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### **Local Contacts**

### **GTARTL Board of Directors**

Kammie Richardson, President; Dcn Tim Webb, Vice President; Mary Lingaur, Secretary; Patrick McIntyre, Treasurer; Dana Olm, Jozell Rexroat; Mary Jo Piche, Neil Witkowski, Colleen Stephenson. Members at Large: Lisa Miller, Pete Miller, Donna Daciuk & Sharon Husted

#### Office Staff

Emily Hollabaugh-Director of Operations Mary Ann Korson-Bookkeeper

Michigan Representative Barbi Aumiller (989) 370-3445

## **Upcoming**

January- Billboard Drive January 19- March for Life DC

January 21- Sanctity of Human Life Sunday

### Leave a Legacy Gift

You can leave a legacy gift, in your will or trust, to our affiliate, Grand Traverse Area Right to Life, to carry on the mission that you held dearly to you while on earth. Take the opportunity in this new year to prearrange your charitable gifts.

\* If you leave a gift for our affiliate your gift is not tax deductible. Contact us at 231-946-9469 with questions. Volume: 35 Issue: 3



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# **Focus on Life Benefit Dinner**

George Dennehy left us inspired and entertained...

October 2nd was a lovely evening of fellowship, great food and prolife updates! We received so many heart warming compliments from the evening,

"It was wonderful to have an upbeat message this year with George." "Imagine his life. The adversity he's faced. He's taught himself to play the guitar-with his feet!" "He brought me to tears." "Such an awesome night, my favorite speaker."

He definitely wedged a special place in our hearts too, and we are thankful for his message to our crowd of nearly 800 supporters! We thank all who were involved, especially our Focus on Life Committee, Petersen Productions, Right to Life of MI and the great staff at the Grand Traverse Resort. This event helps promote the **life** message in so many ways and we couldn't do it without you- our loyal supporters.







**COMING NEXT YEAR!** CEO OF THE BABYLON BEE, SETH DILLON! OCTOBER 7TH, 2024

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# **Legislative Updates**

At our Focus of Life Dinner we received very important updates from RLM Legislative Director, Genevieve Marnon. She explained to us, "Our 3-pronged approach at Right to Life remains: education and outreach, political action and legislation. All three areas are still very important, and all three areas need an army of engaged citizens, and that's where you come in! Our ultimate goal of enshrining a Human Life Amendment into the US Constitution which grants legal protection to the unborn, remains." She further explained, "Elections matter and supporting and endorsing prolife candidates remains an important part of our work. The actions of judges, governors, attorney generals, prosecutors and lawmakers can have profound impact on abortion by either restricting or expanding abortion policy, despite Prop 3. Prolife groups can not leave a void in Lansing, if we do, the pro-aborts will fill the vacuum. Legislatively, the pro-aborts in charge are taking a wrecking ball to our state, but they're likely to overplay their hand and swing that pendulum too far. This will give us an opportunity to take the House back in 2024. In the meantime we play defense at the Capitol, providing testimony in defense of prolife laws or against anti-life bills, providing messaging and education for prolife legislators and press coverage which helps educate the larger public on the importance of prolife laws."

One such instance is the "RHA" legislation which was passed in the House and Senate and was sent to the Governor's office for signature, which removed licensing and inspections for abortion facilities by the State for health and safety standards, abortion reporting including complication reporting, humane disposal of fetal remains, and the ban on partial birth abortion and the abortion insurance opt-out law.

On November 8th, Barbara Listing announced that Right to Life of MI is one of 16 plaintiffs in a lawsuit challenging central elements of Proposal 3 on federal constitutional grounds. The legal complaint was filed by the American Freedom Law Center, in the US District Court against Gretchen Whitmer in her official capacity as Governor, Dana Nessel, in her official capacity as Attorney General and Jocelyn Benson, in her official capacity as Secretary of State. More information can be found at rtl.org.

## **Michigan March for Life!**



St. Mary Lake Leelanau High School Students!

November 8th was a cold blustery day, but we stood up for Life among 5,000 others on our State Capitol Lawn in Lansing! Since our fight is largely at the State level now, we are focusing more intently on Michigan- showing our prolife support, sending a strong message to our legislators and Governor and showing the proabortion side that we won't give up advocating for the unborn!





Thousands march from the Capitol Building to the Michigan Hall of Justice

Northwestern Michigan Fair Booth

In August we spent a week at the Northwestern Michigan Fair with a fantastic group of volunteers who "manned" the prolife booth. The Fair is one of our biggest chances for educational outreach during the year. We provided informational handouts on abortion facts, fetal development, end of life issues, pregnancy help locations and so much more! We are happy for the interactions we can have with prolife and prochoice individuals. As always, the Teens for Life had a great time face painting—they were busy for sure! If you'd like to volunteer at the Fair next year, please contact Emily at director@gtartl.com!





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## **Annual Billboard Drive Coming Soon!**

Our annual billboard drive will be coming to your area churches this January! Education and outreach is a must in our community and billboards are a great visible tool. Local churches will be collecting donations at weekend services in January, if you are not able to donate at your church or if you are not affiliated with a church, **you can donate directly on our website**, **by calling our office or by filling out the newsletter insert**. In order to keep a new message up each month throughout the year, it costs \$535 per month— and we need your help to do so! Here are some examples from this past year, and more new ones are to come!



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# **Grand Traverse Area Teens for Life**

Fair Volunteers. Focus on Life Dinner Interviews & Speeches. Beauty of Life Ministry. President's Tour of Thrive Medical Clinic. Just a few amazing things our Teens for Life have been busy with this past summer and Fall! They once again wowed us in their Teens for Life Showcase at the Focus Dinner- recording interviews, coordinating student attendance, and our two Presidents- Annie Paulson and Kendra Couturier giving us an overview of their meetings and activities for the year in well delivered speeches! One of those activities is called the Beauty of Life Ministry- a ministry where the teens get together on Sunday and make meals for mothers who just had a baby and deliver them to their homes. Thrive Medical Clinic was able to share with us that this ministry is one of the most fruitful and appreciated ones they see. They can't believe the hard work and dedication that goes into it! It was also so beneficial for our two president's to be invited to visit Thrive and get a tour of the process at the local clinic- they got a first hand view of how their dresser ministry helps mothers and fathers in need! We are thankful to be able to call them our Teens for Life.







### Annual Membership Meeting Tuesday, February 20th 6 pm

This serves as an official notice to all GTARTL members of this meeting at which board members will be elected. All members are invited to participate.



Beauty of Life Ministry Meals Made!