Right to Life of Michigan is a nonpartisan, nonsectarian, nonprofit organization of diverse and caring people united to protect the precious gift of human life from fertilization to natural death.

We work on the behalf of defenseless or vulnerable human beings, born and unborn, within our identified life issues of abortion, infanticide, euthanasia and assisted suicide.
OUR DAILY WORK

Education

The Right to Life of Michigan website, RTL.org, receives about 13,000 unique visitors a month. Visitors accessed our web pages more than 350,000 times in 2018. The site is updated weekly and includes information about every aspect of our prolife work: pregnancy help information, statistics and research about abortion and other prolife issues, a detailed directory of prolife laws in Michigan, candidate endorsements, events, merchandise, etc.

The Right to Life of Michigan News is published three times a year. It reaches a regular audience of about 40,000, and more than 200,000 during election season.

Our weekly Prolife Update e-newsletter has more than 25,000 subscribers. We also produce monthly e-newsletters geared toward leaders in our state’s faith communities and pregnancy help agencies. Many thousands of people are provided with daily prolife news and educational information through our social networking profiles.

Our four Educational Resource Centers serve literature and other resources to local prolife groups and the general public.

The Educational Fund provides interesting and informative speakers on life issues for our affiliates. Affiliates and Right to Life of Michigan hosted 53 dinners across the state in 2018, educating thousands of people about our prolife priorities, from local volunteers and business owners to members of the U.S. Congress.

Right to Life of Michigan staff monitor statewide media coverage and provide timely responses to important developments on the local, state, national, and even international level. We strive to be an active voice for an issue that media and other institutions frequently attempt to ignore.

Youth Outreach

Our staff works closely with prolife leaders on college campuses, allies in Michigan, and our local affiliates. They strive to engage our prolife youth in our grassroots efforts at the high school and college levels, and sometimes even younger.

The Educational Fund sponsors several annual contests to showcase the talent of our prolife youth and awards scholarship money. Our annual Oratory Contest is open to all prolife high school students. Local contests are sponsored by Right to Life of Michigan affiliates across the state. Local contest winners compete in the state contest in the spring, and the winner of the state competition wins a trip to compete in the National Right to Life Jane B. Thompson Oratory Contest.

Our Outstanding Prolife Youth Award provides a scholarship each year for the most outstanding prolife high school senior in Michigan.

Our Youth Infographic Contest offers high school and college-aged youth a chance to display their knowledge and creativity.
Pregnancy Help
The 1-800-57WOMAN phone number forwards calls to CareNet, which operates a 24/7 hotline connecting mothers facing unplanned pregnancies or women struggling with abortion to prolife pregnancy resource centers in their area for counseling and support.

Digital advertising through the Educational Fund connects people with vital prolife information. Ad campaigns connect Michigan teens to an informational pregnancy help website, Teenbreaks.com; Detroit residents to pregnancy help services through our HelpintheD.org website; people looking for prolife information online and pregnancy help listings with RTL.org. In 2018, more than 200,000 people saw our advertising and more than 18,000 were connected with information through the target websites.

The Right to Life of Michigan website, RTL.org, features regularly updated listings of all prolife pregnancy and adoption help agencies available in Michigan. More than 150 agencies are included on this list.

Support Services
Right to Life of Michigan’s support services aid the local affiliates with membership, educational projects, and fundraising campaigns. It is our continuing goal to initiate the growth of new Right to Life affiliate groups across our state.

Advertising
Another medium for educational messages is major statewide media. Right to Life of Michigan Educational Fund was the first state prolife organization to utilize major media advertising. Our innovative television and radio ads provide messages which connect our prolife issues directly to hundreds of thousands of households throughout the state.

Political Action
The prolife movement’s effectiveness in protecting innocent human life relies heavily on electing lawmakers with a commitment to protecting the sanctity of life. Right to Life of Michigan Political Action Committee election endorsements are made without consideration of party affiliation and follow time-tested guidelines.

Legislation
The Right to Life of Michigan state legislative office works actively to coordinate efforts to increase legal protection for babies as they prepare to be born, as well as other threatened members of the human family. Our legislative team closely monitors pieces of legislation which may be in conflict with our goals.

