Nov. 6 election is CRITICAL for state, nation

Kentuckians can only do their part in the Commonwealth, but the new state/national trajectories will either be reversed or affirmed.

It is almost a cliché to suggest that the upcoming General Election is the “most important” in decades. Citizens hear that almost every election. But, this time, that phrase may be perfectly accurate. Our state and our nation are both in a very significant turn from their progressive, left-leaning trajectory of the last 30 to 35 years to a conservative, right-leaning trajectory. To accomplish that reversal in just two or three years would have been inchoptrollable to anyone analyzing policy in America and Kentucky in 2015. But . . . things have changed . . .

Consider the shift at the national level: President Trump was elected in 2016 and will have been in office almost two years when the Fall election takes place. Though there has been controversy, there is almost no one who would suggest that he has not gotten a great deal done – in spite of the incessant main stream media that hounds every move he makes. Certainly, the media did not hold President Obama to the same level of scrutiny with the same level of intensity and acrimony.

Yet, President Trump continues to move things forward: 1) Major tax cuts; 2) Massive reductions of government regulations; 3) One excellent U.S. Supreme Court appointment with another nominated; 4) Numerous constitutionalist appointments to the Court of Appeals and to District Courts (See page 4; 5) North Korea diplomacy; 6) Stock Market records; 7) Lowest reported unemployment for ALL sectors; 8) The President’s travel ban signed, then affirmed by the U.S. Supreme Court; 9) Jerusalem recognized as the capital of Israel; 10) Withdrawal from the Trans-Pacific Partnership; 11) Withdrawal from the Paris Climate Accords; 12) Significant degrading (or defeat) of ISIS; 13) Hard “Red Line” for Syria; etc.

Similarly, consider the shift on the state level since December 2015, when Gov. Bevin was inaugurated (and since November 2016 when the House flipped from a 54-46 Democrat Chamber to a 64-36 Republican Chamber and began its work in the January 2017 General Assembly): 1) Six significant pro-life bills were passed and signed into law in two years, after no new pro-life bills had been allowed on the House Floor for 10 years; 2) Major reform of adoption and foster care passed and signed into law; 3) Two significant religious liberty bills passed and signed into law; 4) The lowest unemployment rate in 43 years; 5) The initial steps of pro-growth tax reform that moved Kentucky from 33rd to 18th in the nation for the best environment for job creation; and 6) Classroom education spending was raised to it highest level while at the same time investing a record $3.4 billion in teacher and state worker pensions.

The question to be answered by the 2018 elections suggests that the American people are at a significant crossroad: Does Kentucky and the nation want to continue the current move toward conservative and traditional values or is the best path forward with progressive and more socialist principles?

Kentucky Candidate Information Survey
The website is up and ready for “business”

There is no other site that compares candidates side-by-side in their own words.

The KCIS Survey has State House, State Senate, Federal Congressional and Kentucky Judicial races listed. Not all candidates responded, . . . but a great many have!

Our task now is to activate OPERATION GERICHO and get as many people registered to vote and voting as we possibly can. (See story on page 6) When we all “Shout” together on Nov. 6 by voting for God’s values, Kentucky will be changed! In this way, the Body of Christ can “prophesy” with one voice, just as the nation’s Founders intended.

Please do your part getting people registered to vote and informed about “where the candidates stand” on issues that affect Kentucky families. Go to the KCIS website and “Like” and “Share” us on Facebook:

www.votekentucky.us    fb.me/VoteKentucky
Instant Racing Court Case: Still waiting . . . !

In April, the Judge said he would decide “in a few weeks”; It’s now September, the machines are still operating, and no decision.

It’s more than a little frustrating . . . We’ve labored for just over eight years in the court case to determine whether these historical racing gambling devices are legal. Our attorney, Stan Cave, has absorbed unfounded, sometimes bruising criticism from the gambling industry’s attorneys (at times 14 of them at once) and the machines are still operating even though they have never been declared legal.

The Family Foundation fully believes, based on Cave’s arguments in court, his research of over 100,000 documents, his selection of expert witnesses and his own insightful analysis, that these machines DO NOT depict pari-mutual wagering on horse racing as Kentucky law requires. If the court rules according to our understanding, these machines will be judged unlawful.

