

# House of Refuge

**The Problem:** people in your city, and specifically in your church, are being negatively impacted by abortion. (40% of women who have had an abortion were attending church at least one time a month)<sup>1</sup>

<u>The Solution:</u> a national network of churches and life-affirming ministries working together in unity to share the hope of the Gospel and the help of the church to our neighbors who find themselves left in the ditches of life.

**The Vision**: the church becomes the place people come running to- not running from.

#### We desire to...

- 1. Stop abortions from taking place among those who are attending our churches
- 2. Help those who have had an abortion to find healing rather than suffer in silence.
- 3. Position the church for hurting families to run to them instead of the abortion clinic.

## What we provide to you:

- 1. A focused statement you can read to your people to help them know how the church can help in a crisis or unplanned pregnancy.
- 2. A beautifully designed version of the statement in print and digital form as well as social media graphics and videos
- 3. Training for representatives in your church to focus on one of four major ministry areas around the issue of abortion.
- 4. A simple process for you to engage the hearts of your people by participating in one of our peaceful prayer walks at your local abortion clinic. (We provide everything you need to make this happen in your church)
- 5. Placement into our national network of evangelical churches where people know they can turn to for help.

### **Guidelines**

- 1. Read the House of Refuge statement 2 times a year from the pulpit and post the statement publicly on your website and/or lobby. (see statement on following page)
- 2. Select a rep from your church and Love Life will train that rep to establish a pro-life ministry in your church.
- 3. Consider giving \$200/\$400 a month towards the Love Life mission in your city.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Care-Net Survey, How the Church Can Stop Funding the Abortion Industry



# The House of Refuge Statement

"[YOUR CHURCH'S NAME] Church is a House of Refuge; this applies to everyone in this church or people you know that need a place of Refuge.

### Here's what we believe:

If you find yourself in an unplanned pregnancy, please know that being pregnant is not a sin, and the child you carry is not a punishment; it is a blessing. God is knitting this child in your womb. You may have made a sinful decision that led to this pregnancy, or you may have even been sinned against, but we want you to know you are loved, and we will do whatever it takes to help you carry and care for this precious child before and after birth.

We can never support or encourage a woman to have an abortion because the child you carry is made in the image of God and is intrinsically valuable and loved by God. You need to know how we will respond.

#### Here's what we won't do:

This church family will not gossip about you, shame you, or abandon you. This is a House of Refuge, and we will not allow for the family of God to harm one another with words or actions contrary to the Love of God as revealed in his Word.

### Here's what we will do:

We will do everything in our power to remove whatever obstacles stand in the way of you having this child. There are people in this church ready to mentor you, throw you a baby shower, and connect you with resources inside and outside of our church (local pregnancy care center). We will also hold men accountable for living out their calling to provide and protect women and children.

Finally, if you have ever had an abortion in your past, we want you to know that abortion is not an unforgivable sin. Whoever confesses and forsakes their sin finds mercy. If you have never gone through a post-abortion Bible study, we will be happy to connect you to one so that you can walk in complete healing and freedom."

CLICK HERE TO OFFICIALLY BECOME A
HOUSE OF REFUGE CHURCH