

Bobby Jindal explains to Branstad how it's DONE



Gov. Bobby Jindal made news on Aug.3, not for his presidential bid, but for defunding Planned Parenthood in Louisiana.

Now Jindal has written a letter to Gov. Terry Branstad, who has resolutely refused to take the same steps in Iowa, explaining just how a governor can legally cut off taxpayer dollars flowing to Planned Parenthood.

[Click here to tell Branstad it's time he keeps his promise and defunds Planned Parenthood!](#)

“Videos have been released which show in detail Planned Parenthood’s abhorrent practices and disregard for human life,” the letter states. “After viewing the first of these videos in July, I directed the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) to investigate.”



After detailing additional steps, Jindal’s letter goes on to

say, “Finally, at my direction, DHH notified Planned Parenthood of Gulf Coast of the termination of their Medicaid contract with the state of Louisiana, for cause.”

(This is exactly what The FAMIly LEADER and [many Iowans like you](#) are demanding Gov. Branstad do.)

“I encourage you to watch these videos and to take similar action in your state as well,” Jindal tells Branstad. “If you have any questions about the specific actions our state has taken to protect life, please do not hesitate to call me.”

[Read the letter for yourself by clicking here.](#)

The letter comes even as Branstad is facing pressure from Iowan voters after a hard-hitting video reminds the governor he promised five years ago to defund Planned Parenthood, whether the money “goes to pay for abortions” or not.

The web-based video, however, is only the beginning:

- Hundreds of Iowans are already [emailing the governor](#), telling him to “Keep Your Promise” and defund Planned Parenthood.
- The video has been reported [by WHO-TV News](#) and multiple [local radio hosts](#).
- Very shortly, radio ads reminding Branstad to “Keep Your Promise” will be featured on some of Iowa’s most-listened-to live broadcasts

And with your help, the “Keep Your Promise” ad may also appear on Iowa’s television networks. [Click here now to help fund this critical step in putting the pressure on Branstad to defund Planned Parenthood in Iowa.](#)

Keep your promise, Governor!

Five years ago, Terry Branstad promised he would defund Planned Parenthood. It's time he keep that promise.

Let's encourage Gov. Branstad to do the right thing and defund Planned Parenthood today!

What can you do? It's simple:

1. Contact the governor. Our quick, online form makes it easy for you to send an email with wording sure to get his attention. [Click here now!](#) Or call the governor at 515-281-5211.

2. Turn up the heat! Your support of the "Keep Your Promise" campaign will spread the message through more and more channels, and with generous support, may enable us to put this ad on television. [Click here to help make it happen!](#)

(Did you get a form-letter response from the Governor's Office? Or hear him try to explain why he's already doing all he can?[Click here to see through his smokescreen!](#))

Branstad pledged during a 2010 gubernatorial debate on Iowa Public Television to make Planned Parenthood one of the first programs he would defund upon being elected. And yet millions in taxpayer dollars are still flowing to Planned Parenthood through state contracts.

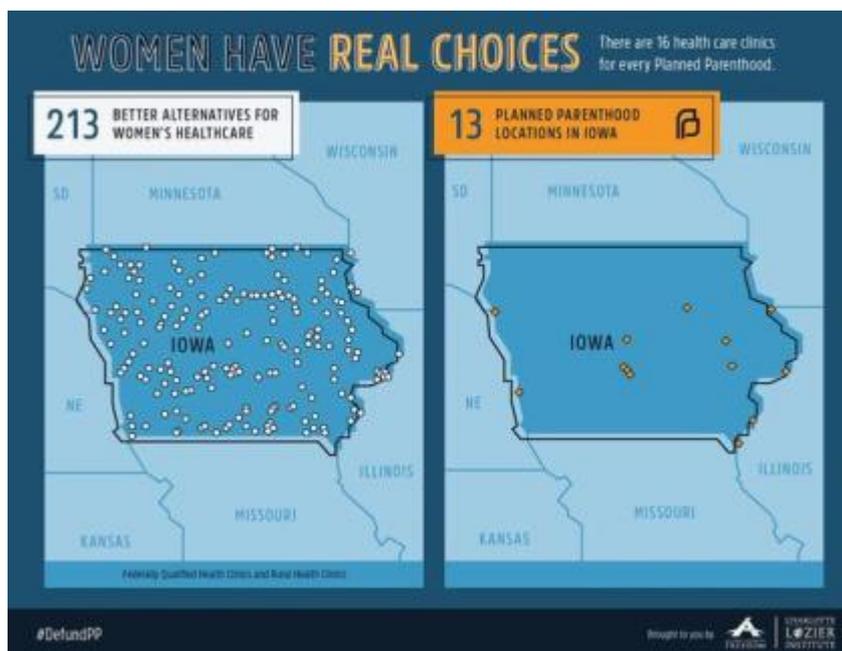
Branstad has been provided with legal evidence that he has cause to terminate those contracts, particularly as Planned Parenthood of the Heartland is already under Medicaid fraud investigation.

