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My Fellow Catholics,

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The bishops of California are committed to walking with women, children and families to create a future of California that respects and values all people, born and unborn. In their [statement](#) released on January 22, 2022, the bishops pledged to empower CA Catholics to accompany vulnerable women, children and families by uniting our state's life-affirming resources and equipping our community with tools to connect those in need with life-saving help.

The state of California is positioning to become a sanctuary for abortion. The legislature is pushing through 17 abortion expansion bills, including millions of dollars in funding for marketing and advertising abortion, abortion clinic infrastructure, workforce investment for abortion facilities, and incentives for women both in and out of state to have abortions, including paying for travel, lodging, childcare, gas, meals, and lost wages. This frenzy is predicated by the likely overturn of *Roe v. Wade* by the Supreme Court in its *Dobbs* decision this June. If *Roe* is overturned, the Guttmacher Institute predicts an up to 3000% increase of women coming from out of state to California seeking abortions. We must act in unison to respond.

To fulfill their pledge, and respond to the expected increasing demand for abortion in California, the California Catholic Conference has engaged Options United (OU), a California registered 501(c)3 organization, to carry out a One Number, One Solution response. OU operates a state-wide call center and web platform that refers women to life-saving resources including pregnancy centers and clinics, maternity homes, and other local resources. OU has a fully staffed call center, online scheduling, an after-hour hotline service, and years of strong relationships with all 170 pregnancy centers in the state. Their call center offers a warm handoff for each caller to the resource that meets their needs including pregnancy services, housing, intimate partner violence, substance abuse, parenting classes and more.

I have successfully worked with Options United for close to 8 years, in my role at the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. I can attest to their professionalism and to the success of their model, which focuses on collective marketing that unites all of the life-affirming resources in CA and provides real-time solutions for women, children and families. The CCC is creating resources for parishes and schools, as well as public-facing advertising in the form of billboards, bus bench ads, radio ads and digital advertising, all using OU's One Number, One Solution (ONE) resource.

Know too that the California Knights of Columbus are directly involved in the ONE project. The Knights are known for their profound commitment to the unborn and to families. Their zeal and organizational skills are essential to the task ahead.

On behalf of the bishops of California, I ask that you prayerfully consider your role in this effort with Options United. Their communication and marketing strategy offers a united approach that will reach more women and families who will find life-affirming solutions at the clinics and centers.

This year is unlike any other in California. The deluge of abortion-expanding bills leaves little doubt that our elected officials see abortion as the future of California. Our Catholic community can change that reality. Under the leadership of our bishops, we can create a future that empowers women, welcomes all children, and supports every family in our state.

I would be happy to answer any questions you may have about Options United or the CA bishops' commitment to this life-affirming work. It is my prayer that we can be partners in this critical effort for the very soul of our beloved state.

Sincerely,



Kathleen Buckley Domingo
Executive Director