

# Right to Life of Shelby County

# Newsletter

July 2010

P.O. Box 72 102 E. Poplar St. Sidney, OH 45365

Phone:(937)498-1812

[www.shelbycountyrctl.org](http://www.shelbycountyrctl.org)

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Building a Culture of Life in Shelby County, Ohio, since 1974

## Volunteer corner

Right to Life will again be sponsoring a booth in the Merchants Building during the Shelby County Fair, July 25-31. If you're interested in helping to staff the booth, please contact Karen Berning at 492-7875.

## Mark your calendar

- Deadline for submissions to the August newsletter: July 21.
- Board meetings: July 6, August 3, 7 pm.

## Clothing center report

We served 145 people during the month of May, of whom 59 received free items, and three-took literature.

## Summer hours

In addition to regular weekly hours, the thrift shop is open on Saturday mornings, 9-noon, through September.

## Remember RTL

Please remember the pro-life cause when planning your estate or making funeral arrangements for a loved one. Remittance envelopes for memorial donations to Right to Life are available by contacting the office.

Right to Life of Shelby County is a 501(c)(3) educational and service organization. All donations are fully tax-deductible.



## Life on the Square

It was one moment of education and inspiration after another as Right to Life reached out to over 125 children and their parents on the court square in Sidney, Saturday, June 26, for the annual Kids on the Square event. Before you were even born. Before your mom could even feel you move. You could swim in the waters of the womb. You could somersault, kick and jump. You probably still enjoy doing those things, read the coloring page given to each youngster. Then they tested their jumping ability in the high jump and on a standing long jump mat.

"The kids really seemed to enjoy themselves and thrived on the encouragement we gave them," said organizer Anne Schmiesing. "I hope the coloring page cartoon will plant seeds of respect in their views of human life." The page featured a cartoon of "Priscilla the Preborn" swimming in the womb, demonstrating in a fun way the personality of a child as it develops even before birth.

Thank you to the volunteer children and adults who helped to staff the RTL stand. This was a great opportunity for some of our young RTL members to participate in the pro-life movement.

## Planned Parenthood: \$650 Million in Taxpayer Funds

A new Government Accountability Office report shows the Planned Parenthood abortion business reported spending over \$650 million in federal funds over a seven-year period. That averages to just under \$100 million in federal funds each year and is something pro-life groups and lawmakers on Capitol Hill want to see ended.

The new 33-page report concerns how much federal money the Planned Parenthood Federation of America is receiving and from what sources -- with most of the funds coming from the Title X family planning program. Combining the money received from the Health and Human Services Department and USAID, the GAO report indicates Planned Parenthood received \$657.1 million in federal funds.

The report also shows the pro-abortion group Population Council, which sponsored the dangerous abortion drug RU 486, received \$284.3 million in federal funds for its international family planning efforts. Cont. on page 4

## Keep Graduates Connected to RTL

College is often a time when beliefs are challenged and major life decisions are made. Keep your high school graduate--son, daughter, nephew, niece, grandchild--connected to Right to Life. All we need is an e-mail address and we'll keep sending them the newsletter while they're away from home. Please send their e-mail to [office@shelbycountyrightl.org](mailto:office@shelbycountyrightl.org).

And be sure to let them know about our Facebook page, which they can follow by searching for "Shelby County Right to Life."



## New Study Affirms Link Between Abortion and Psychological Distress

A new study has found that women are more likely to experience substance abuse, suicidal thoughts and other problems after abortion, affirming the results of previous studies finding a link between abortion and mental health problems.

The study, published in the *Canadian Journal of Psychiatry*, examined a nationally representative sample of more than 3,000 women in the United States. The researchers found that, after controlling for age, marital status, race, education, household income and any violence, women in the study who underwent an abortion had a 98 percent increased risk for any mental health disorders compared to women who did not have an abortion.

Women who had abortions also had: 59 percent increased risk for suicidal thoughts; 61 percent increased risk for mood disorders; 61 percent increased risk for social anxiety disorders; 261 percent increased risk for alcohol abuse; 280 percent increased risk for any substance use disorder. Approximately 6 percent of suicidal ideation cases among women nationwide and 25 percent of cases of drug use could be related to abortion, the researchers found.<sup>1</sup>

The study affirms findings from earlier studies showing that women are more likely to suffer emotional injury after undergoing abortion. For example, a 2005 New Zealand study found that, even after controlling for existing mental health problems, women who aborted were more likely to later experience depression, anxiety disorders, substance abuse and suicidal thoughts.<sup>2</sup>

And a study published in the *Journal of Psychiatric Research* in 2008 found that mental disorders among women who had abortions were 17 percent higher than among women who did not have abortions. When researchers looked at specific disorders, the increased rate among women who had abortions ranged from 44 percent higher for panic attacks and 167 percent higher for bipolar disorder.<sup>3</sup>

The new study affirms that mental health problems associated with abortion cannot be solely explained by an exposure to other forms of violence. The earlier 2008 study also found that abortion was more likely to cause mental health problems among women than was a history of other traumas such as childhood sexual abuse, rape, physical violence or neglect.

