

From the Desk of Josue Sierra, Director of Communications

Yesterday, pro-life leaders from across Pennsylvania [gathered](#) at our State Capitol for the Pennsylvania Pregnancy Wellness Collaborative's Day of Advocacy. The theme was simple but important: Filling the Gaps in Maternal Health.

As I listened to stories from pro-life pregnancy center leaders, medical professionals, legislators, and community advocates, I found myself reflecting on my own family.

My wife and I are blessed with five wonderful children. Looking back, I recognize the importance and appreciate the blessings of the quality pregnancy care, education, and support we had throughout each pregnancy. The prenatal checkups, the answered questions, the life-affirming guidance, and the reassurance during uncertain moments all helped make those seasons less stressful and more joyful as new parents.

Today, we get to see how our babies have grown up into amazing young people, and my wife continues to enjoy good health. I know firsthand that no mom (or dad) should have to navigate those important months alone.

That's one reason I was encouraged by what was highlighted yesterday at the Capitol.



Again and again, speakers pointed to a reality many Pennsylvanians may not realize: **maternal health involves much more than a doctor's appointment.** Transportation challenges, financial strain, housing concerns, access to baby supplies, parenting education, and emotional support all affect outcomes for mothers and babies.

As PPWC President Sarah Bowen reminded us, "When gaps exist in the healthcare system, pregnancy centers help fill them, improving access, strengthening support, and contributing to healthier outcomes for mothers, babies, and families."

**In fact, pregnancy centers across Pennsylvania are already serving families every day** by providing pregnancy confirmation, ultrasounds, parenting classes, practical resources, and connections to additional care and support. They are helping women and families move from uncertainty toward stability and hope.

Last week, two of our summer interns visited Morning Star Pregnancy Services here in Central Pennsylvania. They toured the facility and saw how Morning Star walks alongside families through pregnancy and beyond with medical care, education, and practical help.

What stood out to me most was that Morning Star isn't merely offering services. They are building relationships. They are walking alongside mothers, fathers, and families during some of life's most

important moments.

**Of course, the pro-life work of pregnancy centers goes even deeper.** Every day they help women receive the information they need to make life-affirming decisions, introduce families to the saving hope found in the gospel of Christ, and tangibly support new mothers and fathers as they begin the journey of parenthood.

**That is what "filling the gaps" looks like.**

- It looks like a volunteer who takes time to listen.
- It looks like a nurse who answers questions.
- It looks like parenting classes that help young moms and dads feel prepared.
- It looks like a package of diapers and baby clothes when money is tight.

Pregnancy centers are not theoretical solutions. **They are already serving women and families across Pennsylvania and are an active part of our Commonwealth's maternal health landscape.**

I hope you'll take a few minutes to watch the short [video tour of Morning Star Pregnancy Services on our Facebook page](#). I think you'll come away encouraged by the compassion, generosity, and practical care being offered right here in our communities.

And if you're looking for a meaningful way to advocate for life and strengthen families in Pennsylvania, consider supporting your local pregnancy resource center, whether through prayer, volunteering, donations, or simply helping spread the word.

The life-affirming work being done in these centers may not always make headlines, but every day, they are making a difference in the lives of mothers, babies, fathers, and families across our Commonwealth.

For stronger families and healthier communities,



**Josue Sierra**  
Director of Communications  
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P.S. Our summer interns did a wonderful job [highlighting the pro-life work of Morning Star Pregnancy Services](#). I encourage you to watch their short video tour and see for yourself how local pregnancy centers are helping families choose life and thrive. Share it with a friend, pastor, or family member who may be encouraged by the good work happening in communities across Pennsylvania!

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