

LifeFacts

A publication of South Dakota Right to Life
Summer 2018



NATIONAL RIGHT TO LIFE



50 YEARS
DEFENDING
LIFE



SD RIGHT TO LIFE CONVENTION PAGE 9

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South Dakota Right to Life is a non-profit non-denominational organization whose philosophy is that all innocent human life is inviolable and is to be guaranteed protection from conception until natural death.

Message From Our President

By: Fred Deutsch



Welcome to our revised edition of LifeFacts! Many thanks to our new editor, April Entringer, for all her creativity and work. With this edition, we join with the rest of the country celebrating the 50th anniversary of

National Right to Life.

In South Dakota, we're blessed with a strong Right-to-Life organization led by an 18-member board of volunteers from across the state. In fact, South Dakota Right to Life is rated as the sixth strongest pro-life state in the nation. If you get a chance, please thank a board member for their service.

Our pro-life work continues to focus on saving the weakest among us, including the unborn, the elderly and the ill. The downside is, as you know, as hard as we fight, the other side continues to push back, exerting its agenda to expand abortion and legalize assisted-suicide and euthanasia in our state.

That's why your membership and donations to SDRTL are so important! If you're

not a member of SDRTL or haven't sent in your annual \$30 fees, please do so. Those checks form the foundation of our support. And if you can, please consider making a donation to SDRTL beyond your membership dues.

As SDRTL goes through growing pains to be more effective and save more lives, we are actively interviewing for an Executive Director. With a paid professional comes additional costs, and a renewed effort to ask for financial help.

The good news of our growing pains is that our board continues to expand. We are excited to welcome three new board members: Jo Gilliland from Milbank, Beth Spitzer from Hot Springs, and Cassidy Noem from Mitchell, daughter of our US Congresswoman. Cassidy's board work will be dedicated primarily to reaching out to high school and college students, as we press forward to educate the youth of our state.

As effective as we are in saving babies in South Dakota, there is so much more to be done. Each year 500 unborn babies are still killed in our state. 500! That. Has. To. Stop. And stop it, we will!

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your support.

Thank You!

As we transition into a new editor for LifeFacts, we cannot forget to thank our previous editor for all of the hard work, dedication, and joy she has put into LifeFacts and SDRTL. Gloria Duenwald, of Hoven, SD began as editor of LifeFacts in 1989. She says "I knew when I somewhat reluctantly accepted the SDRTL newsletter job back in 1989 that my plate was full enough. Actually I had no idea what lay ahead. I have enjoyed all the writing, editing, and design opportunities I've had over the years. Oh the pro-life growth I couldn't avoid and the awesome volunteers I've worked with! In a nutshell, wow, just WOW!" Thank you Gloria, we appreciate all that you have done for SDRTL!

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

SDRTL relies solely upon memberships and donations from pro-life South Dakotans to fund our work. Right now we are working hard to expand our reach and protect the right to life of ALL unborn children and other defenseless members of the human family through education, legislation, and political action.

Can YOU help us in our mission to change the hearts and minds of South Dakotans until we reach the day when there are ZERO abortions in South Dakota?

CURRENT PROJECTS NEEDING ADDITIONAL FUNDING

1

Active search for an Executive Director. SDRTL has been without an Executive Director for many years, and have relied almost solely on volunteers to fulfill our mission. It's time to have someone who is dedicated full time to protecting life. We need to make sure we are putting forth every effort to save human lives.

2

Building a new website. This updated site will have an incredible reach to pro-lifers like you, but will also provide education to those who might be on the fence or who don't share our pro-life views.

3

Educating South Dakotans through parades, fair booths, billboards, and the LifeFacts newsletter.

Do your part in continuing to fulfill our mission to protect the right to life for everyone from conception to natural death. Please consider supporting us with an additional donation this month.

We thank all of you who are able to donate or help through volunteering.

