

The Influencer Monthly



Here's to a Salty Election Season

Mario Diaz
COO and General Counsel

As Christians, we engage in the public square because we believe the Scriptures. We believe with Benjamin Franklin that "God governs in the affairs of

men," and that, as Jesus told us, not one sparrow falls to the ground apart from the Father (see Matthew 10:29).

Therefore, we pray for those in authority because we heed the call of Paul in 1 Timothy 2. In Jeremiah 29:7, God told His people through the prophet to "seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare." It is God's sovereign choice that we should be engaging precisely in the state and town in which we find ourselves.

Remember the power of words and arguments of Proverbs 11:11, which says, "By the blessing of the upright a city is exalted, but by the mouth of the wicked it is overthrown." Our words are a powerful spiritual ally in this endeavor.

But our attitude matters just as much. So I want to encourage you to be salt and light as you advocate for our righteous causes. Leave the doom and gloom behind. Social media has become a deep problem in this regard. Discard it if you must. Better yet, be salt and light there, too. We have hope, as Christians. We know He Who is hope!

Recall that when Jesus called us salt and light, He said if we lose our saltiness, we will "no longer be good for anything" (Matthew 5:13-16).

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SEPTEMBER 2026

A publication prepared exclusively for CWA leaders, members, and friends dedicated to impacting the culture for Christ through both prayer and action.

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So, here is the guiding principle I want to encourage you to apply as you engage this midterm season. Do it all to the glory of God. As 1 Corinthians 10:31 says, "Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." Ask yourself, as you hold a voter drive, speak with family and friends about voting, or meet with your church group to encourage them to register and vote: Am I engaging in a way that brings glory to God?

Staying silent in the face of evil does not bring Him glory. He calls us to speak for those who can't speak for themselves. But we also must be humble and graceful in our approach, even as we engage others who reject us outright, if we are to bring Him glory.

With the glory of God as our North Star, there is no limit to the impact we can have in each of our communities!

The CWA staff is praying for you. Pray for each other, too. And stay salty!



On the Hill

PreAugust Recess Senate Developments

There is nothing that motivates the Senate to get work done like the smell of jet fumes. The last few days before August recess were a true whirlwind as Congress attempted to push legislation through before members left town for a month.

One unfortunate piece of legislation that passed was a delay on the hemp ban that Congress voted in favor of last November. The hemp industry produces intoxicating THC-laced snacks and drinks targeted specifically at kids and young adults. Congress knows this; that's why they already approved significantly regulating it.



Maggie McKneely
Director of
Government Relations

**Did you miss the
AUGUST WEBINAR?**

Listen here.

★ **SHE PRAYS**
★ *She Votes*

Special guests CWA COO and General Counsel Mario Diaz, CWA Executive Vice President Annabelle Rutledge, and CWA State Legislative Strategist Macy Petty Charles reveal the critical issues in the upcoming midterm elections and how your work as CWA grassroots leaders can make a difference in the outcomes.

This webinar is produced exclusively for
grassroots leaders ...

**Ordinary women doing
EXTRAordinary things**



However, language was added into the must-pass government funding bill at the last minute to prevent the ban from going into effect until

There is **no** webinar in September.

The NEXT Ordinary Women
Doing Extraordinary Things webinar is
Wednesday, October 21 at 3:30 EDT.

Registration will be available in the
October Influencer Monthly.

December. Sen. Ted Budd (R-North Carolina) introduced an amendment to strip the language from the funding bill, and CWALAC and allied organizations encouraged members to support that amendment. Hemp is a bipartisan issue, but ultimately this bill did not get a vote, and the funding bill passed with the ban delay still intact.

We did, however, get a small victory before recess. The Protect College Sports Act is Sen. Ted Cruz's (R-Texas) solution to the raging problems within college sports. The problem is that the bill contains unclear language and could be interpreted as undermining the 27 states with laws protecting women's sports. We, alongside Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF), have been pushing for a fix since the bill was introduced but without success thus far.

