



### What IS 40 Days For Life?

- The coming together of persons of all faiths (or even no faith) for a 40 day peaceful vigil of prayer and fasting to end abortion.
- It is a nationwide campaign.
- It will occur simultaneously in 170 cities involving 45 states and Washington, D.C.
- In Wisconsin, there are chapters in Grand Chute (Appleton), Green Bay, La Crosse, Madison, and Milwaukee.
- It is peaceful, loving, prayerful and lawful.

### What ISN'T 40 Days for Life?

*It is not a protest. It is not a political demonstration. It is not violent. It is not confrontational. It is not threatening.*

### WHERE does it take Place?

*In Madison, the vigil will take place outside of Planned Parenthood on Madison's east side, located a few blocks north of East Washington Avenue just off Highway 51 (Stoughton Road) across from MATC. The address is:*

**Planned Parenthood – (North Stoughton Road Location)**  
3706 Orin Road  
Madison, WI 53704

### WHEN does it take place?

*From 6:00 PM on September 24, 2008 to 6:00 PM on November 2, 2008  
24 hours a day / 7 days a week - for a full 40 days.*

### I'm not as informed as I'd like to be – what does Planned Parenthood do anyway?

*According to their website Planned Parenthood health centers offer high-quality sexual and reproductive health care, including family planning, gynecological care, STI/STD testing and treatment, pregnancy testing, and abortion services.*

### If I were someone just driving by, what would I be likely to see?

*You would see two or more individuals in group or silent prayer or song, peacefully sitting, standing, kneeling, or walking along the public sidewalk outside Planned Parenthood. There would be no shouting, or protesting. It would be peaceful.*

*In addition, you would see some lawn chairs, a cooler with water, plastic bins for supplies, and candles for evening hours. Also you'd see a single sign which simply reads "40 Days for Life". You would see no anti-abortion signs or pictures.*

## **PART II: THE BASICS**

### **> Activities <**

#### **Must everyone present put in a “full shift”?**

*No. The word “shift” simply refers to a specific portion of time on any given day during the 40 day period. The duration can be variable – such as one hour, two hours, etc. We are planning to have at least two individuals commit to each specific time period throughout the 40 days so that every minute is covered.  
(Most people sign up for a shift lasting 1, 2, or 4 hours.)*

*Also, note that having at least two persons there at all times during the 40 day event is only a bare minimum. Others are encouraged to sign up for or drop by for any length of time they wish. We will simply refer to the time any person is present as their “Shift”, even if only for a few minutes.*

#### **Must everyone sign up ahead of time, or can someone just “drop by”?**

*You may just “drop by”. But if you know ahead of time, it would be helpful to have you sign up. We encourage everyone who drops by to put his or her name in the sign-in log.*

#### **What Activities may I do during my Shift?**

*-Pray, Sing, Read Scripture or other works, whatever you are comfortable with. You may invite but not necessarily expect others to join with you.*

*-You may listen to tapes or CD’s (preferably with headphones).*

#### **May I eat or drink during my shift?**

*-We will have a cooler with water. Since this vigil is based on fasting and prayer, it is preferable not to eat while doing a shift. Having said that, you may bring food and may eat during your scheduled time.*

#### **May I smoke during my shift?**

*-Try not to smoke during your shift.*

#### **May I bring a cooler with soda/snacks?**

*-If you feel you will need them to maintain your energy through your shift, bring soda/snacks.*

#### **May I bring a lawn chair? A blanket to sit on?**

*-We will have chairs at the Vigil Site for you to sit on. If you would like to bring your own, feel free to do so.*

### **Am I supposed to carry or hold anything?**

*-No. The decision was made not to use signs for the Madison Vigil. There will be candles you can hold during the night shifts. Of course, feel free to carry/hold prayer books, Rosaries, etc.*

### **May I bring my children along with me for a shift?**

*-Yes, please feel free to bring children; we will not be using graphic signs, so this should not be a problem. Please do watch your children while praying though, make sure they do not run out onto the street, or step on Planned Parenthood property.*

### **How old must a child be to be present without a parent?**

*-No set age, since children mature differently. It will be left to the discretion of the child's parent as to whether a child is old enough to be at the abortion center without parental supervision.*

## > Places <

### **Where can I park?**

*-There is parking along Orin Road and adjacent side streets near Planned Parenthood. Do not park in the Planned Parenthood parking lot. If you park between 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., make sure to move your car every two hours, since there is two hour parking.*

### **Where can I stand/walk/sit/kneel?**

*-You can stand, sit, walk, or kneel on either the sidewalk or the grassy area between the sidewalk and the street.*

### **Where should I NOT stand/walk/sit/kneel?**

*-Please avoid stepping on the grass between the sidewalk and the Planned Parenthood building. This is their property, and stepping on their property could create problems.*

### **Is there some sort of "Home Base" for people involved in this 40 Days for Life event?**

*-Yes, but this is simply the area where the chairs, supplies, and sign are located. You are welcome and encouraged to enter your name in the sign-in logbook if you are just dropping by. If you are there for a scheduled shift, please let the shift leader know who you are and sign in with your name and the time. The schedules, sign-in sheets and other important and interesting information are located in the ZIPPERED BLUE 3-Ring Binder. Feel free to check it out – just try to prevent pages from getting wet or torn if possible.*

### **Where are the nearest stores for food or drink or other supplies?**

*-Directly along Stoughton Road there is a PDQ Gas Station to the South. Also, a few more blocks south, there is a Walgreens at the junction of Stoughton Road and East Washington Avenue. Down East Washington is a Wendy's Restaurant (they support adoption)*

