



The Kansas Coalition for Life

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Kansas Knights Help Save Little Cooper's Life

By Debbie Baker

Kansas **Knights of Columbus** members, and other generous KCFL donors, have once again helped save the life of a beautiful child who was scheduled to be killed by abortion.

KCFL's 404th 'Documented Save' is little "**Cooper**," the beautiful baby pictured here, who was born about a month and a half early, on June 3, 2012, weighing 4 lbs. 6 oz. In spite of being early, Cooper, fresh from Heaven, is strong and in excellent health! He has a wonderful mother who loves him dearly, and he is almost five pounds already!

Cooper's mother, Heather, who lives in Wichita, is a wonderful, young, single lady. She is a kindhearted person who always wants to do the right thing for Cooper, who is her first child.

Heather went through many difficult days to bring Cooper into this world. Throughout her pregnancy, she had to fight one emotional battle after another, against those who wanted her to have an abortion. In fact, it was stress from the most recent such battle that caused little



Cooper to be born so early.

KCFL Director, Mark Gietzen, said, *"Until the day he was born, I was not sure that we would ever have the pleasure of celebrating Cooper's birth. In a recent similar case for example, KCFL spent a lot of time, money and legal resources in an attempt to help another young mother who also wanted to keep her baby. Unfortunately, that child sadly ended up being aborted (late term) at the Planned Parenthood facility in Overland Park. It was so sad and disappointing!"*

Gietzen added, *“When going against the wishes of immediate family members who demand an abortion, no one knows who will win... until the baby is actually born!”*

Most of KCFL’s documented ‘saves’ occur while intercepting a mother at an abortion facility, but some, like Heather, find KCFL via word-of-mouth, or the KCFL website.

Due to severe financial hardship, Cooper was scheduled to be aborted in December 2011, against Heather’s wishes. But her desperate phone call to KCFL made all the difference.

However, KCFL is only one link in this chain. The **Knights of Columbus** and other generous individuals made it possible for KCFL to help ease that financial crisis and to save Cooper’s life.

Gietzen, himself a member of Knights of Columbus Council-3677, is very pleased with the generous support from Knights all across Kansas. He said, *“I have never gone to a Knight’s Council with a request for help ...and come away empty-handed. Knights always say ‘Yes’ and my requests aren’t always for money!”*

Financial hardship is by far the most common reason for women of any age to seek an abortion. Sometimes an amazingly small amount of money in direct support, saves a life, but at other times, KCFL’s offer of financial help, intended as a ‘last resort,’ goes on for years and years.

When KCFL makes an offer to help a mother, the offer is good until that child turns 18 years old. However, most of the time, temporary financial help is all that’s needed.

KCFL is the only state-wide proLife organization, since 1992, that does regular on-site work at abortion facilities in Kansas, and is the only organization offering direct financial support to women considering an abortion. In addition to financial help, KCFL offers housing, transportation, legal services, and more; whatever will enable that mother to keep her child. Sometimes the friendship and emotional support offered by KCFL volunteers, is as important as the financial aid these mothers receive.

The unsung heroes are KCFL’s financial donors and volunteers who, without pay, give so much and get nothing in return... other than the satisfaction of knowing that their efforts and dollars are actually saving real lives!

Gietzen says, *“Without a doubt, the real champion in this case is Heather! I’m so proud of her, for being persistent in her love for her unborn child. I predict that Cooper will steal the hearts of everyone he*



meets and that his entire family will soon be very happy that he is alive and well... and able to enjoy this beautiful and amazing thing we call LIFE!”

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By the Numbers (as of June 2012):

KCFL Total Documented Saves: **404**
Mothers Required Direct Support: **56**
Current Mothers on Support as Needed: .. **16**
Current Mothers on Monthly Support: **2**