When the Senate announced that they would try to pass the bill before recess, our efforts went into overdrive. Before the end of the week, major figures, from Riley Gaines to Sage Steele, publicly warned that this bill could threaten protections for female athletes if it is not fixed. Sens. Josh Hawley (R-Missouri), Tommy Tuberville (R-Alabama), and Jim Banks (R-Indiana) introduced an amendment to fix the bill, further highlighting the issue for their colleagues. Partly because of that concern, the Senate ultimately did not vote on the bill, delaying it until September. It did not get fixed before the August recess, but by delaying the vote, we gained valuable time to continue working with senators on this bill. Congress cannot fix college sports at the expense of female athletes.

PRAYER

Please pray that Congress would have the moral clarity to stand against a Hemp industry that brings harm to American kids, and to fix college sports by defining male and female based upon biological truth, protecting women's sports once and for all.

ACTION

Stay engaged in the Girl's Sports Issue at a local, state, and national level. Make sure your voice is heard at school board meetings, state committee meetings, and by emailing your elected officials.



September Chapter Tips

Plan a watch party for one of the **Ordinary Women Doing Extraordinary Things** webinar episodes. Use the links below.

- [IS IT THE END OF FAMILY FRIENDLY PROGRAMMING?](#)
- [GENDER IDEOLOGY AND HOW IT CHALLENGES PARENTAL RIGHTS](#)
- [ISLAM IN AMERICA](#)
- [BREAKING IT DOWN: 2026 SCOTUS DECISIONS](#)
- [ENDING ABORTION WITH TRUTH AND LOVE](#)
- [FAIR PLAY IN GIRLS' SPORTS](#)



CHAPTER *highlight*



Prayer/Action Chapter Leader Jan Koskey faithfully leads the **Albuquerque Prayer/Action Chapter** bringing women together monthly for prayer, fellowship, and action.



Penny and U.S. Attorney General Todd Blanche. CWA played a significant role in his confirmation.

Here is CWA's
LETTER OF SUPPORT.

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

—Colossians 3:1

AUGUST 3 [The Blaze](#) quoted CEO and President Penny Nance in its story about the WNBA, "Pressure mounts against WNBA to adopt 'biological women'—only policy: 'Women's sports are for women'"

AUGUST 3 [Fox 5](#) featured Legislative Strategist Hannah Lape to discuss the [CWA poll](#) that shows major support for women's issues.

AUGUST 4 [Fox News](#) quoted Penny reacting to Sophie Cunningham's support for fairness in women's sports and why the WNBA should clarify its policies on biological women in the league.

AUGUST 5 Penny's op-ed, "After Sophie Cunningham Speaks Up For Girls, The WNBA Speaks Up For Delusion," was published at [The Daily Wire](#).

AUGUST 6 Hannah tackled Christians' use of social media in a new column, "6 questions Christians must ask before posting online," published by [The Christian Post](#).

August 11 State Legislative Strategist Macy Petty Charles revealed how women's protections are at risk due to a birth certificate loophole in a [Townhall](#) op-ed.

AUGUST 11 Macy talked to [Newsmax](#) about the WNBA.

AUGUST 11 CWA Legislative Intern Sarai McCullough wrote about why Christians should consider adopting frozen embryos. She shares the story of Hannah Stregge, who was an adopted frozen embryo, in a piece for [The Christian Post](#).

AUGUST 12 Senior Advisor on Culture and Media Melissa Henson wrote about the importance of the Kids Online Safety Act in a [Washington Examiner](#) op-ed, "Big Tech spent \$40 million to convince you saving kids is 'censorship.'"

AUGUST 17 Hannah wrote a column, "Biden's Instagram-to-doorstep abortions are still happening," published at the [Washington Examiner](#).

AUGUST 18 Macy told [The Washington Stand](#) that the WNBA enabled an attack on free speech when a mother and daughter attending a WNBA game were asked to cover their XX-XY Athletics shirts.

AUGUST 21 [Decision Magazine](#) featured an interview with Penny about the midterm elections.

AUGUST 27 [The Todd Starnes Show](#) featured Penny discussing the dangers of kids' online activity, Meta's efforts to protect them, and whether or not these efforts will help parents.





