



## Fire Closes Right to Life in April

Normally, Tuesday mornings see the Right to Life thrift shop reopen after the weekend break. Instead, Tuesday morning, April 18, RTL officers were surveying damage and trying to determine just how long the shop would need to be closed.

Overnight on Monday, April 17, a truck careened onto the sidewalk along Ohio Avenue and into a gas line outside the building directly behind the RTL office. In minutes a blaze engulfed that building, and soon firefighters were breaking through RTL doors and spraying water from above. (Photo at left, courtesy of an RTL member on the scene.)

That water poured, dripped, and seeped into RTL's ceilings, clothing, and carpets over the next 24 hours, while smoke odor drifted through the building. The office entries were boarded shut and restoration crews began the lengthy task of removing damaged materials, dehumidification, and reconstruction.

RTL employees, board members, and volunteers removed carloads of clothing to sort and wash. We are very grateful for the nearly two-dozen volunteers who have assisted with this process. We are also grateful for the many offers to help and for all continued prayers and assistance as we move forward.

At this writing, the office and thrift shop remain closed, though we hope to reopen at some point during the first or second week of May (see our website for updates). There was no structural damage to the RTL building and we did not lose any equipment, files, or other items that are vital to our operations. We plan to remain in our current location and expect that everything will be back to normal in a matter of weeks. We appreciate our members' ongoing support and generosity.

## Remembering Goldie and Luana

During April, Right to Life sponsored a "Goldie and Luana North Memorial Diaper Drive" to honor the memory of Goldie and her young daughter, who died in a house fire in April of last year. Goldie was a good friend of the RTL thrift shop and was loved and respected by many for her dedication to her family.

Diapers and baby wipes were collected at the thrift shop and in many area churches, schools, and other locations. The items received will be used to benefit thrift shop clients.

Thank you to all who contributed to this worthy cause!

## Thrift Shop Report

### February

184 Customers  
15 Work-to-Earn certificates  
2 Free units (clothing)

### March

195 Customers  
11 Work-to-Earn certificates  
2 Free units (clothing,  
transportation assistance)

# Defunding Abortion Organizations

*President Trump Defunds UNFPA -- By Micaiah Bilger, LifeNews.com, April 4, 2017. Edited for space.*

The Trump administration announced plans Monday (April 3) to stop funding the United Nations agency that has been caught promoting forced and coerced abortions and sterilizations in China.

For many years, links have been exposed between the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and China's one-child policy. China's oppressive population control policy, recently changed to a two-child limit, has led to forced and coerced abortions up through nine months of pregnancy, as well as forced and coerced sterilizations.

On Monday, the U.S. State Department sent a letter to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee announcing its plans to stop funding UNFPA because of its support of forced and coerced abortions and sterilizations in China, according to the BBC.

"This determination was made based on the fact that China's family planning policies still involve the use of coercive abortion and involuntary sterilization, and UNFPA partners on family planning activities with the Chinese government agency responsible for these coercive policies," the state department said.

The cut amounts to at least \$32.5 million for 2017; the department said it will redirect the funds to the U.S. Agency for International Development, which provides medical care to families across the world, the Associated Press reports. In 2015, the United States was the fourth-largest donor to UNFPA, a voluntarily-funded agency, according to the BBC.

Previous pro-life presidents also cut off funding to the UN agency during their administrations, while pro-abortion presidents, including Barack Obama, restored the funding.

*Congress Overturns HHS Rule Against Defunding Planned Parenthood -- LifeNews.com, April 13, 2017. Edited for space.*

President Donald Trump signed into law today (April 13) a bill to overturn a rule pro-abortion President Barack Obama put in place preventing states from defunding the Planned Parenthood abortion business. The rule from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) prevented states from blocking Title X funding to abortion companies like Planned Parenthood.

After the House first passed the measure, the Senate voted 50-50 for the bill, with a couple of liberal pro-abortion Republicans joining Democrats in supporting the abortion giant and Republicans voting pro-life. The tie vote made it so pro-life Vice-President Mike Pence cast the tie-breaking vote to approve the measure.

