

Governor Pence interview, contd.

resources available to them to support them both during and after their pregnancy.

Q: Is the Real Alternatives expansion program statewide or limited to certain areas?

Gov. Pence: Qualified service providers statewide may now apply to participate in this successful program.

Q: The Real Alternatives program in other states has operated with the highest standards of stewardship and accountability. Was this a key factor in expanding the program in Indiana?

Gov. Pence: Absolutely. We know that Real Alternatives has long had a good reputation in Pennsylvania for the quality services they provide and the fiscal accountability within which they operate. As Indiana considered this program, we wanted to ensure that taxpayer dollars were being spent in a wise and responsible manner.

Q: How much do women have to pay for services offered through the Real Alternatives program?

Gov. Pence: Any organization that participates in the Real Alternatives program must be non-profit and may not charge for any services rendered. This allows all Hoosiers to access services free of charge.

Q: Critics of the program have attacked it because Real Alternatives does not advocate or counsel for abortion in any way. How do you respond to those critics?

Gov. Pence: Indiana law states that “childbirth is preferred, encouraged, and supported over abortion” (IC 16-34-1-1). The services provided by Real Alternatives are perfectly in line not only with Indiana statute, but also with Hoosier values. And I believe that the program’s pro-life worldview is a benefit to the services it provides.

Q: What is your heart’s desire for the long term impact on Real Alternatives in Indiana?

Gov. Pence: My hope is that more women who find themselves with an unplanned pregnancy would be able to receive the education, assistance, and support that Real Alternatives provides in order to ensure a health pregnancy, and that through these services, we would be able to better support Hoosier families across the state.

Q: What encouragement would you give to the pro-life pregnancy resource center staff and volunteers throughout Indiana who have labored for years to provide loving support for women facing unplanned pregnancies?

Gov. Pence: I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation and gratitude to all the men and women who volunteer their time, their treasure, and their talent to support women who are faced with an unplanned pregnancy. Because of their selfless dedication, life is winning in Indiana. I would encourage each of them to continue to fight the good fight, to come alongside their friends and neighbors in need, to promote compassion over convenience, and to offer hope over despair. Together, we can continue to promote a culture of life in Indiana.

Local affiliate events setting national standards

When it comes to Right to Life fundraising banquets, Indiana Right to Life’s county and regional affiliates continue to set the gold standard for excellence on the national level. In 2015, nearly six affiliate events topped or came very close to the 1,000 person attendance mark—a level of participation virtually unheard of in other parts of the nation. And with a huge 2016 presidential election cycle just ahead, there’s a strong possibility that these local events will smash all attendance records.

Currently the fastest growing local banquet in Indiana is the Right to Life of North Central Indiana banquet in Winona Lake, where author David Limbaugh addressed a crowd that exceeded 1,200 guests in 2015. Daviess County Right to Life continues to host the largest pro-life banquet in the nation for a predominantly rural area, while Right to Life of Southwest Indiana continues to be the largest pro-life fundraising banquet in the entire nation. We salute our local leaders and volunteers who work so hard to make these events dynamic and encouraging. Be sure to support your local events in 2016!



Over 600 guests attended the 2015 Daviess County Right to Life banquet just outside of Montgomery.



Right to Life of North Central Indiana set a new record of over 1,200 guests in 2015 in Winona Lake.

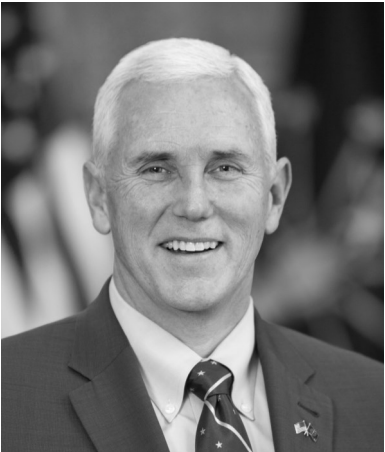
Indiana Right to Life

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Lifeline Report



Governor Pence discusses Real Alternatives

In November 2015, Governor Mike Pence announced that Indiana would move forward with a statewide \$3.5 million expansion of a national program called Real Alternatives designed to help abortion-vulnerable women to choose life. Here in an exclusive interview, Governor Pence shares why he believes this program is so vital to the future of Indiana.