School-Based Health Centers

The Federally funded clinics Driving Secret Abortions and Gender Transitions

Hannah Lape, Legislative Strategist

Though little known and little discussed, School-Based Health Centers (SBHCs) across the country are pushing sex-rejecting ideology and abortion activism onto school children behind the backs of their parents.

Before the end of 2026, Congress is working to reauthorize \$55 million in federal funding for SBHCs across the country. The first SBHC opened in 1967 in Cambridge, Massachusetts, in an early effort to provide students with “[contraceptives and family planning](#).” Since its genesis in 1979, Concerned Women for America (CWA) has fought many battles with SBHCs over parental rights and abortion referrals. CWA records note that early SBHCs distributed birth control, Norplant, and condoms to students without parental consent or knowledge, and some transported students from schools to abortion clinics and back. As of 2024, there are [4,446 SBHCs in the United States](#).

SBHC workers—doctors, nurses, and mental health counselors—are third-party contractors and organizations, not school staff. Given this third-party structure and SBHCs’ historic “contraceptive” mission, organizations like the School-Based Health Alliance, Planned Parenthood, and Reproduction for All (formerly NARAL Pro-Choice America) have hijacked SBHCs to facilitate school-to-abortion and school-to-sex-rejecting procedures pipelines without parental knowledge or consent.



SBHC's on [Woke Wednesday](#).

PRAYER

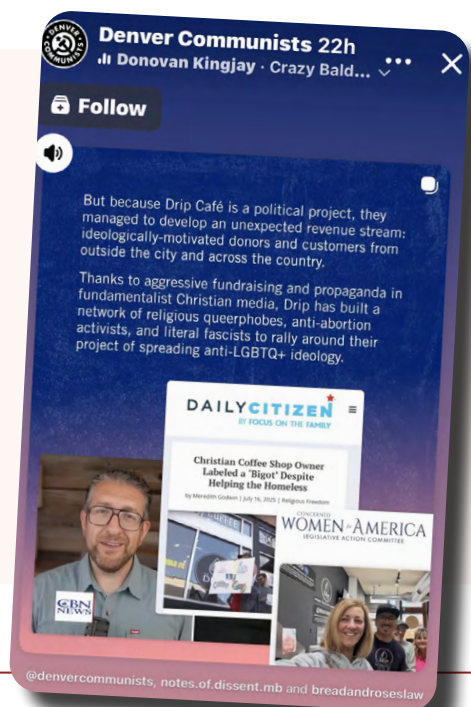
Pray for federal lawmakers to be aware and to support the authority of parents when making decisions about SBHC services to students.

ACTION

PARENTS/GUARDIANS: Be alert to all school forms that require a signature. Make sure you are not signing consent for medical care without your knowledge.

STANDING *strong*

CWA has the right enemies. **CWA of Colorado** made the news recently on the Denver Communists’ Instagram page! Pictured are **Joanna Stewart**, **CWA of Colorado’s Legislative Liaison**, and members at The Drip Café. You may remember when **CBN** reported how **CWA of Colorado** was the first organization to rally around The Drip after the Christian coffee shop came under fire for its owner’s Biblical stance on marriage. The owner also founded Recycle God’s Love, a ministry committed to Biblical principles and serving Denver’s homeless community. **CWA of Colorado** stood with The Drip then—and they’re still standing strong today!



2027

I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority...

— 1 Timothy 2:1-2

At the heart of the **Encourage-A-Legislator Program (EAL)** is a simple but powerful Biblical principle:

God calls His people to pray for those in authority.