"There are no excuses left for Branstad's inaction."

"There are no excuses left for Branstad's inaction," says Bob Vander Plaats, president and CEO of The FAMILY LEADER

Foundation. “His own party insists he act. Iowans are lighting up his phone lines demanding he act. Conscience requires he act. It’s time for Branstad to make good on his promise and defund Planned Parenthood.

“Furthermore, Iowa has over 200 women’s health clinics not affiliated with Planned Parenthood and which offer more comprehensive health care – such as mammograms and well-child services – that Planned Parenthood does not provide,” Vander Plaats adds. “Imagine what those millions in Medicaid and taxpayer dollars could do if they were used in those 200 clinics across the state instead of concentrated in only 13 Iowa communities where Planned Parenthood clinics are located.”



What more does Branstad need?

- Even after [shocking videos](#) have revealed the abortion industry leader deceiving women and altering the abortion procedure to better dismember babies for their more profitable parts ...
- Even after Planned Parenthood’s Iowa chapter has been placed under investigation for an alleged \$28 million dollars in Medicaid fraud ...

- Even after [his own party called on him to defund Planned Parenthood](#) “as soon as possible using all means and methods at their disposal” ...
- Even after lawyers have shown him he has legal cause to terminate the contracts ...
- Even after over 200 other clinics in Iowa have been identified as viable alternative options for women’s health and taxpayer funding ...

... **Governor Branstad still hasn’t acted to defund Planned Parenthood!**

Isn’t it time the governor keep his promise?

>> [Click here to tell the governor to keep his promise.](#)

>> [Click here to support the “Keep Your Promise” campaign.](#)

More on the effort to defund Planned Parenthood:

- [Get the facts: What you need to know about defunding Planned Parenthood](#)
- [Did you get a form-letter response from the Governor’s Office?](#)
- A bold challenge to national leaders in the Republican Party, [“GOP: Party of character or cowards?”](#)
- Des Moines Register Op-Ed by Bob Vander Plaats: [“Branstad should defund, investigate Planned Parenthood now”](#)
- [‘Truth Exposed’ rallies Iowans to defund Planned Parenthood](#)
- Iowa State Sen. David Johnson, R-Ocheyedan, reveals just how much taxpayer money Planned Parenthood is getting in Iowa:

Refuting the governor's talking points

Many of you have contacted Governor Branstad's office urging he keep his promise to defund Planned Parenthood.

UPDATE: Perhaps you've heard Branstad's most recent excuse that he [doesn't have a good enough legal "reason" or "cause"](#) to defund Planned Parenthood.

Here's our response to that claim:

As if the 10 videos from the Center for Medical Progress exposing Planned Parenthood's deception of patients and trafficking in human body parts aren't enough cause, a recent letter from Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal to Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad – coupled with a pending case investigating Planned Parenthood of the Heartland for Medicaid fraud – only reinforces the argument that Branstad has more than sufficient cause to defund Planned Parenthood in Iowa.

“At my direction, [the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals] notified Planned Parenthood of Gulf Coast of the termination of their Medicaid contract with the state of Louisiana, for cause,” states Jindal's letter to Branstad, dated Sept. 23, 2015. “I encourage you to ... take similar action in your state as well.”

[The full text of the letter can be found by clicking here.](#)

“Yes, Governor, you can defund Planned Parenthood in Iowa,” says Bob Vander Plaats, president and CEO of The FAMILY LEADER Foundation.

“Branstad claims he has no legal 'cause' for cutting off

Planned Parenthood's funding. **That's simply not true,**" continues Vander Plaats. "He has been given an extensive legal briefing demonstrating ample cause. Meanwhile, Planned Parenthood of the Heartland is currently under investigation for allegedly committing \$28 million in Medicaid fraud right here in Iowa. **How is an open, pending case investigating Planned Parenthood for scamming state and federal taxpayers not sufficient legal ground to suspend their contracts and Medicaid provider eligibility?"**

In fact, the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit of the Iowa Department of Inspections & Appeals has confirmed the investigative case against Planned Parenthood of the Heartland is still open and pending.

"According to the Guzman v. Shewry [2008, U.S. Court of Appeals, 9th Circuit] case," adds attorney Chuck Hurley, chief counsel for The FAMiLY LEADER Foundation, **"Gov. Branstad now has full legal authority to immediately terminate Planned Parenthood of the Heartland as a Medicaid provider in Iowa."**

* * * * *

Many of you have also likely received a form letter in return that begins, "Thank you for contacting the Governor's office and expressing your concerns ..." or heard his office make public statements based on the same letter's messaging.

