

# Iowa's New Life-Affirming Political Advocacy Group



June 2019

## LEADERSHIP TEAM:

- **Jenifer Bowen**  
Founder/Chief Executive Officer
- **Jenny Condon**  
Chief Operating Officer
- **Jennifer Franklin**  
Chief Marketing Officer

## Current ADVISORY COUNSEL:

- **Barbara Hovland\***—  
Chairwoman at Cerro Gordo  
County Iowa GOP; State  
Central Committee at Iowa  
GOP
- **Abby Johnson**—Former  
Planned Parenthood  
Director; Founder of And  
Then There Were None  
(ATTWN); National Pro-life  
Speaker, Advocate and  
Author
- **Kathy Law**—Attorney at  
Nymaster Goode; Appointed  
by Gov. Kim Reynolds as  
Member of Iowa State's  
Judicial Nominating  
Committee
- **Melissa Ohden**—Abortion  
Survivor; National Pro-life  
Speaker and Author
- **Susan Thayer**—Former  
Planned Parenthood  
Director; Director of  
Outreach for 40 Days for  
Life
- **Jim Sedlack**—Radio Show  
Host on Radio Maria;  
Executive Director,  
America Life League



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## Jenifer Bowen, Founder, CEO

The State of Iowa has a tremendous need for a life-affirming political advocacy organization. In response to that need I left my position as CEO of the Iowa Right To Life (IRTL) in 2016 and immediately founded Life Right Action (LRA).

I began working as a volunteer for IRTL in 2001, joining the staff in 2007. It was in early 2010 that I began my tenure as CEO. At this time Iowa was plagued with 29 Planned Parenthood (PP) locations, most of them offering webcam abortions. PP's plan was

to grow and provide abortions in all 99 counties by the year 2015. This was unacceptable in my opinion and that of IRTL. We immediately began to form a strong alliance across the state, working together by restricting PP's efforts, and actually helping to close 21 abortion providing 'sites' by the year 2017.

Although many grassroots efforts have made considerable difference in crushing the culture of death via abortion throughout Iowa, it has been made clear to me that an even stronger

effort is needed to educate and empower Iowans to seek and support political figures who represent what is right within a pro-life platform. Life Right Action pledges to endorse and support candidates who seek election in support of life-affirming initiatives.

## A look at some of LRA's Grassroots Education and Lobbying Initiatives

- End webcam abortions; constitutional amendment protecting unborn babies
- Abortion provider inspections
- STOPP Planned Parenthood North Central States (Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota) continuing to achieve best care for women
- ★ **Achieve 20 week ban on abortion—2017 WIN**
- Unshackling pregnant prisoners
- Processing forgotten rape kits
- Fragile births/special needs diagnosis support and protection
- Death certificates for children lost in miscarriage
- ★ **Youth sex education oversight (Disembark PP) - 2019 WIN**  
(Now in hands of courts)
- Sex Trafficking (women/children)

*Empowering voters to make independent, informed decisions about candidates, and guiding policy toward impacting life issues.*

- ★ **Ban on female genitalia mutilation—2019 WIN**
- Sexual and domestic abuse
- Iowa stillborn deaths; shrinking the disparity in mothers of color
- Addressing the aging adoption process and reducing costs
- Ending Iowa's 4th place ranking in the nation status for child care seat/belt deaths