


DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN
Post Office Box F
Allentown, Pennsylvania 18105-1538
610-871-5200 Ext. 2204 • Fax 610-871-5211

Secretary for Youth Protection
& Catholic Human Services

Memorandum

TO: All Pastors, Administrators, Principals and Diocesan Staff

FROM: Pamela J. Russo, LSW, MSW, MS 
Secretary for Catholic Health and Human Services & Youth Protection

DATE: September 20, 2021

RE: Project Rachel/Rachel's Vineyard

Greetings!

Please read the attached letter from Carol Swavely, Coordinator of Project Rachel/Rachel's Vineyard in the Diocese of Allentown. Kindly share the information about this important ministry with your staffs, parishioners and anyone who may be interested.

Thank you for your assistance.

September 2021

Dear Friends in Christ,

Peace be with you! I want to introduce or re-introduce you to Project Rachel and Rachel's Vineyard Retreat Programs, which bless the Diocese of Allentown with the outpouring of the mercy of Our Lord. Project Rachel and Rachel's Vineyard provide counseling and/or a retreat weekend for women, men and family members who have suffered the loss of a child through abortion. It is also for those who were involved in performing abortions or who have encouraged or paid for an abortion (such as a spouse or parent).

Retreats take place at one of the Diocese of Allentown's approved sites, or in other dioceses throughout the United States and around the world. The retreat in the Diocese of Allentown is offered in English and Spanish. Retreats are confidential and foster an environment of spiritual healing to all who participate.

Project Rachel is a 10-week free post-abortive counseling program with a trained therapist sponsored by the Diocese of Allentown. Counseling is offered in English and Spanish. Both Project Rachel and Rachel's Vineyard are open to Catholics, Christians, and non-Christians alike.

The Diocese of Allentown's Leadership Team consists of myself, Sister Margaret Pavluchuck and Reverend George Winne. I have been involved with both Project Rachel as a therapist and Rachel's Vineyard as a facilitator and therapist for over twelve years. Both Sister Margaret and Father Winne have been involved for many years – Sister Margaret as our Bi-lingual Coordinator and Father as our Bi-lingual Spiritual Director and therapist.

I am so pleased to be associated with this beautiful ministry and ask that you help spread the word to your parishioners, or anyone who may be seeking healing from abortion. Brochures and contact cards are available at your request.

If you have any questions about Project Rachel or Rachel's Vineyard, I invite you to contact me at Catholic Charities, Diocese of Allentown main office – (610) 435-1541, ext. 373. You can also contact me through the Catholic Charities website at <https://www.allentowndiocese.org/catholic-charities/project-rachelrachel-s-vineyard>. Sister Margaret can be reached at 610-207-8612.

We look forward to working with you and thank you for your assistance in promoting our ministry!

God Bless You!

Peace and Grace,

Carol Swavely