

From the President

If someone asked me to describe HLA’s former President Beverly Aplikowski, I would highlight her role as a mentor, connector of people, tireless worker, and a woman of God. She had boundless energy, excellent financial skills, and was a peacemaker. But above all, she was a true friend.

I cannot pinpoint exactly when I first met Beverly or when I was honored to call her Bev. It must have been soon after we moved to Arden Hills in 1984, likely at a political event. She welcomed us to our new city and helped my husband, Steve, and I get engaged in our community, including HLA.

Bev had an incredible ability to anticipate your next question. When I unexpectedly became the President of HLA, I turned to her for guidance on how to conduct meetings. She provided me with a packet of information that included Robert’s Rules of Order, a cheat sheet for conducting meetings, how to frame a motion, and much more. It addressed all my questions, even those I didn’t realize I had.

Bev was a true networker; she seemed to know everyone. She introduced me to new people and expanded our involvement in local matters. Whenever I had a question or needed assistance, she always knew exactly the right person to help. Her connections broadened our horizons and intensified our interest in improving government by getting involved in politics.

As a tireless worker with the instincts of a lady, Bev listened carefully and thoughtfully. Her insightful questions helped clarify my thinking, presented new approaches to challenges, and ultimately led to better decisions. She always made time for me, had the patience to listen, and possessed the wisdom to understand perspectives.

As the Board President of HLA, she played a crucial role in purchasing our current building. Her boundless energy and innovative fundraising efforts ensured that we owned it outright. When HLA needed to hire new staff or settle differences, Bev readily stepped up to the challenge. She was a skilled interviewer, capable of settling disputes, and she ensured that everything ran smoothly. Her financial expertise, honed from her experience as the owner and CEO of Lakeside Homes in New Brighton, helped keep the budget on track, identified cost-saving opportunities, and generally steered us in a steady direction.

Bev was a peacemaker, as I mentioned earlier. She also contributed to harmony in many other situations. Her perceptive questions clarified issues and led to amicable solutions. When I faced difficulties during board meetings, she even attended one to offer her support. Her suggestions for improvement made our meetings more productive and effective. That was Bev’s way; she inspired confidence without putting people down.

Bev was a woman of God. This was evident in the way she treated everyone with respect and consideration, especially regarding the dignity of the unborn. She was generous with her time and resources, encouraging people to be their best selves and to be thoughtful stewards of the gifts God gives.

She will be remembered fondly by those who knew her, and the world is a better place because of her. She lived by the golden rule: do unto others as you would have them do unto you. Her legacy will live on through the example of her well-lived life.

In Life,

Melanie A. Freimuth

Melanie Freimuth – HLA President

Heaven Sent

In early June, Mary M. emailed us about our Just4Guys/Just4Girls magazine:

“Have you seen Planned Parenthood’s virtual/digital sex ed? Planned Parenthood-backed sex ed group Advocates for Youth (AFY) has launched a revamp and rebranding of its sex ed with a ‘club’ which warns teens that “pro-life” individuals are “red flags” who hold unscientific views. It’s approach and style remind me of your Just for Girls/Just for Guys. You must be on the right track to have PP copying you. Thanks for your work.”

How amazing is that? We are ahead of Planned Parenthood!



I wanted to share a personal testimony on the impact of our publications.

I had a meeting with my financial planner earlier this year. He knows my wife and I are very political, him not so much. He took copies of FRAGILE and J4G with him. When I spoke with him two weeks ago, he said that he was really impressed. “They were not what I expected from a pro-life group,” he said. “I assumed they would be over the top and offensive. They were informative and made me rethink what I thought I knew on the issues. Keep up the good work.”

~ Andy Aplikowski

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Allies for life



Outreach is diving into summer



We had a fantastic spring and are excited to dive into summer! We attended the **Life Legal dinner, where we heard from Robin Sertell** about her remarkable survival through her mother’s repeated attempts to abort her. In April, we set up an exhibit booth at the **Heartbeat International Conference in Birmingham, Alabama**. This was a wonderful opportunity to collaborate with other pro-life organizations on both national and international levels.

In May, we participated in the **Life Matters Worldwide Summit**, which brought together pregnancy centers from across Michigan to foster learning and collaboration. Life Matters Worldwide emphasizes that staff should not feel overwhelmed or unsupported. The summit provides opportunities for spiritual renewal, practical coaching, and community support. Also in May, **Guardian Angels Church offered an exhibitor table at their Respect Life Spaghetti Dinner**, where they partnered with a local pregnancy center to better inform their congregation about what’s happening in the pro-life movement.