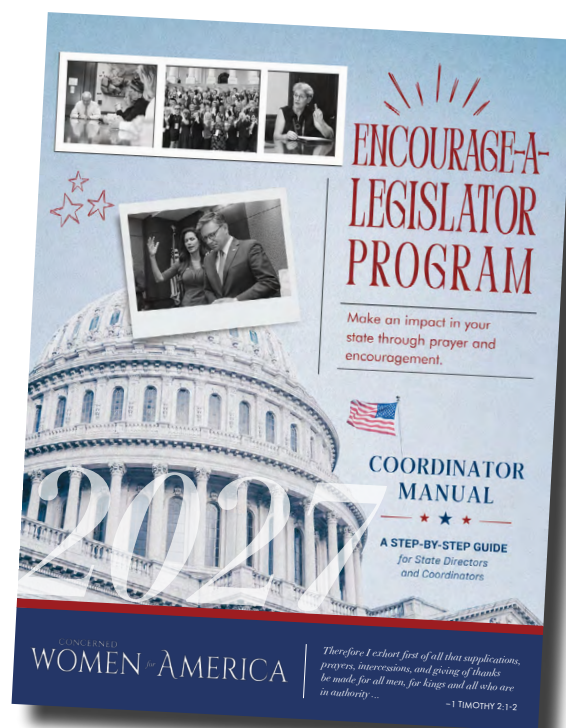
Through EAL, volunteers are paired with state legislators and commit to praying faithfully for them and sending handwritten postcards of encouragement throughout the legislative session. These simple acts of prayer and kindness encourage legislators as they carry the weight and responsibility of public office.

Get involved today!

CONTACT: Nickie McCarty,

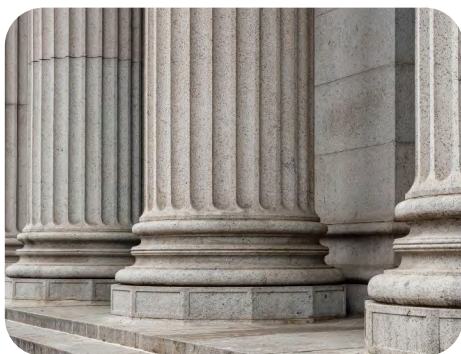
National EAL Coordinator and Field Engagement Specialist

nmccarty@cwfa.org | 575-770-7838



Did you catch that?

STAY INFORMED by checking the concernedwomen.org website often and reading the weekly national updates that hit your in-box every week. But, in case you missed it ...

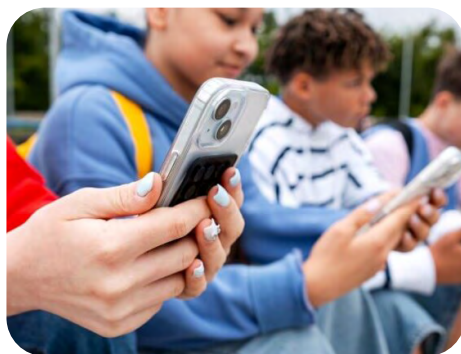


A New Trail for the "Right to Abortion"

A District Judge Sets a Bad Precedent for Bad Medicine

A federal district judge ruled Idaho's pre-born protections unconstitutional, holding that "the right to a health-preserving abortion" is protected by the Due Process Clause.

[Read the story.](#)



Kids' Safety Online

Meta and TikTok Settlements Must Compel Congress to Act

The \$17 billion Meta settlement will help protect kids online, but called on Congress to pass the Kids Online Safety Act and the App Store Accountability Act to ensure that all tech platforms are held accountable.

[Read the story.](#)



HHS Bombshell

Medical Field's Child Gender Transition Push and Profit

New Report alleges that inaccurate billing codes have been used by hospitals, clinics, doctors, and Planned Parenthood to collect lucrative insurance payments for sex rejecting drugs and surgeries on minors, including in states that have banned these practices.

[Read the story.](#)

For the Sake of the Gospel

Training YWA Leaders to Keep Christ at the Center



Faith Ozenbaugh

National Director
Young Women for America

Our founder, Mrs. Beverly LaHaye, once profoundly said, “God did not call me to win; He called me to fight, and I just have to be faithful to what He called me to do.” I can’t think of a better way to encapsulate the heart of Concerned Women for America (CWA) than these very words. As issues evolve, strategies shift, and opportunities change, our foundation remains the same—

obedience to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

This is what motivates us to engage unceasingly in the darkness, advocating for change, while also remembering the individuals involved in every policy issue, with real stories, hearts, and souls that need to be saved. We train our Young Women for America (YWA) leaders to advocate with this Biblical pairing— both passion and compassion.

