Focus on Life Benefit Dinner
a gala evening to educate and engage the local prolife community

Dinesh D’Souza will wow guests with his no-holds-barred straight talk at this annual fundraiser.

Grand Rapids Right to Life is excited to welcome Dinesh D’Souza as the keynote speaker at the Focus on Life Benefit Dinner.

D’Souza is a best-selling author and award-winning filmmaker. His political documentaries *2016: Obama’s America* and *America: Imagine a World Without Her* are among the highest-grossing political films of all time.

An immigrant who grew up in Mumbai, India, D’Souza came to the United States in 1978 as an exchange student. He attended Dartmouth College, graduating Phi Beta Kappa. He was a domestic policy analyst at the Reagan White House and also a scholar at think tanks such as the American Enterprise Institute and the Hoover Institution at Stanford.

Known for his clear, logical approach to a variety of topics, including the right to life, D’Souza is sure to inspire all who attend.

**Monday • October 10 • 6:30 PM • $100 Per Person**
DeVos Place Ballrooms • 303 Monroe Avenue NW • Grand Rapids
www.grrtl.org/dinner

Radio Ads Urge Listeners to Live Out Convictions

To embolden people to live their prolife convictions, Grand Rapids Right to Life is running radio spots. Ads on Wood Radio and on iHeartMedia podcasting and streaming compel listeners to consider the prolife position. Ads on The Game challenge men to protect their families. Ads on Holy Family Radio encourage people to defend their prolife views by offering responses to pro-abortion arguments.

**Radio Ads**

- **Wood Radio**
- **iHeartMedia**
- **The Game**
- **Holy Family Radio**

**Sponsorship Opportunity**
A donation of $20 will sponsor two 30-second radio ads.
www.grrtl.org/donate

Pedals & Petals

Saturday, May 7
11:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Johnson Park in Walker

- Cycle or walk the park path or enjoy nearby Kent Trails.
- Raise pledges and earn prizes.
- Shop for beautiful spring flowers. Baskets, flats, perennials, and bushes will be available.
The prolife movement is an amalgamation of diverse people finding different approaches to protect the precious gift of human life.

We appreciate the sidewalk counselors who reach out to women and men moments before entering an abortion facility; pregnancy care centers that help women make life-affirming choices; organizations that show abortion victim images; brave individuals who have conversations on street corners in order to encourage others to adopt a prolife viewpoint; and movements that encourage prayer in front of locations where babies are killed in the name of “choice.”

Grand Rapids Right to Life focuses on educating people on life issues, motivating them to action, and encouraging community support for and participation in programs and legislation that foster respect for human life.

An oft ignored or overlooked aspect of our mission is our work on behalf of prolife candidates.

In the months ahead, Grand Rapids Right to Life will continue to host events, speak at churches, organize student gatherings, purchase online and radio ads, place billboards, and raise money for pregnancy care centers … but we will also support Right to Life of Michigan PAC-endorsed candidates.

All endorsed candidates are prolife. Incumbents who retain the RLM-PAC endorsement have a proven track record of voting for life and deserve our unwavering support.

It is vital to maintain a laser focus on the life issues. Speaking as one voice is the best way to elect prolife candidates.

Do not sign the Reproductive Freedom for All petition. This proposal will amend the state constitution and rescind prolife laws. www.SupportMiWomenAndChildren.org

New Prolife Ambassador Connects to Community

Tammy Erste has joined the Grand Rapids Right to Life team as the prolife ambassador. She will work with area churches to promote and build a culture of life in faith communities.

Tammy has a heart for the prolife movement. Through engagement, education, and building relationships, she will passionately work to abolish abortion. "To risk all for Jesus," Tammy exhorts, "is to be prolife."

In addition to working with churches, Tammy will manage the Coins for Kids drives, speak on prolife topics, motivate church representatives, and organize Leadership for Life Base Camp.

