with them during the delivery, many of our moms do not have this help. Our staff and volunteers are there to help, but babies come into the world on their own timetable! Please consider whether you could be on call to help a mom and support her during delivery. Our staff would orient you and connect you with the mom. Please call Amy Grace Miller at 215-924-2876 or email her at [amygrace@prolifeunion.org](mailto:amygrace@prolifeunion.org).

## Upcoming Events

- March 30<sup>th</sup>: Sidewalk Counseling Training at Regina Angelorum Academy from 7pm-9pm. The Pro-Life Union of Greater Philadelphia, will provide the latest strategies for ministering to women and men outside of an abortion facility. Prepare to be inspired and motivated to fulfill your calling to save a child's life and to encourage his or her parents to CHOOSE LIFE with a faithful and loving witness in their time of need. Keeping it prayerful and simple is the key to reaching even the most hardened of hearts. This training will offer different methods of support to women and men in the various scenarios in which you may encounter them.
- April 14<sup>th</sup>: Good Friday Prayer Service at Planned Parenthood 12<sup>th</sup> & Locust St., Philadelphia Pa. Join us at the Holy Week Mission in Philadelphia on Good Friday. At 9am we will gather at PP and offer prayers and give witness to life.
- April 29<sup>th</sup>: The Culture Project Banquet & Fundraiser at St. Simon & Jude, Meehan Center West Chester, PA. 6:30-10pm. Lila Rose, President and Founder of Live Action will be the keynote speaker. Live Action is a nonprofit organization working to spread the truth about abortion and counter the deliberate misinformation campaign of the multi-billion dollar abortion industry and lobby.
- June 19<sup>th</sup>: Tradition Conference sponsored by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. This conference will focus on the four pillars of the Catechism of the Catholic Church. 8:00am - 5:30pm Sheraton Philadelphia Downtown Hotel. For information please visit <http://www.phillyevang.org/events/>.



For ticket information, call 800-315-8684  
[www.restoreculture.com/banquet2017](http://www.restoreculture.com/banquet2017)

Support the Pro-Life Union of Greater Philadelphia and Guiding Star Ministries. We are deeply grateful for monthly gifts. Please consider signing up as a monthly donor on our website!

**[www.prolifeunion.org](http://www.prolifeunion.org) [www.guidingstar.org](http://www.guidingstar.org)**

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The Pro-Life Union of Greater Philadelphia is a 501(c) 3 organization.