Here's what you need to know about that letter:

This form letter the governor's office has been sending out for weeks **is little more than a smokescreen**, as it doesn't even begin to answer the question of whether Branstad will or won't stop the millions of taxpayer dollars that funnel into Planned Parenthood in Iowa each year.

Let's examine each of the letter's primary rebuttals to your demand he defund Planned Parenthood.

1. *“Defunding Planned Parenthood cannot happen with a line item veto”*

Yes, that’s correct, Governor. But that’s not what we asked. We demand state contracts with Planned Parenthood be canceled for cause and Planned Parenthood’s eligibility as a Medicaid provider be terminated. You don’t need a veto to do that.

2. *“Governor Branstad and Lt. Governor Reynolds have ensured that Planned Parenthood is never reimbursed for an abortion.”*

No, Planned Parenthood simply takes in millions of taxpayer dollars each year to pay for everything else, so they can use the funds that would otherwise pay for overhead on abortions instead. We pay the light bill, so they have more money to pay for their abortion activities. Your assurance, Governor, means nothing.

3. *“... and ... have asked the Iowa Department of Public Health to thoroughly review the funding the legislature appropriated for the Family Planning Block Grant to ensure it does not and will not ever fund abortions ...”*

See point No. 2 above. And the delay tactic here is not commendable.

While you dally with your “review” of this or the other, Medicaid dollars are still pumping life into Planned Parenthood.

You have the backing of the people, Governor. You have the backing of your party. And Planned Parenthood of the Heartland is already under investigation for Medicaid fraud *in Iowa*. So you have what you need to cancel the contracts and terminate Planned Parenthood as a Medicaid provider in Iowa.

Please, Governor: Don’t brush us off with meaningless assurances. Keep your Promise. Defund Planned Parenthood now.

Thank you for contacting Governor Branstad and making your

voice heard! Are you ready now to really turn up the heat? Your support of the "Keep Your Promise" campaign will spread the message through more and more channels until Planned Parenthood is defunded in Iowa. [Click here to help make it happen!](#)

GOP: Party of character or cowards?

At the CNN Republican debate on Sept. 16, candidate Carly Fiorina looked directly into the camera and dared anyone to watch the videos exposing Planned Parenthood's barbaric practice of butchering babies to sell their body parts for profit.

She demanded Republicans act now to stop the public funding of Planned Parenthood and force President Obama to either sign on or veto.

"I dare Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama to watch these tapes! Watch a fully formed fetus on the table, its heart beating, its legs kicking," Fiorina said. "This is about the character of our nation, and if we will not stand up and force President Obama to veto this bill, shame on us!"

See Fiorina's comments in context for yourself below:

At The FAMILY LEADER, we couldn't agree more.

This *is* about character – of the GOP, of pro-life leaders, of our president, and of the country.

[Tell Iowa Governor Terry Branstad to take a stand of character](#)

and defund Planned Parenthood now!

Character means having a spine and taking courageous leadership. There's no way we at The FAMiLY LEADER can back Republican politics as usual while America continues this dark, deceptive path of funding Planned Parenthood. One-third of the budget of the nation's largest abortion mill comes from taxpayers, to the tune of over \$500 million a year, while its clinics deceive their patients and dismember and sell baby body parts on the side. It's time to shut it down. Now.

There are some, [including National Right to Life President Carol Tobias](#), who say attaching a defund Planned Parenthood measure to the federal spending bill isn't warranted. They don't want a fight over "shutting down the government." They want to wait until a Republican takes over the White House ... in January 2017 (at the earliest).

The notion that Republicans can wait to act until a new president takes office in 2017 is nonsense. It's cover for the cowardly.

Attaching a defund measure to the budget is exactly what Republicans *should* be doing. It's time to find out the character of our president: Is he willing to shut down the government to protect Planned Parenthood's admitted practices of lying to expectant mothers and chopping up baby parts for profit? If Obama is willing to shut down the government to continue funding these horrors, that tells Americans all we need to know about how to vote in 2016.

Planned Parenthood has been exposed now. The American people are outraged now. Pushing it off until the iron cools, continuing to spend \$500 million a year of taxpayer money on funding baby butchers, and simply avoiding a fight over Obama's anticipated "shutting down the government" to try to eke out a win in the next election isn't character – it's cowardice.

The FAMiLY LEADER agrees with Bobby Jindal's indictment at last night's CNN Debate of Republicans who won't act: "If we can't defund Planned Parenthood now, if we can't stand for innocent human life after these barbaric videos, it is time to be done with the Republican Party."

