



## Press Release



**NEWS RELEASE  
For Immediate Release  
Oct. 12, 2017**

**Contact:**  
**Indiana Right to Life:**  
[media@protectinglife.com](mailto:media@protectinglife.com)  
**St. Joseph Co. Right to**  
**Life:** [life@prolifemichiana.org](mailto:life@prolifemichiana.org)

### **Abortion Facility Applies to Open in South Bend**

#### **St. Joseph County Had Been Abortion-Free Since Klopfer Ceased Doing Abortions in November 2015**

SOUTH BEND, Ind. - St. Joseph County Right to Life and Indiana Right to Life have learned that an abortion facility has applied to open in South Bend. St. Joseph County had been abortion-free since Dr. Ulrich Klopfer, the abortion doctor who had his medical license suspended for health and safety violations, ceased doing abortions there in November 2015.

Antonio Marchi, Program Director at St. Joseph County Right to Life made the following announcement at the organization's annual banquet tonight:

"Forty-eight hours ago, we received a phone call with the news that a provider has acquired space for a new abortion clinic on the west side of South Bend. Within hours we were there scoping out the building and surrounding area. It appears that an abortion chain from out-of-state is now renovating the space. And from what we know, this chain and the abortion doctor associated with it are among the worst of the worst. It has been confirmed that the facility's license application is currently under review."

"Abortion activists in South Bend have been voicing their desire for an abortion facility in town since Klopfer's closure, so it's not surprising they lured a business to attempt to locate there," said Mike Fichter, President and CEO of Indiana Right to Life. "Abortion data from 2016 shows us that abortions on St. Joseph County women were down nearly 50 percent from 2015, the last year Klopfer did abortions in South Bend. In 2016 when women had to travel out of town instead of just down the street for an abortion, they had more time to consider the positive alternatives to abortion, and seek help from free resources like South Bend's local pregnancy resource centers. We hope pro-life supporters will rise up to voice their concerns over the possibility of a new abortion facility in their community."

The Indiana State Department of Health's 2016 annual abortion report shows that 161 abortions were performed on women from St. Joseph County in 2016 at Indiana abortion facilities, compared to 312 abortions the prior year. In 2015, there were 578 abortions done in St. Joseph County (includes non-resident women). 2016 was the first year since 1978 that St. Joseph County reported no abortions.

Indiana Right to Life learned about the new abortion facility's application through its regular public information requests that it makes in order to stay abreast of the status of Indiana's abortion industry.

St. Joseph County Right to Life and Indiana Right to Life encourage pro-life supporters to voice their opposition to a new abortion facility in South Bend. The organizations are hosting a petition to elected officials at <http://p2a.co/XiEMDui>.

*St. Joseph County Right to Life, Inc. is dedicated to the social welfare by promoting life through education and advocacy. It is the oldest, continuously active pro-life organization in St. Joseph County, and is the central organization representing pro-life interests. Its goal is to protect all innocent human life--the unborn, the infirm or handicapped, and the aged.*

*Indiana Right to Life's mission is to protect the right to life, especially of unborn children, through positive education, compassionate advocacy and promotion of healthy alternatives to abortion.*

###