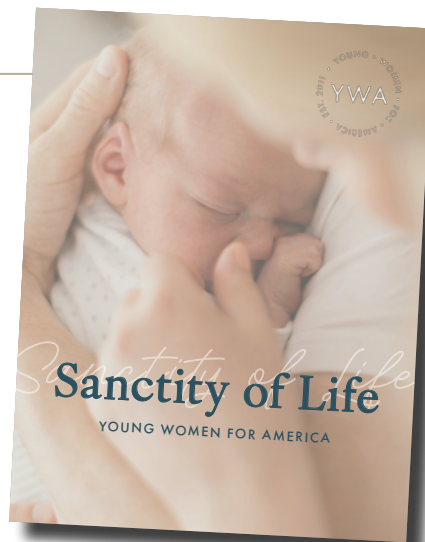
Since *Roe v. Wade* was enacted into law, the fight for life has taken many forms. In recent years, a group calling itself “the abolitionist movement” has sought its place, often questioning the motives of other longstanding, passionate, and effective pro-life organizations. While our goal remains the same, the end of abortion, our strategy and the heart behind it differ. YWA leaders have found themselves in conversations with fellow believers who claim their faith demands only one engagement strategy, implying anyone who dissents is not sincere.

While frustrating, we believe sitting in the weeds of dissent distracts us from the life-saving work God has set before us. Therefore, we press on, equipping our young leaders to engage in conversations with those of various convictions with clarity and confidence. Our new Sanctity of Life booklet does just that. This quote from the conclusion drives home this point:

“The fight for life will always lie at the intersection of justice and compassion. Is this same pairing not also reflected in the heart of our God? Isaiah 30:18 says,

‘Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you; therefore He will rise to show you compassion. For the LORD is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait on Him!’

“... God is just. Not only is He just, He loves justice (Psalm 37:28). Righteousness is at the core of His love. We, too, should love what is good and work unceasingly to that end ... While God is just, He is also overflowing with compassion. Isaiah tells us He longs to be gracious. There is right punishment for our sin, but it is not God’s desire that we should be defeated by sin ... Let us demonstrate the same compassion and love to those who have made the wrong but forgivable choice to abort their unborn child.”



Our resources not only train leaders spiritually, but provide well-researched, practical information to engage the life issue in today’s culture.

Interested in a copy of your own?

You can receive this valuable resource by [making a donation](#) today!

PRAYER

Pray for God to use this new resource in YWA Chapters across the nation to develop bold, compassionate, unashamed leaders who support life from conception to natural death.

ACTION

Utilize this beautiful new resource and plan a book study using the new Sanctity of Life booklet with a group of women in your network.



Listen to California Prayer/Action Chapter Leader Annegret Ingram’s [powerful testimony](#) of abortion, forgiveness and healing.

#LIFEWINS

2024



2026



INVESTING IN LEADERSHIP

Training and Equipping Grassroots Leaders

The CWA of Virginia Leadership Team and guests recently came together for a day of worship, praise, testimony, legislative updates, words of encouragement and challenge. "We returned home with our cups full to running over, ready to continue in the spiritual battle at hand and more than ready to bring truth to the public square." –State Director Teresa Pregnall



LEADER *highlights*



▲ **CWA OF NEW MEXICO**
State Director **Nickie McCarty** (left) and New Mexico state leaders attended Calvary Chapel Rio Grande Valley's Southwest Women's Conference to share the CWA mission and vision.

► **CWA OF KENTUCKY**
The Northern Kentucky Prayer/Action Chapter celebrated one year in August!



▲ **CWA OF VIRGINIA AND CWA OF THE DISTRICT**
Three Prayer/Action Chapters came together for "Coffee and Conversation" at the National Headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia! Virginia's Arlington and Alexandria Chapters, and the District of Columbia Chapter were joined by **CWA of Virginia State Director Teresa Pregnall** (middle-red dress and white jacket), and **CWA of the District of Columbia District Director Abi-Ananiah Prudent** (2nd from left).