



Pro-Life Waco 2017 Year in Review

www.prolifewaco.com



Introduction & Preview

2017 will never be forgotten by the pro-life community of Waco and Central Texas. This was a difficult year, actually a tragic year. In January, we received the news that Planned Parenthood obtained a Texas license to commit abortions in Waco. Obviously, Planned Parenthood intended to reestablish this deep wound in our community. Pro-Life Waco, in collaboration with Care Net Pregnancy Center of Central Texas, responded vigorously with the **NEVER Again in Waco** campaign. This featured a rally on February 11 and a full-page ad in the local newspaper affirming opposition to abortion. 83 pastors and churches were on board with their support. Additionally, there were yard signs, radio ads, and billboards proclaiming "Never Again."

In spite of our efforts, abortion resumed on April 19. Pro-Life Waco returned to confronting abortion in our midst. The centerpiece of our outreach was a **40 Days for Life** prayer vigil beginning September 27. To prepare for **40 Days for Life**, Pro-Life Waco held a rally at Heritage Square with Sue Thayer and Shawn Carney speaking. Thayer managed a Planned Parenthood clinic in Iowa before a profound pro-life conversion in 2008. Carney is the President and a "founding father" of **40 Days for Life**.

While our focus is opposition to abortion at Planned Parenthood, Pro-Life Waco continues a multi-faceted public square outreach to change hearts and minds in our community—from billboards to a pro-life booth at the HOT Fair.

Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas elevated dramatically on November 16, confirming the mystery building at 700 W HWY 6 was indeed Planned Parenthood. The \$4.3 million/9,000 sf facility included 3,000 sf dedicated to abortion. Planned Parenthood has its sights on expanding abortion access to dozens of Central Texas counties east and west of I-35. Preempting the PP news conference, Care Net Central Texas announced they had purchased a clinic directly across the street from the new abortion center. Pro-Life Waco responded with a protest in front of the Planned Parenthood facility with over 50 people attending. The stage was set. Waco and Central Texas will stand in defense of babies and moms and be a blockade against further abortion expansion in Texas.

License to kill in Waco, TX

In January 2017, the Texas Alliance for Life in Austin delivered the shocking news that Planned Parenthood had obtained a Texas license to perform abortions in Waco.

Texas Department of State Health Services
Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas
Abortion Facility LIC#140010
Address 1121 Ross Avenue
Suite A, Waco, TX
Orig. Date: 11-15-2016
Expires: 11-30-2018

pre-born babies died. The highest yearly death toll was 1,297 in 2008.

Abortion, at the hands of Planned Parenthood, began in 1994 and was suspended in August of 2013. During these 19 years, over 19,000

"NEVER Again in Waco"

Pro-Life Waco responded to the news of the impending return of abortion with a campaign under the title of **NEVER Again in Waco**. CareNet Pregnancy Center of Central Texas, led by CEO Deborah McGregor, collaborated extensively and effectively with Pro-Life Waco.



The **NEVER Again in Waco** campaign included billboards, yard signs, letters to the editor, an online petition drive, a paper petition drive at several local church, pedestrian overpass and Life Chain outreach, PLW and Care Net Pregnancy Center jointly delivered a **NEVER Again in Waco** public rally on February 11. Over 100 attended. "NEVER Again" was the front-page story in the Waco Trib. Three local television station covered the event.



On February 26, a full-page ad appeared in the *Waco Tribune-Herald* affirming the "NEVER Again" theme with a proclamation opposing the return to abortion to Waco. The ad was supported by 83 Waco-area pastors/churches named in the ad.

Pro-Life Waco is a 501c3 non-profit.

Contributions are tax deductible.

Your financial support is vital for 2018

Donations go directly to pro-life outreach.

PLW leaders work in the life-defender vineyard without financial compensation.

You can donate online at prolifewaco.com

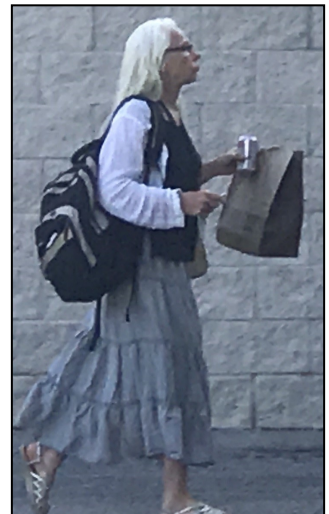
Or send to:

PLW, PO Box 7771 Waco, TX 76714

Invest in the lives and souls of your community.

