

Volunteer Corner

We are still looking for a spot to store the RTL parade float wagon when it is not being used. If you have 8x15 space in a barn or garage, please contact the office as soon as possible.

Mark your calendar

- Deadline for submissions to the July newsletter: June 23.
- Board meeting: June 7, 7 pm. No meeting in July.

Clothing center report

We served 143 people during the month of April, of whom 65 received free items, 14 took literature, and two were referred to the Women's Center.

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 at the office.

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

Golf Outing Raises Funds, Awareness

On Saturday, May 14, Right to Life hosted its first Scramble-4-Life golf outing at Shelby Oaks Golf Club. RTL was gratified by the community's support, as twenty-five teams turned out and more than twenty area businesses and families provided sponsorship backing. Each participant received a "Choose Life" ball marker and other gifts and prizes were awarded.



Unfortunately, a thunderstorm cut the scramble short, but participants still enjoyed themselves while on the course. Dan Jock stated, "The weather did not cooperate, but I was thrilled to see the turnout and happy to donate to Right to Life." Event coordinator, Tim Dietz, was also pleased. "The donations we received from sponsors and the number of teams that joined us exceeded our expectations for this inaugural event," he said. "It was unfortunate that we were unable to complete the tournament, but Rob Fridley and the staff at Shelby Oaks were incredibly helpful in helping the event run smoothly and sorting things out after the rain. We are looking forward to having the opportunity to host the scramble again next spring. Thank you to everyone who supported the cause to end abortion and respect all life." As a result of the generous donations, the Scramble-4-Life was able to raise over \$3,400 for Right to Life.

RTL is grateful to Tim and Darla Dietz and their family for organizing the outing, and to the event sponsors listed below.

Eagle Sponsor: Upper Cervical Health Centers, Botkins

Birdie Sponsors: Flinn Veterinary Clinic, Sidney; Lacial Equipment, Jackson Center; Wells Brothers, Anna

Par Sponsors: Crop Production Services, Botkins; Osgood State Bank, Osgood; R.G. Sellers Company, Dayton

Hole Sponsors: Area Energy & Electric; Bergman Drywall; Brian & Kathy Monnin Family; Custom Foam Products; Dietz Painting; Hoge Lumber; Hoying & Hoying Builders; ICC Ladies Sodality; Inn Between; Meyer's Tavern; Prueter's Body Shop; Rapid Development; Richard D. Dietz, D.D.S.

Special Thanks To: Brown Industrial and T&K Laser Works (ball markers); Brian & Krista Hoge (hole sponsor signs); all the door prize sponsors.

ACTION ITEM

Kids Around the Square

Saturday, June 25, 9am-noon is the annual Kids Around the Square festival on the court square in Sidney. If you attend, please look for our booth. If you are willing to help with the booth for an hour or two, please call Anne Schmiesing, 492-5584. This event brings hundreds of children (and parents) downtown every year and is a great opportunity to share a pro-life message with the community.

Abortion Advocates Launch Campaign Against Pregnancy Centers

Pro-abortion activists have launched campaigns in a number of states to attack pregnancy centers that provide women with life-affirming alternatives to abortion. Now NARAL indicates the campaign is going national.

The efforts in several states have centered on two attempts by NARAL and other abortion advocates to discredit the centers, which provide options counseling with practical maternity help, ultrasounds, and other assistance for pregnant women who may otherwise be considering an abortion. The first has city and county governments, as well as state legislatures, attempting to approve laws mandating that pregnancy centers don't employ medical staff or give out medically-accurate information on abortion — an attempt to dissuade women from going to the centers. The second involves NARAL activists pretending to be center clients and reporting to NARAL for a public condemnation of the supposedly inaccurate information they received.

Now Melinda Delahoyde, the president of Care Net, a network of more than 1,100 pregnancy centers located in all 50 states, points to a new video NARAL New York posted on YouTube revealing a national strategy to specifically target pregnancy centers in urban areas. "This video reinforces the fact that legislation against pregnancy centers is part of a nationwide strategy by abortion advocacy groups aimed at shutting down the competition," Delahoyde said in an email to LifeNews. "It also reveals for the first time that these legislative attacks will be focused on urban areas, the very areas where abortion providers are prevalent, support for abortion alternatives is lacking, and abortion rates are skyrocketing."

In NARAL's video, a representative from the National Institute of Reproductive Health highlights the "Urban Initiative," an effort to network local legislators across the country in order to pass legislation, such as anti-pregnancy center bills.