Yet, the machines keep taking money from Kentuckians (particularly the poor), and the proprietors of these devices pay almost no taxes compared to what other states assess “slot machine-type” games. States that allow casinos with slot machines that operate much like these “historical racing” machines, must pay 25 percent, 35 percent and sometimes 50 percent taxes on what they take from patrons.

Because these machines are supposed to be a “horse race,” and because the horse industry receives significant tax breaks from the Commonwealth, they are currently paying only 1.5 percent tax on the “handle” (monies wagered). But more than half of the tax is given back to the horse industry.

According to the Kentucky Horse Racing Commission’s bookkeeping, during this fiscal year, the operators have taken in over $50 million at the three tracks that currently offer “historical racing.” Yet only $3.3 million has been received by the state treasury.

Some are suggesting that the horse industry has let its will be known that it wants to operate these machines as long as they can, making as much as they can, in order to have money to lobby the General Assembly TO CHANGE THE LAW after the machines are found illegal in this court case later this Fall.

Whether that’s true or not, only a few would know.

Gambling’s Four Policy Truths

**Truth #1: The Family is targeted.** Clearly, gambling doesn’t create new wealth. It only makes wealth change hands. What hasn’t happened is an honest discussion that tells us from where all the gambling money comes: corporations can’t gamble, nor can businesses, institutions, schools, churches, nonprofits, clubs, nor civic groups – only Moms and Dads, and a few single people. In other words, all the BILLIONS of dollars that is gambled is just a shift of assets FROM the hands of the family INTO the hands of the gambling industry.

**Truth #2: Businesses will lose.** As families lose, businesses will lose. Think about it – after all the losses, parents can’t afford to take the family out to eat, buy their children new clothes for school, purchase a new refrigerator or finance a new addition to the house. Other businesses will suffer because money is TAKEN OUT of the economy. Remember, Las Vegas was built by losers – not winners. Expanded gambling will simply drain millions of dollars of wealth from Kentucky’s communities, and local economies will pay dearly.

**Truth #3: Government will be corrupted.** With millions going into the hands of the gambling industry, who will become the greatest contributor and most influential group in the political process? If our legislature is “gambling friendly” today, how much more “friendly” will it be in ten years when many of its members have received sizeable contributions from the gambling interests? Now, imagine that there’s a policy debate, like “Should we legalize prostitution?” (as was the case in Nevada). Nevada’s legislature, made up of Moms and Dads like Kentucky’s decided to legalize prostitution in order to embolden the gamblers’ “good times.” (Clearly, it wasn’t for “good jobs for women.”) If gambling interests want it, what will the legislature do? The answer: They will do the will of the gambling interests.

**Truth #4: The Vulnerable will be destroyed.** Though families are targeted (see #1 above), finances aren’t the worst of the costs to families. Financial loss is just the beginning of a tragedy that all the family members experience. There will be some people whose lives will be totally destroyed – marriage-damaging financial stress, alcoholism, drug use, child neglect and abuse, spouse neglect and abuse, divorce, depression, suicide, embezzlement, imprisonment and crime (both victim and perpetrator). And even worse, their children will lose their childhoods and be affected for a lifetime. Doctors have a policy regarding their treatment of any patient: First, do no harm. Policymakers in Frankfort would do well to apply this wisdom to the gambling expansion decision because vulnerable families will be destroyed.
Unborn Child Dismemberment Ban goes to court

House Bill 454, sponsored by Rep. Addia Wuchner, is one of the strongest bills in the nation that limits an abortion procedure.

With a trial date is set for Nov. 13-17, Gov. Bevin’s legal team finds itself once again facing off with the ACLU and Kentucky’s last remaining abortion clinic. The ACLU and abortionists are fighting for the right to perform a particular type of abortion procedure which the Bevin administration calls “the brutal and grotesque practice of live dismemberment.”

And once again, Kentucky Attorney General Andy Beshear is sitting out the defense of legislation enacted by the overwhelming bipartisan support of Kentucky’s General Assembly. He claims the law “does not confer upon the Attorney General the authority or duty to enforce the provisions as enacted.”

This particularly “brutal and grotesque” procedure would be banned by House Bill 454, which passed this March with overwhelming bipartisan support in both the Kentucky House (71-11) and Senate (75-13). It was signed into law by Bevin on April 10, taking effect immediately.

