Members graciously and confidently address pro-life issues in conversations and on social media

We call this our Church Engagement Model. We wanted to make this “bridge” between churches and pro-life ministries as practical and measurable as possible. Notice that giving comes last and doesn’t necessarily involve money. Pro-life ministries need a variety of resources that are harder to come by than money, such as ultrasound technicians and equipment, advertising expertise, financial advice, web design, and legal assistance—skills that are often beyond the abilities of staff members. The connections they need—the people—may be in your congregation.

Next Steps

- Coordinate with LMW to be paired with a PCC
- Identify local needs
- Name a champion from the church to coordinate with the center

Contact Life Matters Worldwide today to boost your church’s engagement in pro-life ministry!

Get Started Online

Visit lifemattersww.org/CHURCHES/Pro-Life-Ministry-Engagement.

The “bridge” in action.

Guests at our March banquet heard a testimony from Ani Blickley, the Executive Director of the Lighthouse for Teen Moms in Belmont and Kentwood, Michigan, that perfectly illustrates the Church Engagement Model. She related how West Cannon Baptist Church had sprung into action when a need for babysitters was shared with Life Matters.

Ani had been feeling discouraged and ready to quit until the church came through with 15 babysitters! From there, Rich says, “We think very highly of Eric and wish him all the best for his future. Please pray for him and us during this time of transition.”

Rich would like to take the opportunity to get to know our friends, donors, supporting churches, and pregnancy care centers as we search for a new leader. Feel free to send an email to rich@lifemattersww.org. Or call him at the office at (616) 257-6800.

Leadership transition

We need to inform you of a change in leadership. Eric Verstraete has resigned as President and the board named Rich Dorsey to be Interim President. Prior to this, Rich had been serving as our board chairman.

MISSION: Life Matters Worldwide helps the Body of Christ articulate the biblical pro-life message in word and deed.

VISION: To see local churches all over the world engaged in compassionate sanctity of human life ministry as they fulfill the Great Commission.
the church’s involvement has snowballed to include maintenance help, lawn care, respite for house-moms, and financial support. Ani says as a result, “We have had the incredible joy of watching the Body of Christ at work.” You can watch her portion of the banquet here: www.lifemattersww.org/Get-Involved/Give/Banquet.

Michigan State Rep. Steve Johnson, who attends Wayland Christian Reformed Church, was at the banquet and when he heard Ani’s story he wanted his church to be involved too. When it comes to volunteering or giving, he knew the more specific a request can be the more eager his church members would be to get behind it.

A couple of weeks later Ani mentioned to us that the house-mom at her Kentwood location was feeling overwhelmed and that the preparation of meals for the household would be a big help. We wondered if Steve and his church could help out in that specific area.

A connection was made, and a few days later so many meals showed up at the Kentwood location that both its freezers were full! They were able to share the overflow with their sister ministry in Belmont.

This is the type of bridgebuilding that Life Matters loves to do and a perfect example of what we mean when we say we want to connect churches with life-honoring ministries.

Response to COVID-19

The day after our banquet in March, pandemic precautions were put in place. Since then, Life Matters’ staff has been able to do much of its work from our home offices.

Pregnancy care centers in many states were forced to close, but they quickly adapted to restrictions. Counseling and mentoring can be provided by phone or through video conferencing. Diapers and baby items can be delivered safely to cars or doorways. Urgent pregnancy tests and ultrasounds are available by appointment. Some centers report they’ve been able to reach more people!

One thing that centers struggled with was the cancellation of spring fundraising events. We helped PRC of Shiawassee County in Owosso, Michigan, host a virtual banquet and they were able to raise much-needed funds.

Important dates

On Friday, August 28, we’ll be hosting our own virtual event to give pregnancy care centers a lift. Ascent will feature Steventhen Holland of Broken Not Dead Ministries, who spoke at our March banquet. To register, go to www.lifemattersww.org/PCCs/Ascent and click the link.

The date for the Classic at Pilgrim’s Run has been changed to Thursday September 24, morning flight only. Golfers, please put a team together and join us! This annual event helps us raise funds to strengthen pro-life ministries as effective Gospel outreaches.

Go to www.lifemattersww.org/Get-Involved/Give/Golf-Classic for more information and to click the link to register.

COVID-19 also forced us to change the dates of The Summit from May 14-15 to November 12-13. We’re trusting the Lord that by that time we’ll be able to welcome 150+ representatives of pregnancy care centers in-person to Maranatha Bible & Missionary Conference for two days of inspiration, fellowship, education, and growth. Our featured speaker will be Stuart Carver of Family God’s Way. To learn more, visit www.lifemattersww.org/PCCs/The-Summit.

Financial matters

As a result of our annual review and 990 prepared by CPA James Quist, we can give you this overview of Life Matters Worldwide’s fiscal year that ended December 31, 2019:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total support and revenue</td>
<td>$ 380,776</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program expenses</td>
<td>$ 254,456</td>
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<tr>
<td>Management and general expenses</td>
<td>$ 76,840</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising expenses</td>
<td>$ 45,399</td>
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<tr>
<td>End of year net asset balance</td>
<td>$ 5,306</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You may download our latest 990 from the website, by going to lifemattersww.org, clicking the ‘Donate’ button, and selecting the link beneath ‘Recent reports.’