

Why Be a Church Liaison with Your Local PRC?

*Adapted from an article by CJ Payne
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1. Members of your church experience unplanned pregnancies – 18% of women having abortions state that they are born again believers in Jesus Christ. The services of your local pregnancy resource center (PRC) literally save the lives of the children of families in your church and provide life-affirming alternatives to abortion to women and men sitting in your pews each Sunday.
2. Church members are often afraid to discuss their past abortions due to fear of being judged or discussed. They need a safe place to come and participate in a post-abortion healing program with staff trained in the trauma of post-abortion regret. This enables them to heal and to better serve Him in the local church.
3. Churches have members who need to learn how to share their faith with people who need to know God. Your local PRC has training to train and equip their counselors to share their faith. Each day, people walk through the doors of your local PRC who need to know Jesus – it's part of the mission field in your community.
4. The local PRC encourages those they counsel that it is important to attend a local church to continue their spiritual growth and strengthen their commitment to continue to make good decisions about life-style changes. By partnering with the PRC, you are opening a door to those in your local community who want to grow in Christ.
5. The local PRC teaches clients about the importance of marriage and the local church has resources that will help them build strong marriages and families. Your church has people who can be marriage mentors to young couples seeking to build a strong marriage.
6. Although PRCs do not function as adoption agencies, they present the option of adoption to their clients. Adoptive families in your church may have a PRC to thank for the adoption education that empowered a woman to choose life for her child.
7. Many PRCs have parenting programs that encourage healthy parenting, which is also a goal of the local church. Your church has moms and dads who can mentor young families in baby and child care and teach healthy parenting skills they may not have received themselves. Your children's department has activities and programs to nurture and disciple the children of women who are seeking help from the PRC.
8. The local PRC comes into contact on a regular basis with young women who need practical help, such as baby and maternity clothing, car seats, cribs, diapers and formula. Your church can put feet to its pro-life commitment by helping to provide these on a regular basis by hosting baby showers for new and gently-used items. Your church could offer to provide space and volunteers to open a "Baby & Me Boutique" in your church facility and have PRCs refer women to you for help. This is an excellent, practical ministry for everyone from young people to senior citizens in your church to work together to offer services that reach out in love to your community.
9. Many PRCs have a very active abstinence education program that they present in local schools and to church youth groups. Young people in your church have an opportunity to hear about the value of sexual abstinence as part of their Sex Ed program in their local school that reinforces what they are taught at home and church and could be saved the heartbreak of an unexpected pregnancy and sexually transmitted infection.
10. The local PRC teaches the body of Christ from many different denominations to work together to accomplish His work for the kingdom and helps to break down the walls of separation between our local churches, truly showing love in action to your local community.

To locate a Pregnancy Resource Center in your community, look under "Abortion Alternatives" in the Yellow Pages of your phone book.