Where our Donations are Going in 2018

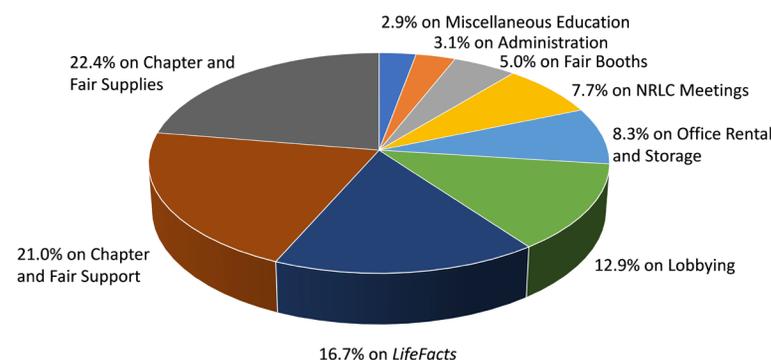
By: Spencer Cody

Our South Dakota Right to Life Board works diligently to make the most of every contribution we receive. Here is a breakdown of how your donations have been spent in 2018.

Chapter and fair supplies take up nearly a quarter of our budget every year. SDRTL offers support to roughly 40 chapters and participates in a wide range of fairs and events. Your donations ensure that we are always distributing new and innovative displays and pro-life materials. For example, in 2018 we purchased and prepared 7,000 twelve-week fetal models to give away at fairs and events. These little “babies” draw crowds of children to our booths, where they answer questions about fetal development to “win” a prize.

Nearly a fifth of our budget goes to provide a field coordinator to offer support to chapters and coordinate our booths at fairs and other events.

Sending LifeFacts to 8,000 households four times a year



is one of our biggest educational expenses, consisting of nearly 17% of our yearly budget.

Lobbying takes up about 13% of our budget. Each session we have a fulltime lobbyist in Pierre working with our legislative committee to develop, refine, and push through meaningful pro-life legislation that helps educate and save lives while blocking anti-life legislation in its tracks. The success of our lobbying efforts has been stunning: 22 pieces of pro-life legislation passed within the last eight sessions.

Eight percent of our budget is spent on maintaining an office and storage space in Pierre. Another 8% is used to send South Dakota delegates to National Right to Life meetings, conventions, and trainings.

Five percent of our budget is spent on paying for fair booths and expenses for other events to ensure our pro-life message is reaching people throughout the state.

Only 3.1% of the budget is being spent on administration. Since we have a remarkable and experienced volunteer who maintains our database and memberships, our biggest administrative expenses come from membership mailings, postage, and office supplies.

Miscellaneous education expenses are less than 3% of our budget and include things like our essay contests, Hour of Reflection, convention, and other education opportunities.

Every dollar that you donate gets stretched to its breaking point and supports a large network of chapters and volunteers committed to furthering and cementing our gains toward a culture that values LIFE. Thanks so much for supporting your South Dakota Right to Life!

SDRTL MEMBERSHIP/ DONATION FORM

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email _____

Phone _____ Amt. Enclosed _____

Annual membership \$30
Lifetime \$300.

Mail to SDRTL
PO Box 1032
Pierre, SD, 57501

or epay on sdrighttolife.org.

If you receive a printed issue of LifeFacts, please attach your mailing label here.

New Law Prevents Discrimination

By: Debbie Pease

If you are like me, you watched in horror last year as the plight of UK babies Alfie Evans and Charlie Gard played out in the media. Both children had rare disorders that caused the medical establishment to give up on their treatment. Their parents fought valiantly to save their children, even receiving offers of help from President Trump and Pope Francis. These offers of help were denied by the medical professionals and judges who made the decisions to end treatment on these children over the protests of their parents. Sadly, both children died amid a media frenzy.

I had no idea that similar cases were happening in the United States until I went to a workshop at the National Right to Life Convention that featured Sheryl Crosier, whose own baby, Simon, lost a similar battle in the state of Missouri.