Watch Bobby Jindal call for "Republicans with a backbone":

[Help us keep the pressure on our leaders to defund Planned Parenthood by making a donation to The FAMiLY LEADER today!](#)

Fox News asks, Vander Plaats to back Ben Carson?

"He's a mover and a shaker. He's not a braggart about it, but he does affect votes."

That's what Fox News Channel host Neil Cavuto said of The FAMiLY LEADER President Bob Vander Plaats after this live interview on the state of the 2016 presidential race yesterday.

Vander Plaats endorsed Mike Huckabee in 2008 and Rick Santorum in 2012, both of whom went on to win the Iowa GOP caucuses and push for the Republican nomination nationwide. This led FoxNews.com to title the interview with Vander Plaats, "Republican kingmaker ready to back Dr. Ben Carson?"

Watch the latest video at video.foxnews.com

To answer the FoxNews.com question, neither Vander Plaats nor The FAMiLY LEADER have yet made any endorsement, but are

evaluating all the candidates, looking for a person of character whom we can trust to lead with courage and conviction and put pro-family principles over politics, should he or she be elected to the presidency.

If you want to keep up to date on the work of The FAMiLY LEADER and learn how you can be a part of seeking a redeemed America that honors God and blesses people, [sign up today to receive our latest news and updates, conveniently in your email.](#)

Red Cross emergency manager remembers 9/11

The following is the transcript of a speech given by American Red Cross emergency manager Peter Teahen – an Iowa native who was summoned to New York City the day the World Trade Center was attacked – on the 2014 anniversary of 9/11 in Goodlettsville, Tennessee.

In the Lewis Carroll novel, “Alice in Wonderland,” the character Alice was asked by the Caterpillar, “Who are you?”

Alice replied rather shyly, “I ... I hardly know, sir, just at present. At least I know who I was when I got up this morning, but I think I must have changed several times since then.”

Thirteen years ago today, a day that will always be known simply as 9/11, Americans re-discovered the cost of freedom as more than 3000 individuals became part of history – not by choice, but by fate.

From the farm fields near Shanksville, Pennsylvania, where

Flight 93 was wrestled to the ground by passengers ... Washington, D.C., where American Flight 77 symbolically pierced the heart of our government ... and to New York City, where American Flight 11 and United Flight 175 assaulted the core of our economy and financial markets, the commencement of war by foreign terrorist on American soil was etched forever in hearts and minds.

Perhaps you, like me, wake up each 9/11 and wonder if they will strike again on this day. Historians suggest that the events of 9/11 will be noted as one of the top four events in the history our country.

What will not be captured in the annals of history are the intense personal stories that provide insight to the depth of that morning of horror and the change it brought about in us.

The names of Operation Desert Storm, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Benghazi, Gitmo, Sharia Law, Al Qaeda, Al Shabaab, and now ISIS are part of our common language. On the news we hear of the beheading of American reporters, the crucifixion of men, and the live burial and brutal atrocities waged against innocent children and women who refuse to surrender their religious beliefs.

Yes, 9/11 was only the beginning of the ever increasing threats and attacks by terrorist groups who show us the poisonous venom of hatred, anger, and madness done in the name of a religion or belief and their promise to kill us in the very cities that we live.

We are disgusted as we watch young radicalized Americans join terrorist groups, and we are in fear of their return to America. We live in a time when at least three terrorist groups are competing to inflict the next catastrophic hit on the United States.

Let us not forget that terrorism is not just a foreign threat; it is also a domestic based threat. We need to only reflect on

the bombing of the Murrah building in Oklahoma City, the killings at Fort Hood, the slaughter of school children in Sandy Hook, and the bombing during the Boston Marathon.

Following the events of September 11, I responded to New York City on behalf of the American Red Cross and was attached in a leadership role to the emergency management staff of Mayor Giuliani. With all aircraft grounded across America, a military aircraft was dispatched to fly me to New York. As we flew, I recall the eerie feeling of listening to the aircraft radio and only hearing complete silence from radio frequencies normally full of chatter from aircraft winging their way through the skies; looking out the window at armed fighter jets frequently intercepting our aircraft to ensure we were friend, not foe; flying over Ground Zero and watching as the smoke belled from the scarred earth; and landing at JFK Airport in the middle of the day only to find a total absence of people and aircraft moving about. It was as though the most frightening horror movie had come true. For me, that was only the beginning of what I can honestly say was the most frightening five weeks of my entire life.

Almost every day I stood in the World Trade Center complex and was awed by the destruction. I watched as responders and dogs sorted through the collapsed buildings and served as a witness to the evilness, hatred, and ugliness of terrorism. I vividly remember the overwhelming sense of loss and my inability to comprehend the fact that I was standing in the midst of what we believed at the time to be more than 5,000 dead.