In recent years, several states receiving Title X family planning grants have opted to direct those funds to county health departments, community health centers, or other types of providers, in preference to organizations engaged in objectionable activities, such as Planned Parenthood, a mega-marketer of abortion that has also been involved in selling aborted baby parts. H.J. Res. 43 would mean that states, if they chose, could continue to attempt to redirect Title X funds away from objectionable organizations like Planned Parenthood.

Leading pro-life groups like National Right to Life supported the bill. In its letter to House members, NRLC wrote: "Over one-third of all abortions in the U.S. are performed at PPFA-affiliated facilities. Longstanding objections to the massive governmental funding of PPFA have been reinforced by widely publicized undercover videos, which illuminate the callous brutality that occurs daily in these abortion mills."



In thanksgiving for the protection of our building during the fire. For all of our thrift shop clients, staff, and volunteers.

## **“I Can’t Do Any More”: Canadian Docs Flee Assisted Suicide**

Twenty-seven doctors have already asked to be removed from the list of those willing to participate in euthanasia, since it was legalized in Canada last June.

Doctors in Canada have been asking to be removed from the list of those willing to participate in “medical aid in dying,” reports the National Post.

In Ontario, one of the few provinces to track the information, 24 doctors have permanently been removed from a voluntary referral list of physicians willing to participate in euthanasia. Another 30 have put their names on temporary hold. As of 17 Feb, there were 137 doctors on the list, though of those, 30 would only be willing to provide a second patient assessment, and not administer a lethal injection or prescribe a life-ending dose of drugs themselves.

While they are not required to give a reason, according to a ministry of health spokesman, a number said that they want “a reflection period to decide whether medical assistance in dying is a service they want to provide.

### *Just too distressing*

“Dr. Jeff Blackmer, the Canadian Medical Association’s vice-president of medical professionalism, said that for some doctors, the act was simply too distressing. “...We’re seeing doctors who go through one experience and it’s just overwhelming, it’s too difficult, and those are the ones who say, ‘take my name off the list. I can’t do any more.’”

The act is performed out of care and compassion, Dr. Blackmer said. “But for most (doctors), it doesn’t make the psychological impact of that final, very definitive act, any less than it would be for anybody.”

Dr. Blackmer also said that the reports of doctors backing away were not just anecdotal. “I can’t tell you how many, but I can tell you that it’s enough that it’s been noted at a systemic level.”

### *Legal ambiguities*

Others have attributed the decline in doctors willing to participate in euthanasia to legal ambiguities and a fear of being prosecuted. The federal law, which came into force last June, permits euthanasia and assisted suicide for those with a “grievous and irremediable” condition and “enduring suffering.” However, the procedure is limited to people whose death is “reasonably foreseeable.” According to Dr. James Downar, a critical care and palliative care doctor with Toronto’s University Health Network, all of these terms are ambiguous. “Grievous and irremediable” could apply to most chronic conditions, and someone with a five per cent chance of survival could still be considered “curable”. In addition, the criterion that death be “reasonably foreseeable” is not to be found in any medical textbook.

*LifeNews.com, March 16, 2017. Edited for space.*

*In memory of longtime members **Marion Grillot** and **Martha Borchers**,*

*In whose names memorial donations were made to Right to Life.*

*+ May they rest in peace +*



## Register NOW for the Right to Life Golf Outing

The 7th Annual Scramble-4-Life will be Saturday, May 13, with a shotgun start at 8:30am (sign in begins at 7:30am). You can still register! The deadline is the end of this week (May 6).

The outing will be held at Shelby Oaks Golf Course, Sidney. Cost is \$200 per 4-person team and includes 18 holes of golf, cart, and lunch.

To register, call or text Julia at 937-489-9129, or email [scramble4life@gmail.com](mailto:scramble4life@gmail.com).

All proceeds benefit Right to Life. Please join us for this enjoyable fundraising event.

## Right to Life Membership Fun Facts

Total members (dues paid 2016 or 2017): 535 households, representing 1331 members.

Number of Lifetime Members: 46.

Single households: 169. Households of more than four: 84.

Most common surnames: Meyer (16); Barhorst (14); Schulze (11); Borchers (10); Monnin (10).

Communities with most members (by zip code): Sidney (176); Anna (107); Russia (102); Botkins (58); Ft. Loramie (55).