Simon had a diagnosis of Trisomy 18. At age three months old, Simon's oxygen saturation levels began to plummet. His parents asked what could be done and were told "nothing" by the medical staff. Later, they learned that a Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) order was in Simon's chart – something that was never discussed with either parent.

After Simon's death, his parents reviewed his chart and found not only had the DNR been placed in his chart with out their knowledge or consent, but there was an order in Simon's chart that he receive only "comfort feeds" which are not

adequate for growth or development. He had also been given medications incompatible with his apnea. The Crosiers were outraged at the way their son had been treated and resolved to do something to protect other families.

The Crosiers learned that they were not alone. In the award-winning 2014 documentary "Labeled" they learned of many children with chromosomal disorders who were denied life saving treatment. They learned that children with Trisomy 18, Trisomy 13, and other related genetic disorders are commonly labeled as "incompatible with life." As a result, children with these conditions usually have DNR orders placed in their charts without the consent of their parents.

After beginning the legislative battle in their home state of Missouri without success, Kansans for Life championed their cause and helped them achieve victory when Kansas Governor, Sam Brownback signed Simon's Law on April 17, 2017. The law mandates:

1) Parents receive both written and verbal notification before a Do Not Resuscitate Order (DNR) is placed in a child's medical file. Parents can then allow the order or refute it orally or in writing. Court access for disputes is delineated and the child remains safe during resolution.

2) Parents and prospective patients of any age have the right to request and receive hospital policies concerning "denial of life-saving care" (sometimes referred to as medical futility policies). There is no mandate that hospitals have such policies.

Others are now looking at their laws to see if vulnerable patients are protected from unilateral DNR orders, or if they could benefit from a version of Simon's Law.

You can learn more about this issue at simonismyname.com.

SD LIFE FACTS

6th

South Dakota is Ranked 6th most pro-life according to AUL

22

22 pieces of pro-life legislation passed within the last eight years

472

472 abortions performed in SD in 2016, one of the lowest per capita rate in the US.

50 Years Defending *Life*

By: April Entringer

National Right to Life

Founded in 1968, National Right to Life is the nation's oldest and largest pro-life organization. National Right to Life is made up of 50 state right-to-life affiliates and over 3,000 local chapters. With education and legislation, National Right to Life works to protect the most defenseless in our society who are threatened by abortion, assisted suicide, and euthanasia.

With a half century of experience under its belt, National Right to Life is working to change a culture of death into a culture of life. National Right to Life does this by working with the pro-life leadership in Congress to protect unborn babies, infants born with disabilities, and the medically vulnerable. The legislative and political outreach goes together with educating pro-lifers and giving them the tools they need to stand up for life.

All of this requires National Right to Life to be active and effective both locally and nationally through state and local pro-life organizations affiliated with National Right to Life, like South Dakota Right to Life

South Dakota Right to Life

While South Dakota Right to Life still has a couple years before we hit our 50th anniversary, we join with National



Life Chain in Pierre, SD

Right to Life in looking back on 50 years of defending life.

South Dakota Right to Life was founded three years after the founding of National Right to Life, and began on September 1, 1971. The first area right to life group was founded in Pierre and in December of that year, Eastern and Western South Dakota were brought together at the Pierre Area Right to Life meeting, where Kathleen Barthel of Rapid City, acting as director of SD Right to Life, was the guest speaker. From there SDRTL grew fast with a lot of momentum. By June of 1973, twenty-seven towns had local organizations.

South Dakota Right to Life is now organized between 12 regions with 40 chapters and hundreds of volunteers helping the many events throughout the year. With National Right to Life's 50th anniversary and South Dakota Right to Life's not far behind, it's good to look back at where we've been. In the upcoming newsletters, be on the lookout for photographs and stories about South Dakota Right to Life's history over the years.