The ACLU and abortionists filed their legal challenge the next day, April 11.

The June 5 preliminary injunction hearing regarding the HB 454 was cancelled because the judge preferred a full-blown trial with all evidence presented. It’s Nov. 13-17 trial date undermined the efforts of the bill’s opponents to “slow-walk” the case through the court system.

Rather than completely outlawing dilation and evacuation procedures, which courts would be more likely to strike down, HB 454 requires physicians performing them on an unborn child of at least 11 weeks post-fertilization to first cause the unborn child’s death through a method other than ripping the live child apart.

In legal filings with the court, Bevin’s legal team has argued that “HB 454 reflects the judgment of the Commonwealth’s citizens that certain abortion practices are so barbaric and gruesome as to warrant their exclusion from a civilized society.”

In recognizing that “by the end of ten weeks, the unborn child has fingers, hands, arms, toes, feet, legs, eyelids, and ears—confirming that the unborn child is in fact a human being,” the General Assembly sought to “affirm the Commonwealth’s legitimate interests in protecting the life of the unborn throughout pregnancy and respecting the integrity and ethics of the medical profession, interests recognized by the United States Supreme Court.”

Kentuckians aren’t the only ones who think the barbaric and gruesome nature of this procedure warrants exclusion from a civilized society. Alabama, Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Texas, and West Virginia have all passed similar legislation.

Federal law already prohibits partial-birth abortion or “intact dilation and evacuation procedures,” which involve “extracting the fetus intact or largely intact and then piercing or crushing the living fetus’s skull.” That ban was upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court in 2007. Bevin’s team argues that the procedure banned by HB 454 “differs in form, but not substance.” They go on to write, “Piercing the skull of a living fetus is gruesome. So is tearing off or cutting its limbs, one by one, while it is alive.”

Bevin’s legal team appears to be prepared for a long legal battle, with their eyes on the U.S. Supreme Court. Their legal filing was filled with quotes from U.S. Supreme Court decisions and justices supporting Bevin’s position.

Excerpts from the Brief filed by Gov. Bevin’s legal team on May 8

“The doctor grips a fetal part with the forceps and pulls it back through the cervix and vagina, continuing to pull even after meeting resistance from the cervix. The friction causes the fetus to tear apart. For example, a leg might be ripped off the fetus as it is pulled through the cervix and out of the woman. The process of evacuating the fetus piece by piece continues until it has been completely removed. A doctor may make 10 to 15 passes with the forceps to evacuate the fetus in its entirety…. The U.S. Supreme Court’s description of the Dilation and Evacuation Procedure in Gonzales v. Carhart (2007) - page 3 of Brief

“When the doctor’s work is done, the doctor is left with ‘a tray full of pieces.’ ‘The fetus, in many cases, dies just as a human adult or child would: It bleeds to death as it is torn limb from limb,’ ….In one summary of the procedure, an abortionist described observing a fetal heartbeat via ultrasound even after the extensive removal of body parts.”

“Dismemberment abortion entails tearing a living, unborn child apart, limb by limb. Such treatment would be punishable as a crime were the subject an animal rather than an unborn human. Had the fetus been born, it would assume the protections of, among other protections, the Eighth Amendment, prohibiting ‘cruel and unusual punishment.’ Even in the death penalty context, under current jurisprudence, no court would ever approve of death by live dismemberment.”

- page 11 of Brief

“According to Justice Kennedy in Stenberg, ‘[s]tates also have an interest in forbidding medical procedures which… might cause the medical profession or society as a whole to become insensitive, even disdainful, to life, including life in the human fetus.’”

One hope is that the medical community will ‘find different and less shocking methods to abort the fetus in the second trimester’—a goal recognized in Gonzales.”

- page 11-12 of Brief

Examine the Platforms of both major Parties side-by-side.

Go to: www.votekentucky.us

To let others know, “Like” & “Share” us on Facebook: fb.me/VoteKentucky
Trump’s nomination of Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court

President Trump, who has already impacted the U.S. Supreme Court with his three appointees, now has the opportunity to shift it towards a more conservative majority. Justice Kennedy announced his retirement on June 27 effective July 31, making him the swing vote on a number of hot-button issues to come before the nine-member Court. In his 30-year tenure on the Court, Kennedy has been generally viewed as a middle-of-the-road jurist, often seen as a swing vote.