## > Logistics <

### **Should I check in with the Shift Leader when I arrive?**

*-Try to check in with the shift leader. There should be a small group out during most hours, so the shift leader should not be difficult to find – just ask.*

### **What If I need to arrive late, leave early, or have to cancel at the last minute?**

*-If you know several days or several hours ahead of time, contact Amy so we can make arrangements for a replacement. If you are running late while driving to the vigil site, call the cell phone which will be at the Vigil Site.*

***The on-site number is (608) 931-7658.***

*There will be people on call to come to the vigil at the last minute if someone cancels, though it could take up to 15-30 minutes for that person to arrive.*

### **Where is the on-site cell phone located?**

*-This phone is kept inside a zip lock bag that is inside the ZIPPERED BLUE 3-Ring Binder. You can't miss it – it says "Cell Phone" on the pocket. Please check missed call often.*

### **What if the on-site cell phone rings?**

*-Answer it! It might be Amy, or someone with last minute scheduling news, or....*

### **What if no one shows up for the next shift but I have to leave?**

*-Under no circumstances should the Vigil Site be without someone present, there must be at least one person there always. Use the cell phone at the Vigil Site to call the designated emergency number if your replacement does not show up. There will be people ready to come to the abortion center within a few minutes if someone doesn't show up. As a courtesy to others, try to never be late yourself.*

### **What if I need to use a rest room?**

*-You can drive to the nearby PDQ..*

### **What if it rains?**

*-Wear whatever rain gear you feel is appropriate. We will have extra umbrellas on site for people to use. You might want to bring your own umbrella if it is raining, especially if you have a nice big one. If the weather gets too dangerous (e.g. lightning) then keep vigil in your vehicle, parked as close to Planned Parenthood as possible.*

## > Leadership & Rules <

### **Who is “In Charge”?**

*-Amy Hying is the Madison Vigil Coordinator. She can be reached at (608) 698-3877. At the site, whoever is the shift leader can function as in charge if any problematic or procedural issues arise.*

### **What is a Shift Leader?**

*-Shift Leaders are someone from our 40 Days for Life team, or other people known to be peaceful & prayerful & non-confrontational. They take extended hour shifts, have additional Statements of Peace on hand, a first aid kit, info on post-abortive healing and pregnancy help centers, "set the example" for others who come to hold vigil by their prayerful presence, answer questions that might come up (like "where's the nearest bathroom?") and continue to maintain the 40 Days for Life's peaceful, prayerful and non-confrontational prayer vigil atmosphere.*

### **What is a Sidewalk Counselor?**

*-Someone who actively talks to women entering an abortion center and who provides women with information about abortion. We will not be using counselors for 40 Days for Life. However, if a 'sidewalk counselor' is present during your shift, do not feel as though you need to shun them. You can talk or pray with them, as long as they are not using offensive language (like saying "you are going to hell"), or using graphic signs, etc.*

### **What Rules must I follow?**

*-We ask you to sign our “Statement of Peace” which sets forth the “rules” of the Vigil.*

## > Interacting <

### **How am I expected to interact with others joining in the 40 Days for Life prayer vigil?**

*-Be polite and respectful. Invite them to pray with you.*

### **If several individuals are participating on my shift, are we supposed to be unified or to “do our own thing” individually?**

*-Try to find prayers acceptable to both/all of you. If this is not possible, it is okay to pray individually. Just maintain a spirit of prayer.*

### **How am I expected to interact with persons on my shift who are not of the same church or religion as me?**

*-Be respectful. Of course, no one is expected to do anything they believe is contrary to their religious beliefs. Try to find prayers everyone can agree upon. There is certainly nothing wrong, however, with silent prayer or individuals praying on their own.*

**How should I interact with strangers who may approach me? Or hecklers? Or persons who may be clients or employees of Planned Parenthood?**

*-Be charitable. Listen to them. Talk to them in a spirit of charity. Invite them to pray with you. If things get out of hand, simply back off, and have anyone witnessing the incident jot down what they observed for the record. Also, call the police if a heckler gets rough.*

**Am I expected to handout any information? Or to provide information to people who may ask?**

*-We will have resources available for people who are considering abortion and need help. We will have resources for people that have had an abortion and are in need of healing.*

**What happens if any local news media show up?**

*-The media will probably not show up, maybe just for the beginning of the Vigil. If they do, however, refer them to the Shift Leader. The shift leader should just speak honestly and from the heart, do not be concerned about saying the “wrong” thing, and just speak honestly. If the media ask questions you cannot answer for them or if you are uncomfortable speaking with the media, refer them to our communications director Laura, who can be reached at (608) 445-2064.*

> Troubleshooting <

**Will there be any “Supplies” of any kind available?**

*-Yes, these include a first aid kit, cell phone, bottled water, umbrellas, flashlights, candles, and prayer books. They are all to be responsibly used as needed. Don't be shy.*

**Are you sure this is all legal? Could I somehow get arrested for trespassing or disorderly conduct?**

*-Yes, this is legal. We have been in contact with the Madison Police. They are aware we will be out praying. Remember to stay on the sidewalk or terrace (grass between sidewalk and road)*

> Summary <

**Can you sum all this up in the fewest words?**

*-Sign-up/drop by, sign in, pray, fast, spread the word, hope, trust God.  
(...And answer the phone.)*

*Thank you for participating in Madison's 40 Days for Life!  
It is such a beautiful gift we are giving back to our Lord for the precious gift of our LIFE!*