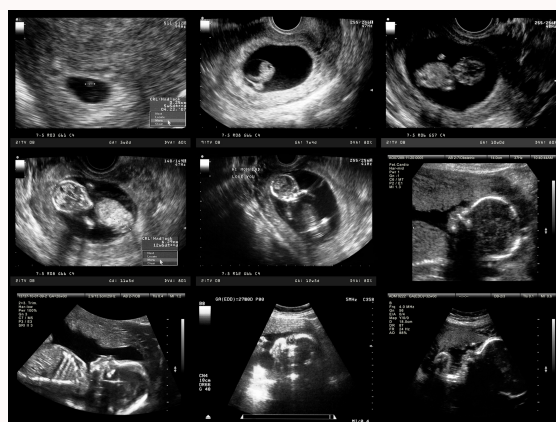


1ST QUARTER | 2024

# SELAH NEWSLETTER



## 1ST QUARTER SUCCESS STORIES...

*I wasn't so sure what to expect when I came in to SELAH, but I felt so safe here. You will be safe here.*

*I am forever grateful for them and I am so proud to be part of their organization.*

*We had a mom who has been actively doing all of her Bright course lessons earn a car seat last week. She came in to pick it up and she also spent time shopping around for maternity clothes, baby clothes, diapers, and more. She barely spoke English but when she left she looked at me and said thank you, I am very happy:)*

### 1st QUARTER STATS

Service Provided	Total	%
Appointments	53	76.81%
Closets/Boutiques	11	15.94%
Sonograms	5	7.25%
<b>Total</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>100%</b>

### *INSIDE THIS EDITION*

Partner Letter- pg 2

Legal Corner - pg 3

Upcoming Events & Fundraisers - pg 4-5

Letter By A Volunteer & Contributor  
and SELAH's Mission and Vision - pg 6



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# JUST ONE REASON IT MATTERS...

*Even if you have never experienced the effects of abortion, many people have that you see everyday. We at SELAH love being a part of helping women and men find freedom regardless if they've had an abortion experience in their past or are thinking about having one.*

*In our experience and statistically there are many factors considered when a woman becomes unexpectedly pregnant; like finances, support she may or may not have, education, and relationships. A study conducted by the Guttmacher Institute found that nearly half of women who experienced abortion stated relationship issues as a factor in their decisions.*

*They are in an even more complicated situation when their partner doesn't feel the same way they do about the pregnancy. Maybe she wants to keep the baby and her partner doesn't or vice versa. Some people choose abortion or go along with it as a way to alleviate relationship challenges or save their relationship with their partner.*

*But does it work? Does having an abortion - one they may not even want - save their relationship with their partner?*

## STATS ON WOMEN & ABORTION WITHIN A CURRENT RELATIONSHIP

*The impact of abortion on a relationship can have unintended consequences and varies from couple to couple. Looking at statistics alone, abortion is unlikely to save a relationship. In fact, it may make that relationship more unstable and put the partners at greater risk of negative outcomes.*

*One study published in 2009 showed that for women who experience abortion in a current relationship, there is a:*

- 75% increased risk of arguments associated with money,
- 80% increased risk of conflict about the partner's relatives,
- 122-182% increased risk of sexual dysfunction.

*In the same study, men who experienced abortion through a current partner's termination of pregnancy reported a 96% greater risk of jealousy and a 385% increased risk of arguments about drugs.*

*Those aren't small numbers, and they affect real people in very real ways. Abortion emotionally affects both partners and even both partners' families. Unresolved emotions, such as guilt, grief, anger, and sadness can show up in unexpected ways, and can lead to increased tension within the relationship.*

*Whether the decision to have an abortion is an individual or shared one, its implications on a relationship are intricate and multifaceted. It extends far beyond a single decision, and expecting abortion to salvage a faltering relationship is an oversimplification of the challenges that couples face. Whether a relationship is maintained or not following abortion experiences, it is often beneficial for one or both of the partners to seek out some kind of healing resource to guide them through the process.*

*Support After Abortion's research shows that 82% of women and men who experienced abortion look for healing resources but don't know where to go. At SELAH have 2 abortion healing programs for men and women that can be done independently, with a mentor or licensed counselor or therapist, or in a facilitated support group. If this is of interest, please reach out to us for more information.*

*Helping people find freedom and healing matters. We are so thankful for our many faithful partners who understand the importance of us serving our community through the love of Jesus in this way.*

*In Him,  
Rachel Fleming, Executive Director*



# LEGAL CORNER

by SELAH President, Tonya Kennish

## THESE ARE PROPOSED BILLS AND INITIATIVES THAT ARE PENDING IN THE PIPELINE FOR 2024

### **HB24-1124 “Discrimination in Places of Public Accommodation” –**

This would Amend the Colorado Constitution Anti-Discrimination Act (CADA)

- Adds financial penalties of up to \$10K/violation.
- Adds nonprofits like SELAH to financial penalties.
- Addition of “viewpoint” as a factor nonprofits may no longer consider when deciding whom to serve.
- Forces individuals and institutions to confirm to government mandated beliefs about sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression.
- Limited religious exemption applies to a place “principally used for religious purposes” (such as churches); however, it will likely be interpreted to NOT APPLY to religious-affiliated institutions such as Christian schools and PRC’s like SELAH.

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### **Proposed Initiative 89 –**

Coalition of abortion-rights advocates (Cobalt) seeks to collect voter signatures by April 26, 2024.

- If this initiative makes it to the November ballot, voters will be faced with a decision to ban all types of abortion services in Colorado and remove the current prohibition on using taxpayer dollars to pay for the care.