Q: Recently you announced a \$3.5 million expansion of the Real Alternatives program in Indiana. Tell us about the Real Alternatives program and what services will be offered.

Gov. Pence: Real Alternatives provides financial support and other resources to existing pregnancy centers, adoption agencies, maternity homes, and social service agencies. These organizations provide a wide variety of core services for Hoosiers such as information, education, and counseling that promote childbirth rather than abortion. They also assist pregnant women in their decisions regarding adoption or parenting and provide support services such as baby food, maternity clothes, baby clothes, and referrals for other services that clients may need (such as housing, employment, etc.).

Q: Prior to announcing the expansion, Indiana piloted the Real Alternatives program in the northern part of the state beginning in 2014. What were the results of the pilot program in terms of the number of women served and the number of centers participating?

Gov. Pence: When we launched the one-year Real Alternatives pilot program in northern Indiana, we estimated that 3,000 clients would be served. However, at the close of the pilot program, 8,737 clients had been served through 17,445 visits at 16 different service sites.

Q: Why is Real Alternatives important to the greater well-being of Indiana?

Gov. Pence: Real Alternatives provides positive, life-affirming services for Hoosier women and families. It is important to not only ensure that pregnant women receive proper prenatal care, but also the emotional and physical support they need for a healthy pregnancy. Real Alternatives helps ensure that women in need are connected with all the community and social services re-

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## From the President and CEO

Well, it's time to strap down tight and hang on. The new year is here, and if there's anything we've learned from 2015 it's that everything can be turned upside down and inside out in a matter of days, or even hours. Many times these are the things we can't control, and quite frankly, we can all twist ourselves into knots if we dwell on the what-ifs of life.



Still, there is much value in looking ahead and being fully aware of what may be just on the horizon. Let me toss out a few thoughts on issues I believe will shape the next twelve months here in Indiana.

To start the ball rolling, you and I know the 800 pound gorilla in the room is the 2016 presidential election cycle. At the time I am writing this, we clearly know who the Democrat nominee will be. The Republican nominee, not so much. I do believe we'll see a much different campaign than in recent years now that Planned Parenthood's brand is soiled with inconvenient videos that just won't go away. The table is set for a campaign season in which the whole "war on women" narrative is exposed as the sham it's always been.

I also believe we can expect millennials to exert a stronger role in defining the pro-life movement's next steps. The fact is that millennials continue to trend pro-life, even while trending to the left on almost every other social issue. Millennials see the social injustice of abortion through filters similar yet distinct from the traditional pro-life lens, and that means some exciting new growth as a new generation of leaders increasingly comes into its own.

Sadly, I believe 2016 will witness the expansion of Planned Parenthood's abortion empire to our neighbors to the south. Two years ago when PP of Kentucky and Indiana merged, its official reaction was to scoff at concerns it would do abortions in Kentucky. But with the opening of a new clinic in downtown Louisville just a few weeks ago, that line has changed to, "no immediate plans." Translated, that means southern Indiana may soon be impacted by a new abortion business just across the Ohio River.

And yes, we can also expect an ugly state election cycle. Progressives are already planning aggressive activism in our state in collaboration with culture change agitators who intensely want to bring a conservative Midwestern state to its knees. The field of political fire is going to messy, intense and expensive.

Finally, I'll predict that Indiana Right to Life in 2016 will grow stronger, more strategic, and more effective in saving unborn children and their moms from abortion. God has blessed us with a team of supporters just like you, plus a team of volunteers, local leaders, volunteers, prayer partners, board members and staff, all for such a time as this. What does 2016 hold? I can only guess, but regardless of what lies ahead, you can count on us to relentlessly pursue the protection of unborn children who silently depend on all of us to stay strong.

## Donnelly votes to fund Planned Parenthood

Sen. Joe Donnelly (D-IN) voted on December 3 in support of providing federal tax dollars to the nation's largest abortion provider, Planned Parenthood. The U.S. Senate spent the day on legislative activity surrounding the reconciliation bill, a measure that only needed 51 votes to pass, which included language to defund Planned Parenthood of most of its federal funds.



