

Things a Kansans for Life chapter should do every year

January 22 Event: Your chapter should do something to mark the anniversary of Roe v. Wade on January 22. You could coordinate carpooling or a bus trip to the statewide Rally for Life in Topeka. You could plan a local prayer service or memorial service for the unborn. You could have a “life chain” type event by holding signs on a public sidewalk. You could ask every church in your town to ring their bells at a certain time on January 22. You could publish a signature ad in your local newspaper. Other ideas are fine, too — please do something to mark the anniversary of the Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion in the entire United States.

Baby shower for a pregnancy center: Find out what your local crisis pregnancy center needs, and coordinate a supply drive to help. You could plan an event at which someone from the CPC will speak and everyone brings their gifts, or you could just coordinate drop-off sites and then take the items to the CPC.

Booth at your county fair and/or community events: Take a look at your community calendar to find out where you can set up a pro-life booth. If there is a cost to having a booth, ask the state KFL office for assistance if it is more expensive than your chapter can cover. Also ask the state office for materials to have at your booth. We appreciate it if you can give us a donation to cover the cost of supplies, but we still want you to have a booth even if you need financial assistance from the state office in order to do it.

Fund-raiser for the KFL-PAC: It is harder to raise money for political action than it is to raise money for our educational programs. We would like each chapter to have one fund-raiser per year to benefit the Kansans for Life Political Action Committee. You can have a chili supper or other event, or you can just invite all your friends to your home and have someone from our PAC come to talk about our needs. You will need to make sure donors know these donations are not tax-deductible, and we need you to record the name, address, and occupation of each contributor. Checks should be made out to KFL-PAC.

Life Chain: It's easy to have a Life Chain in your town. If you do not already have one, contact the KFL office and we will help you get started. Life Chain is an annual event on the first Sunday of October. Pro-lifers across the nation stand on their sidewalks holding a pro-life sign for an hour or two. This is something all pro-lifers, of all ages, can do.

Host an educational presentation in your town: At least once a year, find a location where you can have a pro-life educational presentation. Advertise it in all of the church bulletins in your town. KFL can also advertise the event to everyone on our e-mail list who lives in or near your town. You can have a guest speaker from KFL, or maybe you have a local speaker, or you can borrow a video from the KFL office.

Host a candidate forum during election years: Find a non-church location (library, community center, etc.) where you can have a candidate forum. Invite all local candidates to participate. Ask questions about the life issues and what laws they would support. You can contact the KFL PAC Administrator (kflpac@yahoo.com) for ideas for good questions to ask.

More ideas, for those who want to do more

Billboard in or near your community: Research advertising options and find out what it would cost to put up a pro-life billboard, then raise the money to do it. The KFL office can help you with designs if you would like help designing the sign. Do you know a farmer who has land along a highway? Some chapters have found a farmer who allowed them to put up a billboard on his land, so they only had to raise the money to construct the sign.

Work day at your local pregnancy center: Ask your local crisis pregnancy center if they need cleaning, painting, yard work, etc. then assemble a team of volunteers to do it.

Donate books to the public library and school libraries: First, talk to the libraries to learn if they will accept donated books and what their guidelines are. Then, if you know books will be accepted and put into circulation, raise money to purchase pro-life books.

Start a Teens for Life group in your town: Teens can participate in many of the same ways as adults — volunteering at your county fair booth, joining in the Life Chain, etc. Add a few service projects and social events just for teens, and you can have an organized Teens for Life in your town. Contact the KFL state office for ideas.

Start a local PAC: Interview candidates for local elections, like city and county positions and your local school board. You can get candidate questionnaires from the KFL-PAC. Our state PAC can also give you for ideas of what you can do, once you know who the pro-life candidates are.

Letters to the editor team: Find out who in your group is willing to write letters to the editor of your local newspaper. Then, divide up the calendar and plan to have someone submit a letter every month during the year. Watch pro-life news like LifeNews.com for ideas of what to talk about. And of course, subscribe to KFL's e-mail news updates so that you will know when there are Kansas happenings which you could comment on in your letters.

Memorial Day Remembrance of the Unborn: Plan a memorial service for all babies lost by abortion or miscarriage.

Is there a public TV station in your area? If there is a free venue for local groups to promote their activities, be sure you make use of it! Talk to Salina Kansans for Life for advice (Clark Sanders, 785-823-7916, csanders@rockingmmedia.com).

Pro-life “Sign Wave” You can have an event similar to Life Chain, any time of year. Some groups even have a regular monthly event — for example, meet at a designated street corner the first Sunday afternoon of every month.