The impact of thousands of prolife grassroots citizen lobbyists is reinforced by the daily presence in the State Capitol of our legislative staff. A full-time lobbyist and additional staff work closely with the prolife leadership in the Legislature every session. Our unique legislative strength rests in the unified effort of our local affiliates and the state coordinating body. This strength is acknowledged by our allies, and even by those who oppose our mission.
**Right to Life of Michigan**

In 2018, the total income was $1,812,755. 90% of that amount came from donations, 10% from program services, and less than 1% from other sources.

In 2018, the total expenses were $1,619,303, with 85% of that amount toward program services. 3% was devoted to fundraising, and 12% to general expenses.

**Educational Fund**

In 2018, the total income was $2,172,231. 93% of that amount came from donations, 6% from program services, and less than 1% from other sources.

In 2018, the total expenses were $2,797,137, with 81% of that amount toward program services. 8% was devoted to fundraising, and 10% to general expenses.
January

January 22, 2018 marked 45 years of legalized abortion in the U.S., resulting in more than 58 million lives lost. Right to Life of Michigan affiliates across the state held local events to commemorate the date and the lives lost. Churches around the country utilized Right to Life of Michigan Educational Fund’s bulletin inserts and other materials for their Sanctity of Human Life Sunday programs. More than 800 people traveled with Right to Life of Michigan affiliates to Washington, D.C., to participate in the National March for Life. President Donald Trump gave a live address from a few blocks away in the Rose Garden, the first president to ever speak live to the March for Life crowd.

In the weeks before Sanctity of Human Life Sunday and the March for Life, the Educational Fund aired two ad campaigns. Ads promoting adoption were shown on statewide television. The “War on the Unborn” ad (also known as the “BB Ad”) played on statewide radio.

Arthur Rathburn, the Detroit “body broker,” was convicted for fraud in his otherwise legal organ trafficking business involving cadavers. During the FBI raid on his filthy facility, the bodies of four unborn babies were found. Their origin was never revealed.

February

As part of the educational efforts for Black History Month, a new edition of our LifeNotes series was written featuring the life and beliefs of Margaret Sanger. Sanger was the founder of Planned Parenthood, and her beliefs and associations paved the way for the tragic loss of an estimated 19 million members of the Black community through abortions. The LifeNotes series examines issues in-depth and are among the most popular educational resources offered on RTL.org.

March

More than 170 attended the statewide Right to Life of Michigan Political Action Committee training in Owosso. These volunteers form the core of the local interview teams responsible for vetting every candidate that receives an RLM-PAC endorsement.

The U.S. Supreme Court heard oral arguments in the NIFLA v. Becerra case involving California’s anti-free speech law targeting prolife pregnancy centers.

April

The annual Respect Life dinner was held on April 3 in Livonia. The keynote address was delivered by Melissa Ohden, who shared her story of surviving a saline abortion meant to end her life. The event is co-hosted by Right to Life of Michigan and the
Knights of Columbus Michigan State Council. The dinner draws about 500 guests every year.

On April 10, about 300 people gathered in Lansing for our annual Legislative Day. Prolife members of the Michigan Legislature met with prolife leaders and volunteers from around the state to discuss the prolife legislative agenda. The featured speaker was Jason Negri, associate director of the Patients Rights Council, who speaks nationally on end-of-life issues.

Brendan Delaney from Gaylord Right to Life was named Right to Life of Michigan’s 2018 Youth Award recipient for his outstanding prolife efforts. Brendan has been a prolife leader in his local community, including planning the first prolife youth conference at his high school.

May

The Trump Administration issued the Protect Life Rule, a comprehensive change to Title X family planning funding that bars abortion facilities from recieving it. The rule change would end Planned Parenthood's access to tax dollars through the Title X program.

Genevieve Marnon was appointed the new legislative director of Right to Life of Michigan. Genevieve succeeded Ed Rivet, who served as legislative director for more than 30 years with a long track record of life-saving prolife laws enacted.

The Right to Life of Michigan Educational Fund developed a series of four short films for continued multicultural outreach efforts. In this "Still on that Journey" series, prolife advocate Christina Marie Bennett—herself almost aborted—explores feminism, Black history, and the barriers that often exist between the mainstream prolife movement and the Black community.

The 13th Annual People of Life Reception to benefit our outreach in the Black Community was held on May 3 in Detroit. The keynote speaker was Iris Proctor, director of ArborWoman pregnancy center in Ann Arbor.

