



Lifeline Report
September 2019



Lead actress from *Unplanned* to deliver the keynote address at annual Christmas Gala in Carmel

Ashley Bratcher, the lead actress in the 2019 film *Unplanned*, will be the featured speaker at Indiana Right to Life's fifth annual Christmas Gala. The event will be held on December 3 at 6:30 p.m. at the Ritz Charles in Carmel.

Ashley stars as Abby Johnson in the true story of Johnson's inspiring transformation from Planned Parenthood clinic director to pro-life activist. Ashley was born and raised in a small southern town in eastern North Carolina and began her acting career on the stage at the age of 16. She later attended Campbell University, where she graduated with honors and then worked briefly as a middle school teacher before finding success as a working actress. Bratcher's involvement in stories of hope has garnered her recognition as a name talent in uplifting and redemptive films.

Tables of 8 for the event are \$400 with sponsorship opportunities available beginning at \$1,000. Individual tickets for the event are \$50 per person. The evening will include special music, a wonderful meal, and much more. The dress for the event is business professional. Proceeds from the evening benefit the Indiana Right to Life Education Fund.

Online reservations for the event go on sale October 1 at irtl.org/gala. Since the release of *Unplanned*, Ashley has been one of the most sought after pro-life speakers in the nation. Seating is limited at the Ritz Charles, so early reservations are strongly encouraged. For more information on the gala or sponsorship opportunities, please contact Mary Williams at mwilliams@irtl.org or call 317-632-2242.



Ashley Bratcher



Indiana Right to Life protects human life through education, services, and advocacy so that, in both law and practice, every life is valued. Indiana Right to Life: 9465 Counselors Row, Suite 200, Indianapolis, IN 46240 • PH: 888-240-8166 • FAX: 888-276-5885 • irtl@protectinglife.com



INDIANA RIGHT TO LIFE Christmas Gala

FEATURING ASHLEY BRATCHER
LEAD ACTRESS OF MOVIE "UNPLANNED"

TUESDAY DECEMBER 3 ~ 6:30PM

RITZ CHARLES
12156 N. MERIDIAN STREET
CARMEL, INDIANA



TABLE FOR 8 GUESTS \$400
INDIVIDUAL RESERVATIONS \$50
VISIT [IRTL.ORG/GALA](http://irtl.org/gala) FOR RESERVATIONS

From the President and CEO



Some columns are hard to write, others just flow in a matter of a few minutes. This is one of those harder ones, because there are storm clouds on the horizon that we all need to see in order to make sense of what's happening around us.

Planned Parenthood is targeting Indiana. I just can't say it any clearer than that. Over the last two years, nearly every bad actor in the abortion industry has painted a bullseye on our back, and chief among them is Planned Parenthood. When news broke earlier this year that Planned Parenthood merged its Indiana operations with those of Washington state, Hawaii, Alaska and Idaho, the writing was on the wall. This isn't a merger at all, it is a takeover by Pacific Northwest progressives intent on making Indiana a test market for plans to expand abortion access in conservative states.

Planned Parenthood's three-part strategy includes attacking pro-life laws and regulations, making abortions more widely available, and shifting the culture to be more accepting of abortion. That's it in a nutshell. So, why Indiana? Abortion supporters know states like New York, Illinois, and Vermont are locked in their back pockets, so increasingly, their time, and money, is being used to try and dismantle what they consider to be the resistance. That includes Indiana. That includes you and me.

This is why a CEO from Washington state has taken control of Indiana's operations. This is why big money abortion supporters hope to transform cities like Indianapolis into the Seattle of the Midwest. This is even why the new medical director for its Indiana operations is from California. The old Indiana Planned Parenthood wasn't aggressive enough in expanding abortion as the core of its business model. The new Indiana Planned Parenthood hopes to do just that.

Indiana is now the testing ground for Planned Parenthood's new national strategy. It believes if it can roll over our state, it can roll over any state. That puts us at ground zero, and that makes us all responsible for standing even taller for the unborn. Indiana is under attack, again, and this is why this column is so hard to write. It's much easier to avoid such unpleasantry, and I would do so if this were just some sort of political chess match. But real kids are paying a real price, with their lives, as a result of the battle unfolding before us.

