

Dear Friend of Life,

I have been engaged in the pro-life movement for almost 50 years, and I have become involved in one of the most powerful, **life changing tools** that we have ever had available, which is the **Mobile Ultrasound Van**. This powerful pro-life instrument will be more needed than ever, with the enactment in New York State of the Reproductive Health Act. This incredible tool can truly make a significant, concrete difference not only saving many pre-born lives but saving women from the brokenness and heartache, which I have witnessed too many times through directing Project Rachel for 18 years. This type of Ultrasound (placed in a Mobile Van) is unique and is one of the biggest difference-makers that has come along, in a quite a while for the pro-life community. If we can “save” these vulnerable pregnant women, then we can “save” their children as well. This action will be just the beginning of helping women; for our commitment is not just during this difficult time of pregnancy, but afterward’s, as she finds a place of stability and hope.

This Ultrasound Unit will be parked **near** of Planned Parenthood, especially on Thursdays because Thursdays are the days that Planned Parenthood schedules their abortions. The great part of this undertaking is that the Mobile Unit **is visible**, and **a woman in an unsupported pregnancy won't have to be delayed**, where she could change her mind again before getting her to Compass Care or Caring Choices Pregnancy Help Center (which have ultrasound machines available); these pregnancy centers also may be unavailable or even closed when the person needs to have her ultrasound.

The purpose of the Mobile Ultrasound Van is to enable women to make the best decision possible. Studies have shown 30% of women considering an abortion do not finally make up their mind until just prior to the procedure. In addition, having peaceful, prayerful sidewalk advocates (who are now there almost every time Planned Parenthood is open) present every day, with the Mobile Ultrasound Van nearby, will enhance the effectiveness of the Unit compared to other places where the ultrasound is located away from where the abortions take place. Saving the Storks, which produces mobile ultrasound vehicles reports **80%** of women who boarded the Mobile Ultrasound Van, **choose life**; **ICU Mobile** says its ultrasounds have convinced 56 percent of women who had already decided on abortion to change their minds, and 87 percent of those who were undecided to choose life. In addition, a 2011 study by Quinnipiac University’s concluded that “ultrasound laws had a very significant and negative effect on the abortion decision.” (all of these results are impressive considering that these are mostly women headed for an abortion at a place like Planned Parenthood). As someone once said: **“Every time a woman goes on a Mobile Van and walks away from undergoing an abortion at Planned Parenthood, she has overturned Roe v. Wade.”**

In addition, it seems we need to also address what happens BEFORE women ever become pregnant. This is where the Mobile Ultrasound Van might be of great value. The Van could not only be the **“last chance for mercy,”** but it could be the **“first chance for mercy”** as well. The Van could go periodically to Mercy, or Aquinas and explain in a **hands-on way**, to students, the value of life. The Van could go through Newman Communities, to area colleges and explain things in the same way. The Van could also go to local festivals, as well as to Diocesan events and many other similar occasions. The possibilities are almost endless. If you have any questions, please contact me.

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