Sources: <https://www.nrlc.org/site/about/>
National Right to Life Convention Yearbook
An Organizational History of the South Dakota Right to Life Committee By Ruth Karim

National Right to Life Convention

By: Debbie Pease

"Love Them All" was the theme for this year's National Right to Life Convention in Overland Park, Kansas which took place on June 28th – 30th. Five adults and one teen from South Dakota were excited to take part in this celebration of the 50-year history of National Right to Life and the impact they have made in the fight to protect the vulnerable lives of the unborn and those at risk of euthanasia and assisted suicide. Participants had this to say about the experience:

Dave Cutshall, Sioux Falls

"This was truly a "WOW" experience that opened my eyes and energized me to get involved in Right to Life and politics to make a difference. This was my first convention and I was amazed at how much was packed into each day. I am already making plans to attend next year's convention and I hope many others from South Dakota will join me!"

Nancy Cutshall, Sioux Falls

"Attending the national convention helped me realize that I am part of a huge number of pro-lifers across the nation that are making a difference. I believe anyone who is involved in this movement would benefit greatly from attending as it equips you with resources, encouragement, new ideas, positive persuasion tips and fundraising ideas."



Dave & Nancy Cutshall

National Right to Life Convention Continued...



Fred Deusch, Debbie Pease, Dale Bartscher

Fred Deusch, Watertown

“This is the second national convention I have attended. In each I learned a wealth of information about what’s happening behind the scenes at the national level to save babies, as well as practical state-level legislative strategies, pro-life

programming suggestions and important fund-raising recommendations necessary to keep SDRTL going. It was very much worth the time and effort to attend and God willing the RTL board and I will be able to use the information to help save more unborn babies in South Dakota.”

Dale Bartscher, Rapid City

“The entire National RTL Convention was simply inspiring from start to finish. Friday morning, we experienced an inspiring Prayer Breakfast. There it was reported that Dr. Bernard Nathanson once said, ‘We would never have gotten away with what we did if you, the clergy, had been united, purposeful and strong.’ Dr. Nathanson was the director of the world’s largest abortion clinic and the nation’s most prominent abortionist having presided over 60,000 abortions. May God forgive His people for being SILENT for so long! I returned to SD with a renewed energy and commitment to NEVER AGAIN be silent!!”

Debbie Pease, Centerville

“I am so grateful for the opportunity to network with pro-life champions from across the country. Learning how they are overcoming their challenges is inspiring and enlightening and definitely helps me in my pro-life work in South Dakota. It would be awesome if even more South Dakotans could attend next year!”

Ellie Pease, Centerville Teens for Life

“The National Right to Life Convention was a fun and educational experience. Each day was packed with amazing speakers who shared interesting stories and tons of information. It was a wonderful opportunity to make new friends and strengthen my pro-life beliefs.”



Ellie Pease

TEENS FOR LIFE



2018 Essay Contest

Defending human life from conception to natural death

Topic: Why are YOU pro-life?



\$\$\$ prizes for TOP 5 essays in each division!

1st	\$150
2nd	\$125
3rd	\$100
4th	\$75
5th	\$50

Junior division: grades 7 - 9
Senior division: grades 10 - 12

Essays will be judged on:

- Originality
- Content
- Accuracy

Essays must be 300 - 500 words & must be emailed by Nov. 1, 2018.
Email entries to: dpease84@yahoo.com

Deadline: November 1, 2018

Find additional information, including rules, at www.sdrighttolife.org
Questions? Call Debbie at 605-929-4933

For those of you who wish you could have attended, we encourage you to start making plans now to attend next year’s convention which is usually the last Thursday - Saturday in June. In the meantime, the recordings of all the talks from this year are available at: nrlconvention.com.

SDRTL Humanitarians of the Year

Brock Greenfield



At the age of 25, Brock was elected to the South Dakota State Senate for District 6, making him the youngest Senator in the history of South Dakota.

“Senator Brock Greenfield has been our ‘go to guy’ in the legislature for many years. Whether he is the prime sponsor of a pro-life bill or not, when we need him, he always steps up to the plate and delivers.”

