

Position Statement Affiliation

WELS Lutherans for Life, Metro-Milwaukee's primary purpose is to help people through direct, one on one interaction. Our core ministry is to reach abortion-minded individuals, counsel those facing an unexpected pregnancy, and assist those with past abortion on their healing journey.

In order to focus on our mission and maintain that direction, we have been conducting an ongoing organizational review. Work with an outside consultant has taken the board through an internal evaluation and strategic planning. It is clear that we need to get down to our base structure. We are determined and committed to strengthen our mission and strengthen the ministry focus to carry out our work appropriately.

Through this process the board of directors is:

- Reviewing the mission and ministry from the inside out
- Reconsidering the articles, by-laws, and structure
- Defining our vision and purpose
- Setting goals to achieve the purpose and vision in line with our mission

One thing evaluated in this process is the effectiveness and value of relationships and affiliations with other organizations. We believe affiliation must:

- Be mutually beneficial
- Help to achieve and attain our mission
- Strengthen our ability to work toward that mission

At present, WLFL is affiliated with CLR. Our board compared the mission statements and ministry focus of the two organizations and concluded that WLFL and CLR are more naturally in a peer relationship than an affiliate relationship. While united in faith and doctrine, WLFL and CLR have different scopes of services.

WLFL: "To share the Gospel of Jesus Christ through compassionate care, information, education, and support services while empowering women and men to make informed decisions about lifestyle and pregnancy issues."

CLR: "To use life and family issues as bridges to convey the love of God and to share the message of salvation through Christ." (From website 8-12)

As we move from affiliate status we celebrate a long standing relationship with CLR. However, we realize we cannot afford the costs of our formal affiliation especially since we need to focus as much of our resources as we are able on our core mission. WLFL continues to pray for the ministry of CLR and that many will be strengthened in their relationship with Christ through CLR.