My personal story of the World Trade Center began for me nearly 25 years ago. Since 1989, I have responded to 47 major disasters throughout the United States, Guam, and Puerto Rico, as well as the horrific genocide in Darfur, the tsunami-hit country of Sri Lanka, and the catastrophic earthquake in Haiti. Many of those disasters required me to face the threat of terrorism as well as the fury of Mother Nature. I have been held at gunpoint by terrorists and have listened to gunfire

wondering how many innocents were dying in the surrounding fields. Over these 25 years I have borne witness to almost every known type of disaster, from the ruins of the Oklahoma City bombing to being in the direct path of more than a dozen hurricanes, including in New Orleans the day Katrina made landfall. I have stood among the wreckage of major airplane crashes and have provided medical care to the injured and dying.

Nothing prepared me for the magnitude of the horror, destruction, and the devastation I witnessed at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. And nothing prepared me for the personal transformation from responder to victim upon learning of my exposure to Anthrax in Washington, D.C., prior to my return home.

What I could hold on to during those days was a personal philosophy developed from my experiences – a philosophy that helps me make sense of the complexities of a disaster response by identifying three important parts to every disaster.

The three parts of a disaster include the physical, emotional, and the spiritual.

The physical part of a disaster is witnessed with all of our senses. When you are in the midst of the destruction you see, hear, taste, smell, and feel the devastation. At Ground Zero, I recall the acrid smell of the fires raging in the debris; I inhaled into my lungs the air that was thick with the particles of asbestos, burning plastic, concrete dust, chemicals, and human remains. I remember standing in the debris for five weeks and always being amazed that I never saw a computer, a desk, a chair, or a file cabinet, knowing that thousands had existed prior to the collapse.

The emotional part of a disaster includes the tears, anger, and horror we see etched on the faces of victims and responders.

Here is what stays in my mind's eye and is etched in my memory: As each remains was recovered from the site, I was always moved by the sign of dignity, respect, and compassion that was displayed as the workers would stop working, line up to create a corridor of honor, and stand at attention as the flag-draped remains was carried past the workers to the ambulance.

I remember watching as families came to the Family Assistance Center with pictures of loved ones around their necks, seeking answers, and giving the medical examiner information in hopes of identifying their loved ones.

I remember looking at the thousands of photos and descriptions of loved ones pasted on walls and fences all over New York City, as families held out desperate hope that their missing loved one would be seen and returned home alive.

I remember standing at Ground Zero in the days prior to the one-year anniversary and being approached by a woman who was crying. On that day, she was at Ground Zero looking for her answers. As she spoke, I heard her story and felt her pain as she recalled how she overslept that morning and missed her train to lower Manhattan.

When she called her office to say she was running late, her coworker said, "Don't come in. Something has happened. We will let you know."

As she stood there with eyes full of tears, she struggled accepting that she was the sole survivor of her office. She repeatedly asked, "Why me?"

Finally, the spiritual part of my philosophy is the part that defines the reason why I continually stay involved with disaster work. The spiritual side of disaster work is not a reflection of a religious belief, but the extremely intense personal experiences one has when working with other individuals during a crisis. The spiritual part of a disaster

is that interaction with another human being that is so intense that it reaches down and touches the most inner part of your existence and changes you forever.

Over the years, I have always tried to define disasters NOT by the breadth of destruction but rather by the intense spiritual experiences. These experiences help me as I deploy to disasters as well as help me define who I am as an individual.

As I reflect back 13 years ago I remember the man who stopped me at 4 a.m. and asked that I meet with him and his wife. It had been several days after the attack and neither had slept because every time they closed their eyes they once again became eyewitnesses to bodies falling like raindrops from the sky. As they shared their story with me, I was deeply moved by their anguish and sorrow.

I recall a young firefighter who spoke of standing at the base of the towers with two of his teammates. As a team they were strategically planning a medical triage response when the buildings began to collapse. He spoke of his fear as the debris fell and how the three of them looked at each other before running for their lives. He told me how he became separated from his teammates and how all he could hear was his wife telling him which direction to run to escape death. He recalled that his wife kept telling him not to leave their children orphans and how he ran listening to her as she guided him through the blinding debris. Then he quietly stated that his wife had died nine months prior to September 11.

He is convinced that it was her spiritual presence that guided him to safety that fateful day and eventually back to their children. Six months later I was at his side when he was informed that the remains of his teammates had been identified. Although he still struggles today with why he did not die with his teammates, he finds comfort in the belief that even in her death he knows his wife is always at his side.

I remember the day I called two of my friends in Washington, D.C., who were planning to visit me because they heard the stress in my voice. I told them not to come because a terrorist alert had been posted for the next day and I felt that I was going to die. I told them not to come to New York because I did not want them to die with me.