### Citations

1. Mota, NP et. al., "Associations Between Abortion, Mental Disorders and Suicidal Behavior in a Nationally Representative Sample," *The Canadian Journal of Psychiatry* 55(4): 239-246 (April 2010).
2. Fergusson, DM et. al., "Abortion in young women and subsequent mental health," *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry* (2006) 47(1): 16-24.
3. Coleman, PK et. al., "Induced abortion and anxiety, mood, and substance abuse disorders: Isolating the effects of abortion in the national comorbidity survey," *Journal of Psychiatric Research* (2008), doi:10.1016/j.jpsychires.2008.10.009.

Reprinted courtesy of the Elliot Institute, PO Box 7348, Springfield, IL 62791-7348. Edited for space. Additional material is posted at [www.afterabortion.org](http://www.afterabortion.org).

## Ohio Right to Life Sweepstakes

Included with this newsletter are two sheets of sweepstakes tickets. This is an important fundraiser for both our state affiliate and our local organization. The tickets are 6 for \$5, so if you return all of the enclosed tickets (18), the donation would be \$15.

Please send your check and completed tickets to:

Shelby County RTL  
PO Box 72  
Sidney, OH, 45365



Tickets should be turned in by October 1. Thank you!

## Pro-Life Student Group Launches Medical Student Outreach

The national organization for pro-life college and university students is launching a new national outreach to medical students. Students for Life of America is launching their Medical Students for Life program designed to give support to pro-life medical students in a manner they've never experienced.

Kristan Hawkins, the director of Students for Life of America, tells LifeNews.com that Medical Students for Life aims to unite pro-life students at medical schools around the country at a time when many are facing pressure to learn abortions.

The program is designed to give them the resources they need to spread the pro-life message to their peers, she said.

“Never before has there been such a program to help pro-life medical students organize on their university’s campus. Medical professionals are on the front lines of the pro-life movement, and it is important for us to train the next generation of pro-life physicians,” Hawkins told LifeNews.com.

Students for Life of America has hired Dominique Monlezun to lead the initiative to network and train pro-life med students as the National Coordinator for Medical Students for Life.

Dominique was accepted to Tulane School of Medicine during his sophomore year at Tulane University and is set to graduate summa cum laude in spring of 2011 with a double major in Philosophy and English.

He will enter Tulane’s medical class in the dual degree program of Medical Doctor and Master’s in Public Health during the fall of 2011. Dominique believes the greatest impact he can make in the pro-life movement is by joining the medical profession and looks forward to supporting his pro-life peers in medical schools across the country.

“We as members of society expect our medical professionals to be safeguards of life,” says Monlezun. “I am passionately committed to helping other young adults study medicine and cultivate the original Hippocratic Oath’s pledge to respect the dignity of every human life, including the unborn.”

Medical Students for Life has already began preparing for the fall school year and invites pro-life medical students to learn more about its new program.

See more about Medical Students for Life at [www.medsfl.org](http://www.medsfl.org).

By Steven Ertelt. Reprinted with permission from LifeNews.com, June 22, 2010.

In memory of Thelma Shulze, in whose name memorial donations were made.

+May she rest in peace.+



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### Planned Parenthood Continued from page 1

And the Guttmacher Institute, a pro-abortion group that does research on abortion statistics, received \$12.7 million.

Advocates for Youth, another pro-abortion group, received \$8.7 million from the federal government and the International Planned Parenthood Federation received \$3.9 million. Combined, the pro-abortion organizations received more than \$1 billion in taxpayer dollars from the federal government over the 2002-2009 period GAO analyzed.

Although the money does not directly pay for abortions, which is stopped in most part by the Hyde amendment, the report makes it clear that federal funds are propping up the abortion industry.

Family Research Council fellow Ken Blackwell commented on the numbers. "Giving taxpayer money to organizations that promote and provide abortion, even if the money is not used for that purpose, frees up other funds for abortion purposes and gives the government's stamp of approval to their abortion related activities," he said. "By funding Planned Parenthood and their allies, we are unwittingly supporting an abortion organization and everything they do."

Students for Life of America director Kristan Hawkins also weighed in on the new report. In light of these findings, her group is calling for increased inspection into the dealings of Planned Parenthood, and she noted how her group and others have shown the abortion business to be violating state sexual abuse reporting and parental involvement laws. "With \$650 million spent by Planned Parenthood, where has the taxpayers' money gone to? In light of our current economic crisis, it is not prudent of the US Government to keep funding abortions with taxpayer dollars," Hawkins said.

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