## Life Programs Chairman's Message

As we begin another Columbian Year it seems at times that we are in an uphill endeavor within some of our Life Programs. As one of the four Faith in Action Programs, our Life Programs weave their threads throughout all of these Programs. This helps us to create an environment to affirm a Knight's devotion to being Pro-Life and Pro-Family. There are many substantive areas for your council and its Brother Knights to be involved in, from Activities that you can support individually or those at the council level, locally, regionally or state-wide.

**Featured Programs to especially target:** Aid and Support After Pregnancy (ASAP) which includes pregnancy center support, our Marches for Life, the Ultrasound program and Special Olympics. While attention is being directed to these featured programs, *don't neglect to also support the other life program areas*. You will find that your council brothers may have differing viewpoints on what set of programs they would like to support. Discuss the directions your council would like to go and then work to facilitate the full participation of your members. We have many Brother Knights in our California councils, so we should be able to see many of our program areas being supported and reported on.

## **Featured Programs**

**Pregnancy Center Support** provide the resources needed to protect the unborn to help women to choose life. Your aid doesn't stop there, the Center is there to support the new mother and her baby in those first critical years of life.

Marches for Life give us the opportunity to publicly show our affirmation in the protection of life. Special Olympics shows the worth and dignity of every single human being. Special Olympics programs not only build strength and character in the athletes and participants, it is a support system for the entire family. Take the opportunity to volunteer at a Special Olympics Event. Ultrasound Program and ASAP provide the tools to dramatically impact a change in expectant parents through the mother (and father) being able to see the growing life in the mother's womb. Don't only look at Centers who don't have an ultrasound. Ultrasounds do have a life span, so also aid Centers in the updating of these older machines. Once ultrasounds are in place, be aware of the need for continued support and maintenance plus using the ASAP program to enable this funding to go further.

And lastly, communicate with those of us in the State Family and especially with the Chairmen of each of the Life Activities areas with your ideas, offers of support and commitment to be involved. We are your resource, because together, we will again have a successful year of Life Activities.

https://www.californiaknights.org/culture-of-life/ Life Programs - Faith in Action | Knights of Columbus (kofc.org)

Dale Pittman Life Programs Chairman