The enemies of life are strong. The Creator of Life is stronger, and we will follow Him. I can tell you with certainty who will prevail. Please pray and stand strong with us as we work to save those who have no voice. After all, these are the ones the attacks are truly against.

Consider us when making planned giving decisions

Planned Giving is one of the most important ways supporters of Indiana Right To Life can help us accomplish our mission. Planned Giving is simply using estate planning methods to make a charitable gift that maximizes the tax and estate benefits to you and your family, and also greatly enhances the work of Indiana Right To Life.

Your options include gift annuities, endowment funds, and gifts of insurance policies and marketable securities. Please consult with your financial advisor to determine the option that is best for you.

Upcoming affiliate events

Here is just a partial listing of some upcoming affiliate events throughout Indiana. Watch for even more in the next issue.

Right to Life of North Central Indiana banquet
Sept. 16 in Winona Lake
Details: nci4life.org

Right to Life of Indianapolis annual banquet
Oct. 1 in Indianapolis
Details: rtlindy.org

Allen County Right to Life annual banquet
Oct. 14 in Fort Wayne
Details: ichooselife.org

Right to Life of St. Joseph County annual banquet
Oct. 17 in South Bend
Details: prolifemichiana.org

Daviess/Pike/Martin Right to Life banquet
Oct. 17 in Odon
Details: daviesscountyrctl.com/

Five recipients awarded 2019 Thomas Marzen Memorial Scholarships

Indiana Right to Life has awarded five Indiana students with Thomas Marzen Memorial Scholarships for the 2019-2020 academic year. The Thomas Marzen Memorial Scholarship helps young Hoosier leaders with proven backgrounds of pro-life involvement in pursuing college studies. 2019 scholarship winners: **Mikayla Zwirn** of Morristown, **Lily Shafer** of New Haven, **Natalie Guisinger** of Hometown, **Erica Christie** of Roanoke, and Samantha Egan of Auburn. Thomas Marzen, who died in 2007, was referred to as a "walking encyclopedia of the pro-life movement" by his colleagues and devoted his life to the pro-life movement. He was active for over three decades as a pro-life attorney and authored many appellate briefs in major cases.



Natalie Guisinger



Lily Shafer



Mikayla Zwirn



Erica Christie

Planned Parenthood boasts of expansion plans in Indiana funded by out-of-state donors, targets Fort Wayne

Big money donors from the Pacific Northwest, an aggressive expansion plan for Indiana, and a targeting of Fort Wayne, are all part of a mounting threat posed by the merger of Planned Parenthood in Indiana and Kentucky with its deeply-funded counterpart in Washington, Idaho, Hawaii and Alaska. The new organization, which boasts of a budget in excess of \$90 million, is the result of expansion efforts fueled by large donations by out-of-state abortion supporters.

The CEO of the new Planned Parenthood, who is based in Seattle, is now identifying Fort Wayne as one of its primary targets for expansion through a letter to the editor in various papers, stating, "I want to make this clear: Fort Wayne is a priority." Fort Wayne's only abortion clinic closed in 2016 following the suspension of the medical license of the abortion doctor operating the clinic. Planned Parenthood is Indiana's largest abortion business with abortion clinics in Merrillville, Indianapolis, Lafayette and Bloomington. Communities like Evansville, New Albany and Terre Haute are also likely to be on its target list.

There is a distinct political note to Planned Parenthood's actions as well. Not surprisingly, many of the comments surfacing from the new Planned Parenthood are barbs aimed at Vice-President Mike Pence.

"Any growth of Planned Parenthood in Indiana will result in an increase in abortions," states Indiana Right to Life President and CEO Mike Fichter. "The business of killing unborn children is at the absolute core of its business model."

Fichter notes that IRTL and its affiliates across the state are well aware of Planned Parenthood's intent for Indiana and will not back down for a moment in speaking for the unborn. "This is Indiana, not Washington state. If radicals from the Pacific Northwest think they can buy Indiana, they are mistaken. We have faith that every pro-life Hoosier will join us in standing up to this new threat."