-Debbie Pease SDRTL Lobbyist

Since then he has served in both the House and Senate with great distinction and is currently the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

Brock has a long history of championing the pro-life cause. He previously served as the South Dakota Right to Life Executive Director, and has always been a reliable ally in the state legislature. More than just maintaining a 100% pro-life voting record, Brock is a true statesman who vigorously defends our bills in committees and on the floor whether he is a prime sponsor or not. His knowledge of our South Dakota abortion laws and the history behind them are an invaluable asset for the pro-life movement.

Leslee Unruh

In 1984, Leslee Unruh founded the Alpha Center and Omega Maternity Home. Alpha Center is a pregnancy care center in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and is one of the largest centers in the United States. Since then, Leslee has helped 14+ other centers start. In South Dakota, Leslee has led pro-life legislation including two abortion ban campaigns, which brought awareness resulting in a safer place for women and babies.

In 1996, Leslee founded the National Abstinence Clearinghouse (NAC). NAC is a resource center that distributes information on virtue and sexual integrity, provides training to parents and educators, and has affiliates in 117 countries as well as every state in the U.S. Leslee was the first to pass abstinence education in South Dakota schools. She started a television show, as well as a program called Take Charge of Your Life. In 2001, the U.S. Government asked Leslee to overlook the federally funded curriculum to make sure they were compliant, and did a contract for CDC, PROI and TA contract.

Leslee is the author of the book entitled Abstinence 101, has spoken across the United States to thousands of parents and teens, and she has hosted numerous conferences. Other accomplishments include writing newspaper columns, authoring several informative

brochures, radio presentations and producing a TV program on teen abstinence. Leslee has appeared on various shows including the Oprah Winfrey Show, FOX News, Focus on the Family radio program, just to name a few. In her work, she has done overseas documentaries and has been recognized in major publications worldwide.

On numerous occasions, Leslee has been invited to the White House to advise on public policy. She is the recipient of many awards including the Congressional Order of Merit Award, Salt and Light Award and Pro-Life Leadership Award by the Vitae Foundation.



Leslee is married to Dr. Allen Unruh and is blessed with five children and sixteen grandtreasures, which they consider to be their greatest accomplishment.

Leslee fights abortion by helping people who have no one to encourage them when they face unplanned crisis pregnancies, no one to help them find the resources they need, and no one to offer practical support for their decision. Leslee stands in the gap to help people choose life.

- Fred Deutsch

Recipes for Life... Stir the Conversation



South Dakota Right to Life 2018 Convention

St. George Center, 408 S Western Ave, Hartford, SD (10 minutes west of Sioux Falls)

September 22, 2018 from 9 am to 5 pm

Registration, Vendors, and Continental Breakfast at 8 am

Featured Speakers:

Dr. Pat Castle - founder of LIFE Runners, International

Leslee Unruh - founder of Alpha Center

Sue Thayer - former Planned Parenthood facility manager and founder of Cornerstone for Life

- Also-

Breakout Session for Youth 7th-12th grade from 10am—2pm

Humanitarian of the Year Award, Silent Auction, Lunch Included

Convention Questions? Call Lisa at 605-351-8778

Special Rate at AmericInn, Hartford, SD if reserved by September 7th, Call 605-528-5000

To reserve your tickets, make checks payable to Hartford/Humboldt Right to Life and send with the following information to:

Hartford/Humboldt Right to Life
PO Box 151
Humboldt, SD 57035-0151

Cost: Adults \$30, Couples \$50, Youth (7th-12th) \$10, Seniors \$20,
Family Maximum \$60
Scholarships Available, Childcare Not Available

**Register by
September 10th**

Name/s _____

Address _____ City _____ State & Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Number Attending: _____ Adults _____ Youth Track (Grades 7 -12) Total Amount Enclosed _____

