



# RACHEL'S VINEYARD OF COLORADO

## **Strategic Plan for**

January 1, 2015 to January 1, 2016

## **Developed on**

December 5, 2014

## **Last Reviewed on:**

December 5, 2014

**Background:** Rachel's Vineyard of Colorado held its' first retreat in May, 2002. The organization became a 505(c)3 in August, 2004. Up until October, 2014 the entire organization was a volunteer organization. The need for our services has been growing, so order to expand our services, a ½ time, paid consultant, began serving the organization. With the hard work of some of the team members we are succeeding in becoming a streamlined organization with the ability to pass on the ministry for generations to come.

**Vision:** Our vision is to develop a "Culture of Life" where all human life is seen as precious. Over the years since 1973, there have been countless wonderful organizations that make efforts to save the lives of preborn children. Rachel's Vineyard's goal is to save the lives of women and men who subjected themselves to an abortion procedure whether one or 50 years ago and now want to heal from the regret. A part of them died with the loss of their unborn child and we want to be instrumental in bringing them back to life.

Currently we hold these retreats three times per year. We would like to increase the number of retreats per year so that no caller will have to wait more than one or two months to receive the much needed healing they are seeking.

We currently hold the retreats in a hotel. To increase the number of retreats would be made less complicated if we had a facility of our own. We foresee a small retreat-like facility with 22-24 beds, a large kitchen, a combination conference room and chapel, adequate parking. This facility could be used to hold follow-up programs to procure the continued growth people need after the Rachel's Vineyard program. It would not be called a "retreat center" but rather a "sanctuary", a holy place of refuge and healing. To help sustain the facility, we could rent it to other like-minded Christian organizations.

**Mission:** The mission of Rachel's Vineyard of Colorado, an affiliate of International Rachel's Vineyard, is to provide healing retreats for women and men who have been wounded by a past abortion. The scripturally based retreat, appropriate to all Christian faiths, provides psychological, emotional, and spiritual assistance in a non-political, non-judgmental and profoundly compassionate environment. Our goal is to work in conjunction with Catholic Christian and other Christian organizations who offer Post Abortion Healing programs.

**Values:** The organizational values of Rachel's Vineyard are many and deep. I will name but a few: First on the list is "**compassion**" – it is vital to serve from the position of a compassionate heart. People who call to inquire about our retreat are wounded and fragile and need to know that we are not going to judge them or wound them further. "**Flexibility & Teamwork**" are extremely important value s in our ministry. The staff members on our team are humble and willing to step up and serve in any capacity needed at any specific time. No job is considered beneath anyone. "**Inspiring**", "**loyal**", "**reliable**" are three more values solidly grounded in the volunteers who make this ministry the powerful organization that it is. "**Commitment to growth**" of the ministry and of the people who attend the retreats has become a sacred calling.

**Championing the Cause:** Because our ministry is necessary for the development of the "culture of life" we envision, let us consider it as "championing a cause" rather than "marketing our services". Our fundraising efforts will focus first and foremost on educating the public about the goodness of the men and women sitting in the pews next to us in church, shopping in the grocery stores and the parents of the children our children play with – and that they sorrowfully regret the abortion they had in their past. We want to compassionately welcome everyone to the healing process so they can become as St. John Paul II said: "the most eloquent defenders of everyone's right to life".