The 29th Annual High School Oratory Contest was held in Holt, featuring 18 finalists who won contests held by our affiliates. First place went to Rori Richardson from Grand Traverse Area Right to Life.

June

The U.S. Supreme Court’s 5-4 decision in NIFLA v. Becerra struck down California’s law that would have forced the more than 200 prolife
crisis pregnancy centers in the state to promote abortions. The decision sent a clear signal protecting the free speech rights of prolife people, and also the extremes the four pro-abortion Supreme Court justices are willing to go to help the abortion industry.

Following the end of the U.S. Supreme Court's 2018-2019 term, Justice Anthony Kennedy announced his retirement. The Trump Administration nominated D.C. Circuit Court Judge Brett Kavanaugh to fill his seat.

For the first time since 2012, the polling company Gallup asked respondents if abortion should be legal or illegal in each trimester. The results showed a massive majority of adults oppose the effects of Roe v. Wade, though many don't understand the decision. 87% of respondents opposed abortion being generally legal in the third trimester.

On June 7, the Right to Life of Michigan Educational Fund held the fourth annual Min Sharetha benefit dinner in West Bloomfield. The keynote speaker was Dr. Anthony Levatino, former abortionist and now prolife advocate. The dinner is an outreach to the large Chaldean Christian community in Metro Detroit, many of whom fled from persecution in Iraq.

July

Right to Life of Michigan Educational Fund volunteers hosted an educational booth at the Metro Detroit Youth Day on July 11. About 35,000 young people attend this event on Belle Isle every year.

August

U.S. Senate candidate John James highlighted a good primary election for RLM-PAC-endorsed candidates. Prolife endorsed candidates won in 201 out of 216 races, with 267 total endorsements overall.

In a continuing effort to address high abortion rates in the Metro Detroit area, Right to Life of Michigan awarded grants to six prolife pregnancy help organizations in Metro Detroit. The program began in 2017 with grants given to four organizations.

Two finalists in the Right to Life of Michigan Educational Fund Youth Infographic Contest were shared on Facebook as part of the contest judging. The winner was Maria Gerring from Parma.

September

The 45th Annual Right to Life of Michigan Conference was held in Midland on September 27. The special guest speaker was Christina Bennett, who was featured in our new "Still on that Journey"
short film series. Every year our conference draws about 250 prolife leaders and volunteers from around the state.

An abortion facility in Warren closed permanently. Women’s Center of Michigan was the 16th abortion facility in Michigan to close since the 2012 Prolife Omnibus Act reformed our state’s abortion facility licensing and regulatory laws.

October
After one of the ugliest nomination fights in American political history, Judge Brett Kavanaugh was confirmed to the United States Supreme Court. The U.S. Supreme Court gained the first rule of law majority since the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Administration.

November
Despite a tough election year, prolife majorities were maintained in the Michigan Legislature. The majorities preserved the opportunity for prolife legislative action through the state’s unique citizen-initiated legislation process.

The Trump Administration took action on two important prolife rules changes on November 7. The Trump Administration proposed a rule to finally require real separation between tax dollars and abortion coverage by ending the Obamacare abortion surcharge. People who purchase insurance coverage of abortion would have to separately pay for it themselves, not with taxpayer subsidies.

The Trump Administration finalized a separate rule making the Obamacare HHS Mandate optional. In 2011, the Obama Administration’s Dept. of Health and Human Services issued a mandate forcing health plans to cover all FDA-approved contraceptive methods. Some of those methods (particularly emergency contraceptives) can potentially cause an early abortion. The U.S. Supreme Court weighed in twice against the HHS Mandate to protect the conscience rights of prolife Americans.

Our Vida Preciosa (Precious Life) Reception to benefit prolife Hispanic outreach was held on November 9 in Westland. The special guest speaker was Yvonne Florczak-Seeman, who shared her post-abortive story.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released their 2015 annual report on abortion statistics, showing that abortion rates at the lowest point since 1973. The total number of abortions reported to the CDC in the U.S. decreased 2% from...
652,639 in 2014 to 638,169 in 2015. The CDC numbers do not include the entire United States; California, Maryland, and New Hampshire refuse to report abortion statistics.