Kennedy is commonly referred to as the swing vote and was the deciding vote on a number of high-profile cases. In the Masterpiece Cakeshop case, for example, Justice Kennedy wrote a separate concurring opinion that allowed the Colorado Civil Rights Commission to continue investigating the case after the U.S. Supreme Court dismissed it on procedural grounds. His concurrence was also joined by Chief Justice John Roberts and Justice Elena Kagan, who were the majority in the case.

The retirement of Justice Kennedy creates an opportunity for President Trump to fill the vacancy with a more conservative justice. The vacancy has been filled in the past with nominees who have been confirmed by Congress, such as Robert Bork and Douglas Ginsburg.

The confirmation process for a Supreme Court justice typically takes several months and involves a series of Senate hearings and votes. Trump has already appointed three Supreme Court justices—Neil Gorsuch, Elena Kagan, and Brett Kavanaugh. Each of these justices has been confirmed by the Senate.

The confirmation process for Judge Kavanaugh is expected to begin on Sept. 4 and should last three to four days. The Senate Judiciary Committee will hold hearings on Kavanaugh’s nomination and then vote on whether to recommend him to the full Senate. The full Senate will then vote on whether to confirm him.

Justice Kennedy delivers his swan song in June at the end of the U.S. Supreme Court term

Justice Kennedy delivers his swan song in June at the end of the U.S. Supreme Court term. Kennedy’s final actions make it clear that, in his mind, government MAY NOT compel speech. In include a trio of cases, and powerful concurrence opinion, Kennedy takes his stand on the First Amendment and the Speech it protects.

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OPERATION JERICHO: Voices speaking out!!!

Being “salt and light” is about being diligent and not being afraid to let your voice be heard. Join us with “Operation Jericho.”

The history of the Biblically recorded battle of Jericho underscores that a miracle of tremendous importance and a number of dimensions took place, propelling the nation of Israel forward. Here are a few of the facts that are significant:

1) The victory at Jericho demonstrated that God would work on behalf of His people. The Israelites needed that assurance at this juncture of their journey.

2) The Jericho miracle set the stage for the Israelites to believe that they could, with God’s help, overcome these new peoples in their Promised Land – faith for the future.

3) It confirmed that Joshua was, in fact, the warrior/leader that Israel needed in this phase of their history.

But the “exercise” at Jericho did more than strengthen the Israelites’ confidence in the ways listed above; it also demonstrated that when they obey and stand together, they can defeat forces that are stronger and better fortified than they are. That fact may be the greatest takeaway for Kentucky at this time in its history.

How did Joshua get tens of thousands of “religious people” in his army to remain quiet and to obey all at once? The answer to that question is not found in Scripture, but it IS/WAS A MIRACLE! This aspect of the Jericho miracle is just as significant as the actual crumbling of the walls.

To apply that question to the 2018 election scenario, one must ask two questions:

First, “How can you get Kentucky’s 5,000 Biblically-oriented churches to work together to one end?” Secondly, “How do you get tens of thousands of individual believers to actually obey one plan/one vision?”

Two questions: First, “How can you get Kentucky’s 5,000 Biblically-oriented churches to work together to one end?” Secondly, “How do you get tens of thousands of individual believers to actually obey one plan/one vision?”

Tonya Moreland selected “KY Mother of the Year”

Wife of The Family Foundation policy analyst named “Kentucky Mother of the Year” and honored in Washington, D.C.

Tonya Moreland, wife of The Family Foundation policy analyst David Moreland, was recently honored as the 2018 Kentucky Mother of the Year. She received the acclaim from American Mothers, Inc., a national non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of mothers and children in the United States and around the world.

“I was honored to have a friend that thought highly enough of me to nominate me,” said Mrs. Moreland. “It is a blessing and privilege to have the opportunity to represent all Kentucky mothers at this year’s convention.” Moreland traveled to Washington D.C. in late April for the American Mothers’ national convention. While at the gathering, Moreland met with Kentucky’s senior senator, Mitch McConnell.

“Meeting with Sen. McConnell was the highlight of my time at the American Mothers’ ‘Mother of the Year Convention,’” Moreland said. “I was received by the Senator and his staff with wonderful southern hospitality. And, I was very pleased to hear of Sen. McConnell’s efforts to combat human trafficking and international parental child abduction, and look forward to hearing of further work to help such victims.”