Rev. Dean Nelson, Care Net's Vice President of Underserved Outreach said NARAL's efforts will be met with opposition from community leaders, especially clergy. "I was there in Baltimore when the anti-pregnancy center bill mentioned in this video was being discussed, and not a single local pastor I spoke with was in support of that bill," said Rev. Nelson. "This so-called 'urban initiative' is an injustice toward the very women, children, and families that live in urban areas."

Currently, a vast majority of abortion businesses are located in urban areas, Care Net says. "Many of them are in predominantly minority-populated communities, thereby contributing greatly to the disproportionate impact of abortion on minorities," the organization indicates. "Statistics show that African American and Latina women account for only 27% of the female population in the U.S., yet they undergo 59% of all abortions. In many urban communities, abortion providers outnumber pregnancy centers by a ratio of five to one."

So far, pregnancy centers have won a handful of victories against these efforts. Legislation in Washington state that threatened to shut down 56 pregnancy centers died in March, a judge struck down a law targeting centers in Baltimore, and two lawsuits have been filed against a law the New York City council passed.

By Steven Ertelt. LifeNews.com, May 17, 2011. Edited for space and used with permission.

Adult Stem Cells Treating Thousands of Patients--Now

Stem cell research continues to move ahead. Not embryonic stem cell research, however, which relies on the destruction of young human life.

After over 30 years of embryonic stem cell research, first with mouse and then human embryonic stem cells, not a single patient has been helped. And while over the past year, three experimental trials have been approved in the U.S., even many embryonic stem cell scientists believe the practical dangers of embryonic stem cells (tumors, incorrect tissue growth, immune problems) make such trials preliminary; simply using patients for experiments. Embryonic stem cells fail on both ethical and practical aspects, and have contributed only hype to the debate and false hope to patients.

Adult stem cells are both successful and ethical. They can be isolated and used without harming the stem cell donor. They can be taken from a host of tissues—bone marrow, muscle, fat, umbilical cord blood—and already have proven success at saving lives and improving health on a daily basis. Over 50,000 people around the globe are treated each year with adult stem cells. The diseases and conditions successfully treated by adult stem cells, as shown by published scientific evidence, continue to expand, with published success for numerous cancers, spinal cord injury, heart damage, multiple sclerosis, sickle cell anemia, and many others.

Here are just a few examples of adult stem cell advances over the past year.

* Several studies now document that adult stem cells can stimulate repair of damaged heart tissue, including damage from heart attack as well as chronic heart failure. For example, scientists at the University of Miami reported that they had reversed heart damage in a small group of patients with the patients' own bone marrow adult stem cells, reducing scar tissue and improving function to injured heart areas, up to eleven years after initial heart damage.

* Italian doctors reported that they could successfully treat corneal blindness using the patient's own adult stem cells. They treated 112 patients who had been blinded by chemical burns. Over 77% of patients recovered normal vision. Patients with superficial damage were able to see within one to two months, while more extensive injuries took several months longer to recover.

* Multiple sclerosis (MS) treatment with adult stem cells also showed multiple positive results over the past year. A team of scientists from Thessaloniki, Greece, showed that chemotherapy followed by adult stem cell transplant can stop progression of aggressive MS. The team observed a group of 35 patients who received transplants of their own bone marrow adult stem cells after being treated with chemotherapy to wipe out the rogue immune cells that were attacking their nervous system and causing their MS. An average of 11 years after their transplants, 25% of the patients in Greece have not seen their disease progress.

* Scientists used donor adult stem cells from bone marrow and umbilical cord blood to successfully treat children with a fatal genetic skin disease called epidermolysis bullosa (EB), which causes skin to blister and scrape off with the slightest friction and chronic pain. All 10 children treated so far have responded positively, easing their condition.

* Scientists at the University of Texas Health Science Center published preliminary results of a Phase I clinical trial showing the safety of bone marrow adult stem cells in treating traumatic brain injury in children. A total of ten children were treated within 48 hours of their injury with their own adult stem cells. Six months after their treatment, all of the children showed significant improvement.

While many adult stem cell treatments are still experimental, the results continue to flow for thousands of patients a year, and many new applications are being developed. This makes it all the more important that we direct our health care resources toward the proven, ethical, and successful solution—adult stem cells.

By David Prentice. LifeNews.com, May 17, 2011. Edited for space and used with permission.

Right to Life of Shelby County

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