I remember one friend saying, "That's OK. I am coming anyway."

For me, it served as a reminder that God always ensures we will never be alone as we face personal trials.

I often reflect on the tremendous humanity, dedication, generosity, and patriotism that I witnessed in those following weeks. I saw Americans reach out in so many ways to help others who were suffering. There were ribbons, flowers, Teddy bears, poems, candles, and groups of people standing on the curb cheering and waving signs as we drove to and from Ground Zero, saying we were their heroes. Little did they realize that they – and our families and friends back home – were the heroes of everyone who worked at Ground Zero. We knew we could not survive the responsibilities we faced during those dark days without their love, support, and prayers.

Let me tell you about my friend Margaret. She was a kind grandmother, a "real lady," full of energy, wit, compassion, and an incredible desire to serve those touched by disaster. She died this past summer from her exposure at Ground Zero. Thirteen years after the terrorists flew planes into the World Trade Center killing innocent people going about their work, the death toll from that attack continues to grow as thousands of emergency workers are becoming ill and dying.

Fires at the site burned for three months, releasing carcinogens and other deadly chemicals into the air, while thousands of tons of pulverized toxic debris lay strewn at the site of the Towers. Doctors say those who spent time at Ground Zero were exposed to "wildly toxic" dust that would be the

equivalent of inhaling Drano. Responders are now facing an increased risk of a number of different cancers, including prostate, thyroid, lung, leukemia, multiple myeloma, as well as respiratory problems.

Latest figures show more than 2,500 New York City police officers, firefighters, ambulance staff, and sanitation workers report having a cancer certified as relating to their work following the attack. That figure is twice as many cases of cancer as reported just 12 months prior.

The figures from the U.S. government's monitoring and treatment program for 9/11 emergency workers, responders, volunteers, and local residents report more than 18,000 people are suffering from illnesses linked to the dust from the attacks on the World Trade Center.

Although it is unclear how many responders have already died after contracting cancer as a result of their work at Ground Zero, U.S. health officials managing the health legacy of the attacks warn of early deaths. Personally, I continue to be closely monitored each year for the physical and emotional toll on my body.

As we all struggled for answers during those frightening days, I soon realized why I was there. I was fortunate to be part of some of the worst hours of America's history. I was fortunate to witness America rise to its finest hour. I witnessed the tremendous effort, humanity, dignity, and courage of Americans as they came together in a manner we had not witnessed in decades.

One of the reasons for being here today is to recall our past, to appreciate the present, and to contemplate our tomorrows.

People have asked me, "What have you learned from the September 11 attack?" This is what I have learned:

- You do NOT have the luxury of saying I don't want to be

involved. You are involved.

- You do NOT have the luxury of saying it does not affect me. It does affect you.
- You do NOT have the luxury of saying it won't happen here again. It will happen here, and the horrors of 9/11 will pale in contrast.
- We must learn that a terrorist cannot be defined by their nationality or religion or glamorized in the media. They can only be defined by their evilness, hatred, and lack of regard for life.
- We must learn and remember the past and to stand united against those who threaten our existence.

Our challenge is not to run and hide. We must come together as a community and as a nation to stand strong, to stand prepared, and [to] be ready to defend what we hold so dear.

For most Americans, September 11 did change us physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

As President Bush noted on 9/11, "These acts of mass murder were intended to frighten our nation into chaos and retreat. But they have failed. Our country is strong. A great people have been moved to defend a great nation."

Like Alice in Wonderland who replied, "At least I know who I was when I got up this morning, but I think I must have changed several times since then," we may never completely understand the depth of the change that occurred to us since that horrific morning, but we have come to realize that life will never be the same. The security and future of this country, the protection of our families, and the safeguard of our beliefs that we hold so dear rest with each and every one of us.

Today I pray that God will guide, bless, and protect each and every one of us.

I remember the 3,000 who died 13 years ago, the 7,000 soldiers

who have paid the ultimate price as they fought the war on terror, and the 1 million soldiers and their families who cope with their combat injuries each day.

As we once again prepare to continue the war against terror, I pray that God will guard our men and women serving in the armed forces, in our embassies and consulates around the world, as well as those who respond to disasters.

And I beseech God to always watch over and bless these United States of America.

‘Truth Exposed’ rallies Iowans to defund Planned Parenthood

On Saturday, Aug. 15, 2015, several hundred Iowans gathered on the steps of the Iowa State Capitol to demand the men in women inside the golden domed building take action to defund, investigate, and prosecute Planned Parenthood after [a string of investigative videos](#) revealed the abortion giant’s practice of deceiving patients, taking dead babies from their mothers without signed consent, and butchering the babies to sell their organs and other body parts.