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 30 - September 3	SDRTL Booth at State Fair in Huron
September 14	10th Annual Golf Tournament in Rapid City
September 19	40 Days for Life Kickoff Rally, 6:30 at Sioux Falls First Assembly of God Church
September 22	SDRTL State Convention in Hartford
September 26 - November 4	40 Days for Life in Sioux Falls - Pray to End Abortion
October 6	Life is Good! : A Diocesan Respect Life Conference 9 - 4 at The Cathedral of St. Joseph: Parish Hall
October 7	Life Chain 2pm - 3pm (see www.lifechain.net for more info)
October 12	Opening of Gosnell Movie in Sioux Falls and select cities across the US
November 6	Election Day - Support Pro-Life Candidates

NEW WEBSITE!

We are very excited to show you our updated website, coming soon! This new site will have a modern look, appealing to everyone, no matter what type of device they are viewing. We'll be able to reach pro-lifers like you, but also provide education and the truth to those who don't share our pro-life views (yet). Below is a picture of the site.



Interested in Volunteering?

South Dakota Right to Life thanks all of our volunteers who help us in so many ways. From working at fair booths to displaying the crosses, from helping with mailings to distributing pro-life pins, bumper stickers, etc., there is much to do.

Interested in lending a helping hand? Wondering what events are coming up in your area? Contact SDRTL by messaging our Facebook page or texting our number if you would like to participate in one or more of these opportunities



For Donations of \$50 or More

Aberdeen

Stephen Darling
 Dr. Jerome & Helen Eckrich
 David & Carolyn Mehlhoff
 Janice Rausch

Bison

Stateline Right to Life

Britton

Knights of Columbus Britton-Hecla Council

Brookings

Al & Irene Kurtenbach
 Harry & Colleen Mansheim

Burke

John & Linda Lillibridge

Chelsea

Dennis & Dennise Harmon

Corsica

Everet Adams

Dell Rapids

Ronald & Nadine Hatlewick
 Tom Pischke

Desmet

Kingsbury County Right to Life

Elkton

Robert Even

Fort Pierre

Jim & Edith Hoffman

Gettysburg

Wilbert & Mary Fenger
 Daniel & Dorthy Smith

Groton

Steven & Carol Smith

Harrold

Dennis & Marlene Marso

Hot Springs

Hot Springs Right to Life

Humbolt

Hartford-Humbolt Right to Life

Huron

Holy Trinity Catholic Parish

Milbank

Don & Beverly Buth

Mina

Dana & Becky Randall

Mitchell

Jeff & Cindy Krall

Orient

Catholic Daughters of Americas,
 Court Our Lady of Fatima #1518
 Robert Schaefer

Reliance

Joel & Joni Bich

Sioux Falls

Orriette Cassell
 Beverly English
 Roger Haugo
 Robert & Kristine O'Connell
 Monica Pruy
 Larry & Darlene Tentinger

Spearfish

Chuck & Joan Mutchler

Tea

Ken & Diane Wonenberg

Valley Springs

C.J. & Beverly Attema

Vermillion

Dr. William & Cyndi Dendinger
 Donald & Marcia Hovden

Wagner

Wagner Right to Life

Watertown

Byron & Kaelyn Callies

White

Marjorie Anderson

Witten

Bill & Joan Ferguson

Yankton

Rev Russell & Mary Peirce
SD State Knights of Columbus
Sun City, AZ
 Harlan Bushfield
Andover, MA
 All State Giving Campaign
Omaha, NE
 Peter & Loreta Demarco

Donations in memory of...

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Patty Nipp.....	Vi & Loren Niederbaumer
Bernice Cuppy.....	Loren & Vi Niederbaumer

Thank You!



SOUTH DAKOTA
Right to Life

Defending human life from conception to natural death
P.O. Box 1032, Pierre, SD 57501

Follow us on Facebook- South Dakota Right to Life / Follow us on Twitter @SDRTL



Sioux Empire Fair



Hoven Parade



Clay County Fair

*Summer
Parades
& Fairs*



Hot Springs 4th of July Parade



Hartford Parade