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### **Proposed Initiative 81-Colorado Life Initiative –**

Coalition of anti-abortion rights advocates seeks to collect voter signatures by April 18, 2024.

- If this initiative makes it to the November ballot, voters will be faced with a decision to guarantee constitutional access to abortion services (including the abortion pill) and allow prosecution for murder.

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## **SCOTUS**

- U.S. Supreme Court hears arguments in *Alliance for Hippocratic Medicine v. FDA*.
- In 2021 the FDA changed the way mifepristone, a drug frequently used in medical abortions, is administered by allowing parties access to the drug via the mail without an in-person visit to a doctor.
- Challengers are anti-abortion doctors and medical associations arguing medical induced abortions are harmful because they are forced to treat patients who experience adverse effects of the abortion pill.
- Challengers also invoked the 1873 Comstock Act, among other arguments, which bans the use of mail for abortifacients like mifepristone.
- SCOTUS heard oral arguments on 3/26/24. This case will likely turn on whether the challengers have “standing”, i.e. the type of harm that would warrant judicial action by the Court.
- U.S. Supreme Court will also hear arguments in two cases, *Moyle v. U.S.* and *Idaho v. U.S.*, who are challenging the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act (EMTALA), a federal law that requires Medicare-covered hospitals to provide necessary “stabilizing treatment” to patients experiencing medical emergencies, which can include abortion care.

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See Colorado Catholic Conference’s Top 10 Legislative Bills [HERE](#)

WOMEN AND MEN DESERVE SUPPORT IN MAKING THE DECISION TO CHERISH THE LIFE OF THEIR UNBORN BABY DESPITE WHATEVER CIRCUMSTANCES THEY MAY BE FACING.



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# UPCOMING EVENTS!

## FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

THURSDAY, MAY 2ND @ 6:30PM

SPONSORED BY STEAMBOAT CHRISTIAN  
CENTER

CONCESSIONS AND DRINKS WILL BE  
AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE. **FREE EVENT!**

FROM EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS KIRK CAMERON  
AND THE KENDRICK BROTHERS



## BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

I will do  
what I can,  
when I can,  
to make the world  
around me  
a little brighter.



## BABY BOTTLE FUNDRAISER

MOTHER'S DAY -  
FATHER'S DAY

BABY BOTTLES WILL BE  
AVAILABLE FOR PICKUP  
AT MOST CHURCHES OR  
SELAH OR **GIVE NOW!**



## MOTHER DAUGHTER BRUNCH - TBD

TBD

SPONSORED BY HOLY NAME CATHOLIC CHURCH

PUT ON IN CONJUNCTION WITH SELAH & EPIPHANY FERTILITY CARE TEA & PASTRIES BRUNCH FOR MOTHER'S AND DAUGHTERS

**FREE EVENT!**



On June 15, tens of thousands of life-minded advocates from around the nation will join Focus on the Family in-person and online for SeeLife 24! I'm excited for this pivotal event as we work to equip the Church and activate communities to support local pregnancy centers.

Registration is free and will feature inspiring speakers including retired NFL superstar and pro-life advocate Benjamin Watson alongside his wife and co-founder of The Watson 7, Kirsten Watson. Award-winning musical guest Danny Gokey will lead attendees in a time of worship and reflection. **REGISTER HERE!**

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## ANNUAL SELAH GALA -

TO BE ANNOUNCED LATER

DIFFERENT LOCATION THIS YEAR DUE TO THE STEAMBOAT GRAND RENOVATION.



## THOUGHTS OF THANKS FOR THE SUPPORT IN THIS COMMUNITY FOR SELAH

by a SELAH Volunteer, Janny M

Thank you, we are grateful to all who stand and bring light even as the darkness moves to cover our world in shadows. We will not fear, we will stand.

In the attempts to hide and crush the light; those surrendering to evil continue, as in centuries past, to desecrate the temple of our God. The darkness of hate and that ignorance of God twists wrong into right in an effort to dirty goodness, quench hope, and deny God. As the lights all around us go dim, we are called to shine brighter.

We were made for such a time as this, called by God within us; being moved forward in His love to stand beside and to shelter the brokenhearted and the lost. We are to shine light on truth, to speak with voices God created us to have, powered by His word.

From our very conception, we are made in His image. The images seen in-utero show His proclamation. At the very moment of conception, there is a burst of light when we come into being, breathed by our Lord to be carriers of light. May we shower others with the truth that we are somebodies from that time forward, the Lord's somebodies. We are the Lord's children made with a purpose. We will always be enough through Him.

As this earth turns, Jesus, the Light of the World, in the darkest months of the year; may we remember that pouring forth breath of fire that ignites our souls, to shelter those future lights. May we help those carrying that light to know that they are also precious lights of God.

In-utero, we see the fire of ignition and God's continual hand upon His creation - the miracle of life.

"Let there be light and there was light. And it was good."

May we catch fire this season of our lives and, in joy and gratitude, bring it! Let there be light!

### SELAH'S MISSION

**Selah provides tangible hope in a compassionate environment through the love of Jesus, making abortion unnecessary.**

Selah envisions impacting Northwest Colorado by offering hope when all seems hopeless, through mentoring and advocacy; by speaking the truth in love about matters of sexuality, pregnancy, abortion, and adoption; by providing medical and personal resources that promote physical, emotional, and spiritual health; by walking, without judgment, alongside clients as they find healing from decisions they regret; and by building a community where human life is valued at every stage and sexual integrity is recognized as a crucial component of healthy relationships.



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