Twenty different speakers, from presidential candidates, senators, and congressmen to local activists and Iowa elected representatives, spoke to the crowd of the #TruthExposed Rally.

Among the themes: It’s not enough to simply ensure no tax dollars fund abortions. It’s time to stop ALL government

funding of Planned Parenthood.

[**Click here to tell Gov. Terry Branstad Iowa needs to defund Planned Parenthood NOW!**](#)

** Time Codes Below** (jump to each speaker)

#TruthExposed Rally – Iowa State Capitol, 8-15-15 , with Simon Conway of WHO Radio

-National Anthem: sung by Shannon Seals*

-Welcome: Emcee, Simon Conway

[2:40](#) Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad

-Iowa Lt. Gov. Kim Reynolds

[15:46](#) Sen. Joni Ernst

[23:29](#) Former U.S. Sen. Rick Santorum

-Jan Mickelson, WHO Radio

-Congressman Steve King

-Wisconsin Lt. Gov. Rebecca Kleefisch

-Congressman David Young

-Secretary of State Paul Pate

-[1:07:05](#) Iowa House Majority Leader Linda Upmeyer

-Matt Schultz for U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz

-Sen. Jack Whitver for U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio

-State Sen. Ken Rozenboom

[1:31:22](#) Bob Vander Plaats, president of The FAMILY LEADER

-Rev. Cary Gordon, Cornerstone World Outreach

-Sam Clovis

-[2:02:00](#) Jenifer Bowen, executive director of Iowa Right to Life

-[2:13:12](#) Simon Conway, closing remarks

Known notables in attendance: Tamara Scott – Republican National Committeewoman, Steve Scheffler – Republican National Committeeman, Rep. Walt Rogers, Rep. Dawn Pettingill, Rep. Dean Fisher, Rep. Ted Gassman.

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Simon

Conway: <http://bit.ly/1oQFKdR> , <https://www.facebook.com/simon.conway...>

– <http://www.TheFamilyLeader.com> ~ Strengthening Families...

– Iowa Right to Life : <http://www.iowartl.org/>

*Shannon Seals is a senior at Simpson College with a Vocal Performance Major

Call to prayer for the sanctity of human life – Aug. 16

It's common for people to wonder, "What can I do about the atrocities of abortion and our culture's casual disregard for life?"

But let's also consider another question: "What can *God* do?"

The answer, of course, is anything. And *that* is encouraging.

No matter how shocking the Planned Parenthood videos, no matter how resistant our leaders to take action, no matter how dark, or sad, or painful the realization of what's happening to babies in America – God is bigger yet. He does not slumber, nor does He sleep, and He hears their cry.

Let us, then, cry out to Him who holds each precious child in His hand.

Please join with us and churches across Iowa in a Call to Prayer for the Sanctity of Human Life on Sunday, Aug. 16, 2015.

Individually, in a group, or during your church service, let us cry out to our Father for the smallest of our brothers and sisters.

Op-ed: Gov. Branstad, defund Planned Parenthood now!

On Sunday, Aug. 9, the Des Moines Register published an op-ed from Bob Vander Plaats demand Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad investigate, prosecute as warranted, and defund Planned Parenthood for lying to its patients, butchering unborn babies, and harvesting their body parts for financial gain.

[Join the hundreds of Iowans who have similarly called upon Branstad to defund Planned Parenthood by clicking here!](#)

The text of that op-ed can be read below. The original, Des Moines Register piece can be read [by clicking here](#).

It's over. The jig is up. We all now know Planned Parenthood kills babies and sells their body parts. We've seen the videos. The question is: What are our leaders going to do about it?

Arguing that Planned Parenthood provides other services, besides abortion and selling baby parts, is irrelevant. They kill babies, dismember them, market them and sell them. Any organization that embraces this kind of darkness should not get a dime of funding from anyone: not taxpayers, not donors, not anyone.

Sen. Harry Reid said those working to end funding for Planned Parenthood have "lost their moral compass." I urge all readers

to view these videos and then determine who has lost their moral compass. Casually negotiating, over lunch and a glass of wine, the best method of killing babies in order to maximize the sales opportunity for intact body parts is extraordinarily dark. And it speaks volumes about the people who perpetrate and fund such evil.

We must be better than this!

Gov. Bobby Jindal of Louisiana did what moral leaders should do. Upon witnessing this atrocity, he immediately protected his citizens from having to fund this ghoulish organization called Planned Parenthood any longer. He ended their contract and promised to vigorously investigate and prosecute them to the full extent of the law. Every jurisdiction in America should expect its leaders to do the same.