“I appreciated the opportunity to personally congratulate Tonya for being honored as the Kentucky Mother of the Year,” said Majority Leader McConnell. “This recognition speaks to her love of family and community and her desire to teach others about service and self-respect.”

Moreland and her husband, David, have two daughters and live in Corbin, KY. In addition to homeschooling her children, Tonya is a published author of children’s books. She has designed her books to answer generational questions from a Biblical perspective and entitles the series the Seriously Sweet Series. The first two books of the series are When Am I Beautiful? and Who Will I Marry?

Tonya graduated from the University of Kentucky with a degree in special education and secured her Masters of elementary education from the University of the Cumberlands.

David Moreland, a graduate of the University of Kentucky, has served as a policy analyst for The Family Foundation since 2006. In addition to his policy work, he is pursuing his Masters of Divinity through Master’s Seminary, located in Sun Valley, CA. He holds a Masters in Pastoral Counseling from Asbury Seminary.

Tonya’s children’s books are described in detail and can be ordered at www.tonya-moreland.com
Sports betting: Another proposed boondoggle

One of the state lawmakers pushing a bill to legalize sports betting in Kentucky recently said: “The state, I believe, ought not to be involved in how I spend my entertainment dollars.” Of course, we already live in a state that authorizes and regulates (among other forms of entertainment) horse racing. Not only that but we have a state-run lottery.

The state is very much involved in how we “spend our entertainment dollars.”

I think he is wanting to strike a libertarian note, the one we always hear: if people want to gamble, the state shouldn’t get in the way. But somehow he managed to do the exact opposite.

The legislation now being discussed would seek to implement regulations on sports betting, and the state wants some of the proceeds. There is nothing less libertarian than that.

A recent U. S. Supreme Court decision leaves it up to states to decide whether they want to authorize sports betting. But it will require more than just changing current statutes, as these lawmakers are trying to do.

Why?

Because the kind of gambling that sports betting involves is not allowable under our state Constitution. Our Constitution allows only three kinds of gambling: pari-mutuel wagering on horse races, a state-sponsored lottery, and charitable gaming.

Sports betting does not fit under any of these categories. In order for anyone to legalize sports betting in Kentucky, lawmakers will have to amend the state’s Constitution. That will require the General Assembly to pass a bill in favor of sports betting, by a three-fifths majority in each chamber, which includes language to be placed on the ballot for Kentuckians to ratify—or not, as the case may be.

Again, simply passing a statutory bill will not work.

More importantly, sports gambling is not good policy. Not only would any gambling expansion increase problem gambling, but sports betting is even more problematic—it would further target the poor. Like the Lottery, which derives much of its revenue from people who can least afford it, it will take from the poor and give to the rich. It is the only case I know of where liberals support what amounts to a regressive tax.

We already know that the state lottery inordinately targets lower-income households. We also know from studies that these purchases are funded by reducing spending on food and mortgage payments.

We are already providing public school children free lunch and free breakfast (and now meals in the summer in some places) because they are not being fed at home and now we’re going to offer online sports betting as another temptation for these families to divert money from these essentials?

It is ALL about the MONEY!!!

There is also the corruptive aspect of state-sponsored gambling.

The advocates of sports betting claim they will “regulate” sports betting so that it will be operated properly. Sen. Julian Carroll (D-Frankfort) has already introduced his bill, BR 29, which will put sports betting under the authority of the Kentucky Horse Racing Commission.

This is an organization whose lawyer was able to go to work for the proprietors of historic racing games that the Commission regulates.

This is an organization whose executive director was heading the Commission one week and the very next week was representing a track in a permit application before the same Commission.

This is an organization whose consultants were being paid by the tracks it was supposed to be regulating.

If these things were going on in any other regulating body it would be a scandal.

Sports betting is not only unconstitutional, it would exacerbate the problems the Lottery has already introduced and could increase corruption. Surely there are other issues lawmakers should be spending their time on.