Contact Tammy Erste to become a Church Representative or to host a Coins for Kids Drive. 616-532-2300 • terste@grrtl.org

Contributions

IN MEMORY OF:
Patrick Bilkovic
Martin & Nancy Rogalski
Ernest & Agnes Bockheim
Greg & Jackie Bockheim
Mike Borduin
Terri Borduin
Dale Bouma
Pat Joustra
Ron Bouman
John & Jacoba Bouman
Gerald Bykerk & Baby Mitchell Bykerk
Peg Bykerk
Sandra Crosley
Barb Spidell
Rusty Dutkiewicz
Paul & Patty Korte
Hank & Diane Milanowski
Duane Finkler
Lucille Finkler
Shirley Francis
Hank & Diane Milanowski
Daniel K. Gerke, Sr.
Darlene Gerke
Mark Gutting
Eugene & Barbara Gutting
Marge Hager
Kurt & Catherine VanderHyde
Dorothea Hoogland
Bernard Hoogland
Rita Littell
Diana Cheslek
Sally Lyons
Edna DeLange
Kathy Morey
Tom & Rosanne Stream
Tom Newby
Gerry Newby
Leo O’Brien
John & Susan Bergin
Barb Bigler
Phil & Estella Chamberlain
Betty O’Brien & Family
Peceny Family
Mary T. O’Brien
Peceny Family
Ladies Who Love Abortion

As attorney general, Nessel filed briefs in two cases arguing that regulating abortion facilities is unconstitutional. She also filed a brief stating that it is unconstitutional to protect children with Down syndrome from abortions targeted at their disability and a brief claiming that the U.S. Constitution requires tax funding of abortion facilities.

Nessel joined a coalition of state attorneys general and contended that non-doctors should be able to provide abortion pills, that abortion pills should be distributed without doctors physically examining patients, and that late-term surgical abortions should be allowed in facilities that aren’t equipped to perform surgeries.

As secretary of state, Benson is responsible for impartially overseeing the Bureau of Elections, which verified the signatures from Right to Life of Michigan’s petition drive to ban dismemberment abortions.

Whitmer highlighted Benson as opposing the petition drive. “The good news is we’ve got three pro-choice women at the top of state office here in Michigan,” Whitmer gloated, “and we are all absolutely committed to protecting a woman’s right to choose."

Source: Right to Life of Michigan

Contributions

IN MEMORY OF:
Andrew Riebel
William Lincer
Nancy Robach
Kimberly Robach
Daniel Roelofs
Beverly King
Stephen Portegaleza
Diane Roelofs
Arlene Roelofs
Eileen Ruiter
Gerrit Ruiter
Doug Siekman
Bev Siekman
Betty Sporte
Gary & Gerry Bleeker
Ron Stevens
Marvin & Lois VanHeuvelen
Carl Tillman
Joan Tillman
Ard Tole
Sue Hooper
Paul & Patty Korte
Donald VanderKlok
Janice VanderKlok
Mary Jean Wessley
Paul & Patty Korte
Kathleen Therese Mary McKenna White
Work Family of Ryan White
Daniel Yeomens
Vern & Linda Verduin

IN HONOR OF:
Jeffrey L. Bykerk
Peg Bykerk
D. Patrick Firlik
Susan LaBarge
Mary Jo, Jennessa & Abby
Kenneth McDonald

For a trendy prolife T-shirt or other fun finds, shop the Grand Rapids Right to Life store.
www.grrtl.org/store

Marketing the Message

There are a multitude of ways to share the importance of being prolife.

Make a statement or kick-off a conversation by wearing a cool prolife T-shirt. The Grand Rapids Right to Life store stocks a variety of T-shirts with life-affirming messages in eye-catching colors and styles.

Mugs, journals, buttons, bracelets, pins, and stickers are also available to promote the cause of life.
Prolife Heroes

Students Harness the Power of the Written Word

More than 20 students from area schools submitted entries to the eighth annual Prolife Essay Contest. Contestants had to write an essay explaining why they were personally prolife.

The senior division involved students in grades 10-12. Margaret Duba and Carly Scheurer, both seniors, won first and second place respectively.

Duba’s essay explained how her Catholic upbringing formed her prolife beliefs and how science and morality strengthened that philosophy.

“With the scientific knowledge that a new, unique life is formed at conception, and the understanding that no changes to that life’s DNA take place through pregnancy and birth,” she argued, “we know that the rights afforded to an infant should be the same as those given to a baby in any stage of development.”

In the junior competition for grades 7-9, ninth-grader Kyla Koestner placed first and eighth-grader Evy Koops placed second.

Koestner shared about a high school girl who was encouraged by her dance coach to abort. However, with the help of a pregnancy center, she chose adoption. “But it wasn’t easy,” Koestner revealed. “It felt as if everywhere she went she carried a scarlet letter. When anyone looked at her she hung her head.”

The option of adoption allowed a childless couple to raise the baby and gave the girl a chance to finish school, become a doctor, get married, and have six other children, the oldest of whom was the essay’s author.

All essays were submitted to the National Right to Life competition, where Koestner placed first in the junior contest.