Thus, we encourage Gov. Terry Branstad to do the same and make Iowa a leader in protecting the innocent. He should follow Governor Jindal's lead and defund, investigate, and when necessary, prosecute. And he should make clear to other organizations, "If you want money for women's health, you shouldn't slaughter little girls (or boys)."

It's absurd to believe that the state of Iowa has entered into contracts that don't allow it to end funding for the killing and selling, piece by piece, of innocent babies. What does it take in America to lose government funding? If being caught on video selling murdered children isn't enough, then what is? This needs to end now. There is no excuse for Planned Parenthood of Iowa to receive another dime from taxpayers. The governor said five years ago that he would defund Planned Parenthood. If not now, when?

On a federal level, Planned Parenthood receives \$528 million a year in taxpayer dollars. We applaud Iowa Sens. Ernst and Grassley for working to defund Planned Parenthood, but that effort should not end with a single failed procedural vote.

The time for games and votes for “show” is over. This is the time for deeds. There are other avenues to defund, such as attaching an amendment to must-pass legislation. Many legislators believe funding for a bloated government is “must pass” legislation, but defunding baby killers is not. They should be ashamed. And we should make sure that if they continue to support murderers with our tax dollars, they will lose re-election.

All Iowans and all Americans should take note of who is leading on this issue. If your senator, governor, representative, or favorite 2016 candidate is not raising their voice and taking action to protect these voiceless infants, then they should feel your anger at the voting booth. There are no excuses. The time for action is now. The voices of the innocent cry out. We have a message for Planned Parenthood, and we call on all leaders to join us in proclaiming it: No rhetoric, no lies, no fancy terms, no backrooms and no freezers will drown out the cries of the murdered children. We have heard their cry, and we are their voice. Hear us loud and clear – it’s over!

[Join the hundreds of Iowans who have similarly called upon Branstad to defund Planned Parenthood by clicking here!](#)

Vander Plaats to speak at Simon Conway’s pro-life rally



There has never been a better moment for the defenders of life to unite together for the sake of the unborn.

[A series of investigative videos from the Center for Medical Progress](#) has exposed Planned Parenthood, the nation's largest abortion provider, and its woman-deceiving, horrific practice of butchering and selling baby body parts. Even their own officials admit there's "gold" for Planned Parenthood in the practice, and it's a "huge" part of Planned Parenthood's "bottom line."

Is this organization really something the taxpayers should be funding?

[**Click here to tell Gov. Terry Branstad Iowa needs to defund Planned Parenthood NOW!**](#)

On **Saturday, Aug. 15, from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon** on the Iowa State Capitol grounds, Bob Vander Plaats of The FAMIly LEADER will be joining several other prominent leaders at a unified rally for life, giving voice to the babies brutally ripped apart by Planned Parenthood.

Organized by Iowa Right to Life partnering with Simon Conway of WHO Radio 1040AM, the rally is drawing together supporters from several groups across the state and swelling into an event of monumental proportions. Invited speakers include not only Vander Plaats, but *all* presidential candidates from both

parties, as well as Iowa's leading elected representatives.

Gov. Branstad, Vander Plaats, and former U.S. Sen. Rick Santorum are among those who have already confirmed to speak.

But this isn't about the names, politicians, or leaders. It's about you. And it's about the babies.

"Now is the time for people all across Iowa to unite in the defense of life and come to this rally," Vander Plaats said. "Let's encourage one another to be faithful, encourage Gov. Branstad to follow Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal's example in defunding Planned Parenthood, and encourage America to take a stand for the defenseless and just plain human decency.

"This is a moment in history," he continued. "You want to be able to tell your children and grandchildren you were there, you took a stand, and you refused to be silent!"

When: Aug. 15, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Where: Iowa Capitol grounds, Grand Ave. and E. 12th Street, Des Moines, Iowa

How much: No cost

Why: Because human decency demands it.

Demand Terry Branstad keep his promise to defund Planned Parenthood

In 2010, when he was running for governor, Terry Branstad told Iowans that if elected, he would stop taxpayer funding for Planned Parenthood.

During the gubernatorial debate, when Kathie Obradovich of the Des Moines Register asked Branstad to name a state-funded program he would cut, Branstad told Iowa voters, “Certainly funding for groups like Planned Parenthood that are using tax monies and they are involved in promoting abortion – although the money they get from the state may not be used for abortions – I don’t think the state should be funding that.”

Five years later, Iowa voters are still waiting for Branstad to do what he said.

Contact Gov. Branstad now and tell him we’re done waiting. **The time for him to act is now.**

[Click here to demand Branstad immediately act to defund Planned Parenthood.](#)

Take action NOW on Planned Parenthood

Now is YOUR time to stop the slaughter of babies. We need to act now.