

Knights of Columbus NC Life Activities

What does the Special Olympics want most from us...beyond donations? (Chairman Bob Macaluso at specialolympics@kofcnc.org)

1. **KofC 4th Degree Honor Guard** at special events, especially all State Games and County Games. Our patriotism is unique for the Athletes.
2. **Coaches:** 14 years old or older; 18 years old or older for certification. Significant training based on the event:
3. **Volunteers:** Needed for many if not all events, There is a signup for the events that's easy to do for the major programs such as the NC Fall games, coming up in a few months. Here are some upcoming state events (www.SONC.net).
4. **Local:** (City or County) events are typically coordinated through the County Recreation and Parks Department. Contacts for each county are on the SONC website. <https://sonc.net/local-programs/>
5. **Participate:** Truck Convoy in Charlotte—August 16th
Over the Edge rappelling in Raleigh—September 27th

You receive much more than you give when you spend time with “the least amongst our brethren!”

Silver Rose was very successful this year with 17 councils receiving it, the largest ever) (Chairman Tim Hall at thallfritz4@gmail.com)

1. Focused on the eastern part of NC this year which had been difficult to schedule in previous years.
2. 2026 plans (assuming we receive the SR) is for western NC to have priority.

Room at the Inn (RATI) Promise Campaign (Chairman John Killela at john.killela@gmail.com)...**ASAP qualified.**

1. RATI is not just a regional maternity home; they have taken women in from Waynesville across the state to the outer banks, all are homeless women.
2. Provides a new \$9.3 Million center in Kernersville for regional parent training, counseling, child-care, client transportation, intern housing, as well as on-line training, counseling and referrals across the state.
3. **NC KofC Target of \$35,000 for the year, where we have thus far raised approximately \$13,000.** Councils leading the drive are: Holy Family, Council #7547 with \$2,770, St. Michael, St. Andrew, St. Mother Therese Council #6650 with \$2,590, and St. Mary Magdalene Council #7186 with \$1,178. **We need your help!**
4. Endorsed by both the Diocese of Raleigh and Charlotte, and our State Deputy, Sergio, in a recent video being sent to all GK's via email. Let Brother John know if your GK's or FS's have not received it.

An Adoption Option: Moses' Basket (Chairman John Krumpas at john.krumpas@gmail.com)

1. At last year's NC State Convention, we announced our program to support Baby Boxes through NC as has been done in about 20 other states, with Knights in Indiana taking the lead. This allows a young mother, not wanting abortion but not able to keep her infant, from abandoning her child in a bathroom, dumpster or on a door step.
2. **An amendment has been passed by the NC House but was placed "on hold" with the NC Senate.** Brother John Krumpas, with Brother Rick Lewis, has led the lobbying effort for this bill with the assistance of the NC Values Coalition. **Thank you for your assistance this winter through our mailing campaign!**
3. **This amendment was not passed this session due to the concern around personnel available 24/7 "on site"**. There will likely be some tweaks to the law and some further legislator education next year to try to get passage. Changes to include broader allowance for who rescues the infant from the box, 24X7 coverage but not necessarily "on-site", and the organization to audit individual baby box locations.

ASAP Initiative update (Chairman Mark Furphy at furph22@gmail.com)

1. **From July, 2024 through May, 2025, we have contributed \$58,100 (including Pass the Hat) establishing NC at 27th in total dollars amongst all states and Canadian provinces.** We are anticipating a continuation of the ASAP campaign through 2025-26.
2. We will be promoting our **ASAP State Council Pro-Life Restricted Fund this new fraternal year to assist NC pregnancy centers and maternity homes in most need of funds.** This fund is targeted to our individual Knights who want to make a tax-free donation from their IRA, particularly those with a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD), being over 72 years young.

March for Life (Chairman Tim Will at twill1948@gmail.com)

1. The Raleigh March for Life in 2026 is planned to NOT coincide/conflict with our State Convention (as it has the last two years). This is our unofficial state March for Life. As the prime option to going to Washington DC for the National March, we are recommending the Raleigh March sponsored by the NC Right to Life organization.
2. Plans are underway to establish a Belmont Abbey March for Life with proceeds for MiraVia. Stay tuned...
3. Our Tryon March for Life was held on June 21st.
4. Our Forest City March for Life will be in September.
- 5.
6. As a GK or DD, **please consider teaming up with your local Pregnancy Center to sponsor a local March for Life...**contact Tim Will above for assistance.

Novena for Life (Chairman Albert Hodges at aohodges@gmail.com)

1. This past January, we provided information for NC councils to advertise and promote the USCCB Novena for Life, and for councils, members and families to pray together in a Zoom call through the 9 Novena nights. We are planning the same in January, 2026.

Christian Persecution (Chairman Walter Zabicki at wtzabicki@gmail.com)

1. **US persecution of churches, pro-life sympathizers and religious organizations has subsided in 2025**, particularly due to the new federal administration policies and DOJ adjustments. We are encouraged by the assignment of Bishop Barron and Cardinal Dolan to the serve on the new US Religious Liberty Commission.
2. **Christian persecution around the world continues to grow** with North Korea, Nigeria, Somalia, and Yemen the worst offenders. Please pray for these martyrs and saints and contribute to Christian Refugee Relief through the KofC at Life programs (Christian Refugee Relief) at www.kofc.org.

Life Giving (Chairman Bill Drummey at bdrummey35@gmail.com)

1. Blood and organ donation continue to be a significant way that Knights can save lives. PSD Greg Kent received a kidney this last year from a live donor in Tampa, Florida. Greg continues to have some issues so keep him in your prayers. **Many of us may not choose to be a live donor but please consider being a donor upon death, indicated on your driver's license.**
2. Holding a blood drive within your parish provides help for many patients in the area: for cancer treatment, surgeries or accidents. And, as we now know, **giving blood benefits the donor, with improved chances against heart disease and certain cancers.** The American Red Cross, the Blood Connection, and hospital blood centers can assist.

Life Sustaining (Chairman...tbd)

1. A team coordinated by our IPSD and District Warden Chris Losack has recommended a new program area for Life, focused on stemming the growth of euthanasia, perhaps with a broader mission to care for the aged, especially the home-bound and institutionalized. Stay tuned for more information about this critical life program area. Let me know if you wish to be considered for the state Chairman responsibility.

In summary (Director Jim Venglarik at life@kofcnc.org)

1. **Life Programs 10784's were 100 in 2021, 200 in 2022, 300 in 2023 and 400 in 2024. Let's continue this strong growth and surpass 400 in 2025.**
2. **Life programs have historically been the least number of form 10784's of all. Faith, Family and Community are perhaps closer to our everyday lives, and hence, receive more interest. In these difficult times supporting Life, let's increase our emphasis to change our part of the world.**