Devastating news: Abortion returns to Waco

We figured out that abortion returned to the Waco branch of Planned Parenthood of Great Texas the third week of April, immediately following the celebration of Easter. On May 2, PPGT held a news conference to proudly announce the return of abortion to Waco.



Abortionist Nicola Louise Moore

This photo was taken in early May of Waco's mystery abortionist. She was quickly identified on Facebook as Nicola Louise Moore. She is in her mid-60s, is post-abortive, and has "worked" in several U. S. cities. She resides in Cambridge, MA.

The abortion schedule for 2017 was Wed/Thurs/Friday of alternate weeks. Care Net and Pro-Life Waco immediately resumed sidewalk counseling of abortion-minded moms. (Go to <http://bit.ly/2jReyA2> for more.)

Stand Up for Women and Babies rally on June 10

With the resumption of abortion, Pro-Life Waco pivoted from **NEVER Again in Waco** to combatting abortion with a **Stand Up for Women and Babies** rally at Heritage Square on June 10. The lead speakers were Shawn Carney, president of 40 Days for Life, and Sue Thayer, a former Planned Parenthood clinic manager in Iowa. Nearly 100 attended.

The rally's impact was multiplied by positive news coverage from the *Waco Trib* and local CBS and Fox news.

A big theme of the rally was that Central Texas would deliver a strong fall campaign of **40 Days for Life**. This is a public prayer vigil outside an abortion center lasting 40 days.

After Sue Thayer quit Planned Parenthood, she launched a **40 Days for Life** campaign in front of her former employer. Shortly after the prayer vigil, this Planned Parenthood closed its doors!



Did you know? Cecile Richards, CEO of PPGA, was born on July 15, 1957 at Hillcrest hospital in Waco, Texas. Cecile was the first child of the future Governor of Texas. We battle for life in Waco so that other Central Texans in the womb may live.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE™

For more go to:
<http://bit.ly/2ijULLs>



The exclamation point for defending life 2017 in Waco was the dynamic **40 Days for Life** prayer vigil, Sept 27 through Nov 4. The campaign was sponsored by Pro-Life Waco and Care Net Pregnancy Center. Aine Fitzgerald of PLW directed the campaign. Campaign launch events received front page coverage in the *Waco Trib*, including adjacent photo. Two local TV stations also covered the launch.

Shawn Carney, president of **40 Days for Life**, led our mid-campaign rally, with over 100 attending. Shawn keeps so busy during the 40 days; he speaks at just a few campaigns around the country. He said the eyes of Texas are on Waco and encouraged us to stay strong as we have for so many years.

On October 7, a half-page ad affirming **40 Days for Life** was printed in the *Waco Trib*. 64 pastors and their churches publicly declared their support.

Thanks be to God, on Day 1, a mom pressured into abortion stood strong and choose life for her baby. **40 Days for Life** brought several other turnarounds from Planned Parenthood appointments for abortion and other "services."

The closing day event featured a Jericho March seven times around Planned Parenthood.

Some 300 energized and dedicated prayer volunteers participated in **40 Days for Life**. Central Texas will be back even stronger with **40 Days for Life** in 2018.

Pro-Life Booth at HOT Fair

October brings the Heart of Texas Fair to Waco. PLW provides a pro-life booth each year. This public square outreach is now in its 4th decade. Smiling children received over 2,800 "Choose Life" balloons. Thousands of fairgoers enjoy the materials, photos, and models of life in the womb. Thanks to Doel Garcia and his over 30 volunteers for delivering this powerful outreach.

With materials distributed, beautiful visuals of preborn life, and many conversations, the pro-life booth sows seeds of respect and support for the preborn and their moms.

Protest of PP Fundraisers

Pro-Life Waco protests Planned Parenthood fundraising events in Dallas, Fort Worth, and Austin because these cities, along with Waco, compose Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas. PPGT inflicted a massive wound on Waco by resuming abortions in 2017. Pro-Life Waco will engage with PPGT at "their front doorsteps."