Life Matters Worldwide Summit



Ascend Sexual Risk Avoidance Conference

June was a busy month for us as well. We started off with the **Ascend Sexual Risk Avoidance Conference in Cleveland, Ohio**. We were able to showcase our newest Sexual Risk Avoidance materials and attend sessions to enhance our knowledge, ensuring we have the most current materials that resonate with young adults today. Following this, we quickly hopped on a plane to attend the **National Right to Life Conference in Overland Park, Kansas**, where we connected with various Right to Life groups from across the country. We discussed their needs for sidewalk advocates and how we can update our materials to best suit those needs.

Maria and Jacqueline recently attended the **Vita Institute at the University of Notre Dame**—an intensive, weeklong program designed to educate and empower pro-life advocates through lectures, prayer, and networking opportunities. Throughout the week, they had the privilege of learning from and alongside world-class professors, lawyers, physicians, politicians, and activists. The experience was intellectually rich, spiritually uplifting, and deeply inspiring. They returned carrying a wealth of knowledge they’re eager to apply in their writing and design work at Human Life Alliance. They also forged meaningful connections with pro-life leaders from across the globe, friendships and collaborations that promise to strengthen the movement for years to come. It was a week marked by learning, prayer, and plenty of laughter.



Vita Institute at the University of Notre Dame Final Banquet



Speaker of the House Mike Johnson



Riley Gaines at Celebrate Life

The following week, we attended the **Celebrate Life Conference in Washington, D.C.**, bringing together students, pregnancy centers, sidewalk advocates, and pro-life supporters. This year, we joined the **Celebrate Life Rally to Defund Planned Parenthood**, aiming to organize a large diaper drive. It was a rewarding experience!

We are looking forward to attending more local pregnancy center walks, fundraisers, community dinners, and galas. If you have any events planned, please email us at **Feedback@humanlife.org**, as we love to attend whenever possible.

Tattooing Together: Engaging Hearts and Minds

While attending the Heartbeat International conference, Jordyn, our Program and Outreach Manager, became known as the vendor with the tattoos. She decided to bring our temporary tattoos to the conference as a fun engagement tool. To our surprise, they became quite popular; more and more attendees began showing off their “Love Them Both” and “Choose Life” tattoos. These tattoos turned out to be an excellent way to connect with fellow attendees and demonstrate pride in being pro-life. Order some today at **humanlife.org/products/other**



Memorials & Celebrations

In memory of: Monsignor Philip Reilly.
From: Jeanne Wonio
In memory of: Sara A. Duffy.
From: Sarah Rubio
In memory of: Beverly Aplikowski
From: Andy and Rachel Aplikowski
Christine Arntzen
Dale and Janet Beihoffer
Craig and Michelle Benson
Gary and Sharon Peterson
Joe and Caroline Langfeld

Chemical Abortion

This September marks the tragic 25th anniversary of the FDA’s approval of the chemical abortion drug Mifepristone. To avoid the typical red tape of the approval process, the FDA used a loophole to approve it, claiming chemical abortion “provides meaningful therapeutic benefit” over surgical abortion. According to the Ethics and Public Policy Center (EPPC), “the FDA had to consider an unwanted pregnancy a ‘serious or life-threatening illness.’”¹

However, mifepristone was always considered dangerous enough to require a Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS) for the woman’s safety. Over the past 25 years, this REMS has been relaxed so much as to be nearly non-existent. During Covid, the Biden administration removed all remaining in-person visit requirements, making it impossible for the prescriber to perform an ultrasound, verify gestational age, rule out ectopic pregnancy, and monitor the woman’s health after taking the drug.

The EPPC recently released a study, calling on the FDA to reevaluate the safety of mifepristone. According to the study, 10.93% of women experience a serious adverse event within 45 days following a mifepristone abortion.² It identified 865,727 mifepristone abortions prescribed to 692,873 women from 2017-2023. This means that over 75,000 women in this data set experienced a serious adverse event from a mifepristone abortion.

