

*"I came so that  
they might  
have life and  
have it more  
abundantly."*

*John 10:10*

# ADVOCACY ALERT

**April 7, 2010**



**DIOCESE OF  
AUSTIN**  
The Catholic  
Church of  
Central Texas

**OFFICE OF  
PRO-LIFE  
ACTIVITIES  
AND CHASTE  
LIVING**



Public Policy Chair,  
Linda DeBrecht  
[life-public-policy@  
austindiocese.org](mailto:life-public-policy@austindiocese.org)

Director,  
Marie Seale  
[marie-seale@  
austindiocese.org](mailto:marie-seale@austindiocese.org)

## **Proposed City of Austin Ordinance Places Undue Burden on Pregnancy Resource Centers**

Pregnancy Resource Centers, including the Diocesan Gabriel Project Life Center in Austin, provide pregnancy tests, pregnancy and parenting classes and emotional and material support for women and men facing an unplanned pregnancy. The Gabriel Project Life Center does not provide or refer for abortions or artificial birth control, but provides information. To see some information distributed to clients of the Gabriel Project Life Center, visit <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/wrtk/pdf/booklet.pdf>.

On Friday, April 2, Council Member Bill Spelman of the City of Austin Council proposed an ordinance that will require pregnancy resource centers to post signs that state, "This center does not provide abortions or refer to abortion providers. This center does not provide or refer to providers of U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved birth control drugs and medical devices." Failure to comply would be a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by fines of up to \$450 per offense.

### **Your action is urgently needed!**

Contact City of Austin Council Members today and tell them that you oppose Item No. 27 on the Agenda for April 8 because it places an undue burden on valuable community resources. The concept of government-forced speech runs contrary to our notions of fundamental liberties. Pregnancy Resource Centers have the right to explain truthfully what services they offer and do not offer.

- E-mail all Council Members by following this link:  
<http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/council/groupemail.htm>
- Call, write and e-mail individually. Contact information for Council Members can be found here:  
<http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/council/default.htm>
- Attend the Council Meeting on Thursday, April 8 at 10 a.m. at City Hall, 301 W. Second Street, Austin, TX. More information and the agenda can be found here:  
[http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/council\\_meetings/public\\_meeting\\_agenda.cfm?  
meetingid=208](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/council_meetings/public_meeting_agenda.cfm?meetingid=208)
  - You can register your opinion at the kiosk at City Hall at any time before this agenda item is discussed, which may not be in the order listed.

**For more information on Pro-Life Legislative Advocacy  
go to: [www.myprolife.org](http://www.myprolife.org)  
or call: (512) 949-2486**