A "Cocktails for a Cause" fundraiser happened in Dallas on October 19. Planned Parenthood supporters would like to attend their celebratory events without life-defender opposition.

Pro-Life Waco did not allow that to happen. 14 PLW foot soldiers traveled from Waco and gathered outside the Conduit Gallery to protest as the abortion supporters drove their cars into the venue for valet parking. We had an enjoyable outing and were lifted by the camaraderie.

We continue to seek collaboration in this outreach from life defenders in the major cities within PPGT. Each city has three major annual fundraisers.



I-35 overpass outreach

The Interstate-35 pedestrian overpass near Baylor gives Pro-Life Waco the opportunity to reach out to residents of Texas and beyond. We deliver I-35 overpass outreach for two-hours every month. Thousands of travelers see our large signs. The response is overwhelmingly positive. Drivers respond with a lot of honking. Overpass outreach epitomizes the "public square" focus of Pro-Life Waco. Is there a pedestrian overpass over a busy highway in your hometown?

Letters to the editor

Like everything in 2017, the battle on the *Waco Trib* editorial page was intense.

The intensity soared in February when the *Trib* printed astoundingly critical letters about PLW Director, John Pisciotta. Among other names, Pisciotta was repeatedly call "a hater." The letters triggered strong responses from the pro-life side.

The new Waco Planned Parenthood is in full public view at 700 W HWY 6. Abortion began in Waco in 1994 at 1927 Columbus Avenue. In 2012, abortion shifted to 1121 Ross Avenue. We



enter the third era with Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas making Waco their priority for expanding abortion access in Texas with a new 9000 sf facility costing \$4.3 million. PPGT's Austin leadership delivered a press conference November 16 in Waco. CEO Ken Lambrecht was proud of the new location that is: 1. in a more prosperous area of Waco/Woodway, 2. in a medical district near Providence Hospital, 3. on a major east-west artery of Texas and 4. adjacent to a Waco bus stop.

For a full year, we had evidence, but not proof, that the project was Planned Parenthood. The building has three functions: an all-but-abortion facility (center), an education/conference area (right side, taller facade), and a 3000 sf abortion wing (far left wing).

Care Net Pregnancy Center delivered a preemptive move by purchasing a medical clinic directly across the street for counseling and serving abortion-minded moms. Care Net will also have a new sonogram bus/van to attract, serve, and encourage women in their hour of greatest need.

Pro-Life Waco responded the day after the news conference with a high-spirited Life Defender Outreach outside the new building. Because of the new Planned Parenthood initiative in our community, the next **40 Days for Life** campaign will be moved up from the fall to the spring. We hope to see you praying at 700 W HWY 6 when 40 Days for Life begins on February 14!

Stay connected with our campaign starting on Valentine's Day 40daysforlife.com/local-groups/

Second Sunday Gathering

Pro-Life Waco's action agenda is planned and promoted at Second Sunday Ecumenical Pro-Life Gathering. This is a luncheon/meeting at St. Mary's Parish Hall. We begin with a noon-hour of socializing and a delicious Italian buffet meal.

Half of the meeting from 1 to 2 p.m. is often devoted to a speaker. Our speakers in 2017 were:

Texas State Rep. **Molly White** of Belton
Jillian Ferguson of Waco. Director of Students for Life in America for Texas.

Jim Sedlak, Executive Director of American Life League, Stafford Virginia.

Sue Thayer, former manager of a Planned Parenthood clinic in Storm Lake, Iowa.

Rev. Stephen Broden, Senior Pastor of Fairpark Bible Fellowship in Dallas.

Billboards: 24/7 Outreach

Billboards are a great way to reach out to pro-lifers and to those who have not yet developed reverence for life in the womb. PLW has its largest billboard on Franklin Ave. at 16th Street. We have seven other junior billboards and "Carolyn" the pro-life billboard truck.



First Sunday Life Chain

The first Sunday of each month is Life Chain Sunday at the intersection of Valley Mills and Waco Drive. In October, Pro-Life Waco participated in International Life Chain along with over 1,500 communities worldwide.

Thank you to all who have

- prayed • worked • and financially supported the Gospel of Life in Waco in 2017.

We need your support in 2018!

Donate online: www.prolifewaco.com
Donate by mail: PO Box 7771, Waco, TX 76714
Contact us: 254-644-0407 or prolifewaco@gmail.com