"Sen. Donnelly betrayed Hoosier voters who believed his campaign promises of being pro-life," said Mike Fichter, President and CEO of Indiana Right to Life. "It was easy for Sen. Donnelly to say he's pro-life, but when it came time for him to choose life over party politics, he chose party politics. Sen. Donnelly wasted opportunities during the reconciliation bill process to defund the nation's largest abortion provider. Furthermore, he had the audacity to support sending \$1 billion in tax dollars to abortion businesses. Hoosiers are sick and tired of their tax dollars going to an industry that profits off the destruction of life."



Indiana Right to Life VP of Development Dave Koontz leads a discussion with over 30 northern Indiana pro-life leaders at a recent affiliate workshop day in Winona Lake. Local leadership workshops are planned for Central and Southwest Indiana in 2016.

Your support for Indiana Right to Life helps to equip and encourage leaders from throughout Indiana to be highly effective in speaking for unborn children and their moms. Thank you!

## Doctors stand up to Planned Parenthood in Bloomington

Over 20 Bloomington physicians sent a letter to Bloomington City Council Members in late October urging the officials to reject a proposed resolution of support for Planned Parenthood. Although the resolution was passed by the Bloomington City Council, the physicians still made their point by highlighting numerous medical resources available to area women outside of the Planned Parenthood abortion business. The letter also reminded the Council Members of the recent videos of Planned Parenthood officials negotiating prices for aborted baby body parts. Below is the full text of the doctors' letter to the Bloomington City Council:

### An open letter to the Bloomington City Council

*We are writing you in regards to the Bloomington City Council's upcoming vote on a resolution of support for Planned Parenthood. We appeal to you as physicians practicing in Monroe County, to block this resolution.*

*The Bloomington Planned Parenthood facility ended the lives of more than 718 unborn boys and girls in 2014 alone, and thousands in the past several years. Many residents of Bloomington join a majority of U.S. citizens in their opposition to abortion - 55 percent of Americans believe abortion should be illegal or legal only in a few circumstances according to the latest Gallup poll. Many other organizations provide quality health care in Monroe County that do not provide abortions. There is no reason to select Planned Parenthood for special recognition. There are 61 physicians on the Medicaid provider list for Monroe County. There is certainly no lack of medical services for low income women here. Many of us see underserved women at our practices every day.*

*In clinic inspection surveys completed by the Indiana State Department of Health regarding the Planned Parenthood abortion facility in Bloomington, it was that noted the staff failed to maintain basic standards expected in the medical community and required by law. These errors put patients at serious risk. As physicians, we are shocked at the numerous health violations reported including: confidential patient records not protected from access to unauthorized persons; medical staff with direct patient contact not regularly tested for Tuberculosis; dust, dirt, and insects found in the procedure room; medications improperly labeled and expired; workers not ensuring accuracy or completeness of medical records. These are just a few examples of the Planned Parenthood located in Bloomington failing to comply with state rules and regulations.*

*Additionally, the narrative from a special investigation con-*

*ducted July 21, 2015 by the Indiana Department of Health reports that:*

*"Staff member #8 demonstrated how he/she handles the POC (bodies of aborted babies). He/she receives the POC which are in a glass jar through a window, places it in a strainer, washes it off and places it in a pyrex dish floating in water and observes it under a light. After examination and all is okay, he/she put it back in a strainer and then into a specimen cup and into the biohazardous waste located under the counter. The room contained the glass jar, covers for the glass jar, pyrex dish, strainer, and specimen cups. There was a cardboard box under the cabinet that contained a large red bag that was full and was tied shut. The room had a foul smell."*

*The same staff member "indicated the biohazardous waste was picked up on Wednesdays and that procedures were performed on Thursdays."*

*Obviously, the room "had a foul smell" because the bodies of babies aborted on Thursday are kept for an entire week in a non-refrigerated cardboard box. In our view, this is not an acceptable practice for the well-being of staff and patients at this abortion facility.*

*This is a picture of the size and shape of baby body parts that are typically placed in the strainer and the pyrex dish and observed under the light as described above by the Indiana State Department of Health:*

*For these reasons, we respectfully ask you to withhold special recognition for the Bloomington abortion facility operated by Planned Parenthood of Indiana and Kentucky.*