Martin Cothran is the senior policy analyst for The Family Foundation

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**The Kentucky Marriage Movement**

**Paris, Sept. 9, 23, 30 & Oct. 7**

*Love and Lordship Series* - Greg Williams
First Baptist Church
919 Pleasant Street, Paris, KY 40361

**Willisburg, Oct. 10 thru Dec. 5**

*Love and Lordship Series* - Greg Williams
Isaiah House
2084 Main Street, Willisburg, KY 40078

**Lexington, Sept. 23 & Oct. 21**

*Love and Lordship Series* - Greg Williams
Blackburn Correctional Facility
3111 Spurr Road, Lexington, KY 40511

**Winchester, Oct. 12-13**

*Love and Lordship Retreat* - Greg Williams
Calvary Christian Retreat (Bluegrass Christian Camp)
7463 Athens-Boonesboro Road, Lexington, KY 40509

For more information, call (859) 255-5400 or go to www.kentuckymarriage.org
The Kentucky Candidate Information Survey is now online.

Check out the **KCIS Survey**!

Not all candidates answered the Kentucky Candidate Information Survey. That’s their choice. But some have been very candid . . . which is what the average voter wants and needs. For instance, one judicial candidate stated this about the major influences in his life: “The Trinity. God my creator, Jesus my Savior, the Holy Spirit my strength.”

Regarding an abortion question, one state house candidate said, “. . . we must support free birth control to those wanting it,” while their opponent said, “I am pro-life and there should be more restrictions.”

Regarding school policies where boys use the girls’ restrooms and locker rooms, one state senate candidate simply said, “Boys should use boy’s restroom and girls should use girl’s restrooms.”

Candidates from your county may not have responded, but many have . . .

The Nov. 6 General Election is right around the corner and everyone will be needing reliable information as they consider their choices. What better place to get it than from the candidates’ own words?

The 2018 election cycle in Kentucky could be the most important in decades. At press time, the Survey had answers from 90 State House candidates, 19 State Senate candidates, 6 U.S. Congressional candidates and 19 state judicial candidates, including both candidates running for the open seat on the Kentucky Supreme Court!

For clarity, the Kentucky Candidate Information Survey is Kentucky’s only nonpartisan candidate information source that strictly quotes the candidates in their own words.

Here’s what YOU can do right **NOW**!

*Let’s not be slack in this important election season. If we each do a little, a whole lot will get done!*

There are several things that **YOU** can do to help during this critical election season. Consider these three steps of action:

**I.** Ask us for our voter registration “kit” to be mailed to you so you can make sure everyone in your church or Sunday School class is registered to vote. With over 5,000 Biblical churches in Kentucky, imagine if each church averaged registering just 10 voters. That’s 50,000 new voters! Note: **ALL** new registrations must be turned in to your County Clerk’s office by Oct. 9. Act soon. (See below right for contact information.)

**II.** Go to the Kentucky Candidate Information Survey website and encourage others to do the same. All you have to do is “Like” and “Share” it on Facebook so many more can get good information. Website and Facebook page are:

- **Website:** [www.votekentucky.us](http://www.votekentucky.us)
- **Facebook:** [fb.me/VoteKentucky](http://fb.me/VoteKentucky)

**III.** Email to us so we can keep you abreast of last minute details or significant developments as the election process unfolds. This is history in the making! Join with us and help make godly history by letting your voice, and the voice of others, be heard in Frankfort and in Washington. Plan to VOTE and let your “prophetic” voice be heard!

There is one last thing that you can do . . . Though the other three steps are most important, you can also help financially. For your information, it costs about $10 each year to get the bimonthly CITIZEN newsletters to your home. Efforts of The Foundation in Frankfort and projects around the state cost more – efforts like the I.) Voter Registration Project and the II.) Kentucky Candidate Information Survey. You can understand that we are very grateful to those who give above the bare minimum . . . but every gift helps!

With this CITIZEN we open up our Fall fundraising efforts. (A little early because of the extra projects.) Join with us if you can. We try to ask for funds only in the Spring and Fall because we know you are giving to many other worthy organizations and missions.

Thank you for your consideration and help.

**Website:** [www.votekentucky.us](http://www.votekentucky.us)

**Facebook:** [fb.me/VoteKentucky](http://fb.me/VoteKentucky)

**Email:** kent@kentuckyfamily.org

**Phone:** 859-255-5400

**Kindly make check out to:** “The Family Foundation”

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Lexington, KY 40591-1111

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