December
The Trump Administration began to pursue ethical alternatives to federal tax-funding of research involving aborted babies. Earlier in the year the Trump Administration cancelled a contract with Advanced Bioscience Resources in California, one of several tissue procurement firms exposed by David Daleiden and the Center for Medical Progress' undercover investigation of Planned Parenthood.

Right to Life of Michigan successfully weighed in on a legislative effort to change the process for citizen-initiated legislation and referenda in Michigan. Some of the initially proposed changes would have harmed the ability of prolife citizens to organize a petition drive. Right to Life of Michigan has led four successful petition drives to enact prolife laws.

The Michigan Legislature passed three prolife bills: making the webcam abortion ban permanent, amending the state's Safe Delivery Law to allow for "baby boxes" to increase options to prevent infanticide, reviving Michigan's Stillborn Child Tax Credit as a one-year deduction rather than a credit. Governor Rick Snyder signed the Michigan's Stillborn Child Tax Equity bill into law, but vetoed the webcam ban and the baby box bills.
AFFILIATES

Alger County Right to Life
Arenac County Right to Life
Barry County Right to Life
Bay County Right to Life
Berrien County Right to Life
Birmingham-Bloomfield Right to Life
Branch County Right to Life
Caledonia/Middleville Right to Life
Calhoun County Right to Life
Cass County Right to Life
Central Macomb Right to Life
Central Michigan Right to Life
Central Oakland Right to Life
Central Wayne County Right to Life
Cheboygan Right to Life
Chippewa County Right to Life
Clare County Right to Life
Clinton County Right to Life
Dearborn Area Right to Life
Delta County Right to Life
Dickinson County Right to Life
Emmett County Right to Life
Flat River Right to Life
Gaylord Right to Life
Genesee County Affiliate of RLM
Gladwin County Right to Life
Grand Ledge RTL serving Eaton County
Grand Rapids Right to Life
Grand Traverse Area Right to Life
Grosse Pte/Harper Woods Right to Life
Houghton/Hancock Right to Life
Hillsdale County Right to Life
Holland Area Right to Life
Huron County Right to Life
Ingham County Right to Life
Ionia Area Right to Life
Iosco County Right to Life
Iron County Right to Life
Jackson County Right to Life
Kalamazoo Right to Life
Lakes Area Right to Life
Lapeer County Right to Life
Lenawee County Right to Life
Livingston County Right to Life
Manistee County Right to Life
Mason County Right to Life
Mecosta/Osceola Right to Life
Midland County Right to Life
Monroe County Right to Life
Muskegon Right to Life
Newaygo County Right to Life
North Allegan County Right to Life
North Kent Right to Life
North Macomb County Right to Life
North Oakland County Right to Life
Northwest Macomb Right to Life
North West Oakland County Right to Life
Novi Right to Life
Oceana County Right to Life
Ogemaw County Right to Life
Oscoda County Right to Life
Plymouth Right to Life
Portland Right to Life
Presque Isle Right to Life
Roscommon-Crawford Right to Life
Saginaw County Right to Life
St. Clair County Right to Life
St. Ignace Right to Life
St. Joseph County Right to Life
Sanilac County Right to Life
Shiawassee County Right to Life
South Allegan County Right to Life
Southeast Macomb Right to Life
Southern Downriver Right to Life
Tri-Cities Right to Life
Tuscola County Right to Life
Upper Downriver Right to Life
Van Buren County Right to Life
Warren/Center Line Right to Life
Washtenaw Area Right to Life
Wexford-Missaukee Right to Life

OFFICES

Right to Life of Michigan State
Central Office
2340 Porter SW
P.O. Box 901
Grand Rapids, MI
ZIP 49509-0901
P: (616) 532-2300
F: (616) 532-3461
E: info@rtl.org

Legislative Office and Resource Center
233 N. Walnut St.
Lansing, MI
ZIP 48933
P: (517) 487-3376
F: (517) 487-6453

West Michigan Educational Resource Center
2340 Porter SW
P.O. Box 901
Grand Rapids, MI
ZIP 49509-0901
P: (616) 532-2300
F: (616) 532-3461

Wayne County Educational Resource Center
2010 Eureka Rd.
Wyandotte, MI
ZIP 48192
P: (734) 282-6100
F: (734) 282-6218

Macomb County Educational Resource Center
27417 Harper
St. Clair Shores, MI
ZIP 48081
P: (586) 774-6050
F: (586) 774-5192