And what happens to the “products of pregnancy” after a chemical abortion? “An estimated ‘40 tons of aborted babies’ bodies’ become ‘medical waste ... ultimately going into the water systems that process our drinking water.’”³ Our campus magazine FRAGILE covers this topic in-depth.

humanlifealliance About Human Life Alliance

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Our Publications

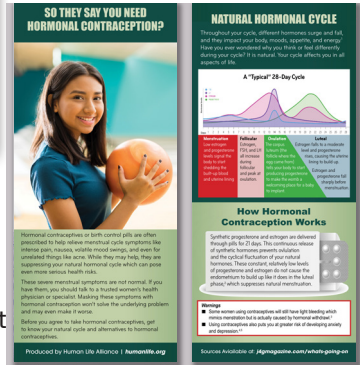


Additionally, we created a fact card titled “So They Say You Need Hormonal Contraception?” that goes along with the Just4Guys/Just4Girls Magazine. This fact card explores how hormonal contraception is often prescribed to address abnormal menstrual symptoms. It explains the natural hormonal cycle of women and illustrates how hormonal contraception suppresses this natural cycle, failing to properly address the symptoms for which it was prescribed.



We also updated our Top 10 Abstinence Fact Sheet. All of these resources serve as excellent Sexual Risk Avoidance tools that can be used in classrooms or for discussions with young adults.

Chemical Abortion Sources:
[1, 2] eppc.org/publication/insurance-data-reveals-one-in-ten-patients-experiences-a-serious-adverse-event/
[3] washingtonstand.com/news/abortion-pill-may-impact-us-fertility-through-drinking-water-25-congressmen-warn



Roughly two-thirds of all abortions in the US are chemical abortions, and Danco Laboratories estimates that more than 5 million women have used Mifeprex since its FDA approval in 2000. These numbers show the grave need for a thorough reinvestigation of the safety of chemical abortion, for women and our environment.

Educating and Empowering Since 1977

Please read the President’s message about my mother, Beverly Aplikowski. She passed away on May 1st after battling cancer. Her wishes were to die with dignity, and my wife and I were able to fulfil that wish with the help of Melanie, for which we deeply thank her. I had the honor of remembering my mom’s life and legacy during her funeral Mass at St. John the Baptist in New Brighton, MN. You can view the recording on St. John the Baptist’s YouTube page. Here is the direct link: youtube.com/watch?v=tBRbvC9Plcw

We have had some exciting things happening in our office. Staff has been busy working on the next edition of She’s a Child Not a Choice, new fact sheets, fact cards, and digital content. We are also busy attending conferences and trainings across the country. We really enjoy getting to share our materials and publications with people.

Another exciting thing for our office is that we were able to utilize a couple of generous estate gifts left to HLA by supporters to do some much needed repairs and maintenance to our office, and also acquire new equipment to help us better carry out our mission.

We have a new production printer to expand our printing capabilities! We also invested in a professional paper cutter and envelope inserter. With production and freight costs rising, and the speed at which information is flowing, we are transitioning to printing more items in house which gives us the flexibility to update content. This also allows us to provide more language options and offer more custom products for pro-life organizations.

HLA has been educating, equipping, and empowering the Pro-Life community since 1977. Our publications and websites have reached over 240 million people across the globe. Now that we have a full staff and better equipment, we can help even more organizations and advocates proclaim a culture of respect for life through education, social and political awareness, and promoting life-affirming alternatives to abortion, infanticide, assisted suicide, and euthanasia.

If you’d like a tour of our offices or to learn more about how our equipment and offerings can expand your effectiveness to save lives, please reach out today.

In Life,

Andy Aplikowski | Executive Director



Andy and his mother, Beverly Aplikowski

From Celebrating to Concern

In the Pro-Life community, we celebrate whenever we hear about Planned Parenthood facilities closing. Recently, it was announced that four facilities would be closing in Iowa and four in Minnesota. To say we were pleased with this news would be an understatement!

However, as we celebrate the closing of these facilities, we must acknowledge the implications. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Planned Parenthood stayed open for telehealth appointments. These appointments are conducted via video calls, allowing doctors and patients to be in different locations, even states apart, without verifying how far along a woman is in her pregnancy. This poses significant risks!

Last September, we learned about the heartbreaking stories of two women, Amber Thurman and Candi Miller, who sadly lost their lives due to complications from chemical abortions. In recent years, there has been a rise in telehealth appointments and the prescription of chemical abortion pills. While we are thrilled to acknowledge the closure of eight Planned Parenthood facilities, we also feel a deep sense of concern, as this may lead to an increased number of chemical abortion prescriptions for women who may not be fully aware of the potential risks, including serious health complications or even death. In the Chemical Abortion article, you can find more information about this issue.