

Life Letter

May 2012

Our Services:

- 24 Hour Hot Line
- Free and Confidential Pregnancy Tests
- Ultrasound
- Peer Counseling
- Material Aid
- Post Abortion Counseling
- Adoption, Medical & Housing Referrals



*Jesus,
I
Trust
In
You*



Our Mission: Promoting the Value of Life

“For He will order His angels to protect you wherever you go”

— Psalm 91:11



This story is as much about our client as it is about the person responsible for bringing her to Life Choices. After all, it isn't every day that a complete stranger reaches into the heart of an abortion vulnerable woman and redirects the course of her life ...

Pregnant women have the ability to form instant bonds and connect with one another as no one else can. So when Emma, who is 9 months pregnant, noticed that the cashier at the register was also expecting, it was only natural for her to ask when her baby was due. The reaction she received wasn't quite what she expected: the young woman burst into tears explaining that she already had 3 small children and was looking to get an abortion. She even asked for help in finding a clinic. Emma seized the moment and immediately began comforting her with words of compassion and hope, explaining that God had a plan for her life and that abortion wasn't part of it. She picked up her phone and found Life Choices on the internet, promising the distressed mother that she would take her there herself. The following day Emma arranged for a cab to bring the young mom to the office, while she and her friend arrived separately a few minutes earlier. During the wait, we had a chance to speak with Emma and delve deeper into her motivations. For her, the entire episode was completely unremarkable—it was simply the thing to do. The fact that she herself had two small children at home, a part time job and was due to deliver her baby in just two weeks didn't phase her at all. She was right where God wanted her to be. And now, because of her love of neighbor, the young woman in the counselor's office was exactly where God wanted *her* to be.

Although Emma thought nothing of it, she saved a baby's life that day. From that beautiful deed flow eternal consequences. Not only for her, but for the child who will now have the chance to serve God on earth, and then praise him for all eternity in Heaven.

— Rosanda Grau



Tributes



"I thank my God upon every remembrance of you."
—Philippians 1:3



In Loving Memory of Claire Roarty

*Mr. & Mrs. Michael Clifford
Eileen Contrino
Hansome Energy Systems, Inc.
Mr. & Mrs. William Lonergan
Mr. & Mrs. James Medley
Mrs. Kathleen Murray
Mr. & Mrs. Hugh Roarty
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Rossen
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Schreck, Jr.
Mrs. Ellen Pat Walsh
Michael White
Dolores Young
Helen Aiosa
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Kaden
Jane Alfonzo
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Delorefice*

Tributes - Gifts of Hope

What better way to remember a loved one, honor some one special or acknowledge a special event?

I am enclosing a gift of hope in the amount of \$ _____

This gift is _____

(in memory of, in honor of, birthday gift, to celebrate...)

Name: _____

Address: _____

My Name: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____

To send your own tribute, clip form and mail it with your donation to:
Life Choices Resource Center
503 Main Street
Metuchen, New Jersey 08840

*In Celebration of the new Ultrasound Machine
by: Knights of Columbus Council 6203*

*In Honor of our Parents & All Parents
by: Ferry & Mitzy Firmansjah*

*In Honor of Dot Dunn & Gen Pfister
by: Pat Walsh*

*Celebrate Life! In Honor of
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Gorgol
by: Joan & Nat Friedman*

*In Loving Memory of
Rev. Robert Santa Barbara
by: Grace & John Bertucci*

*In Loving Memory of
Joe Bandelt
by: Alice Bandelt*

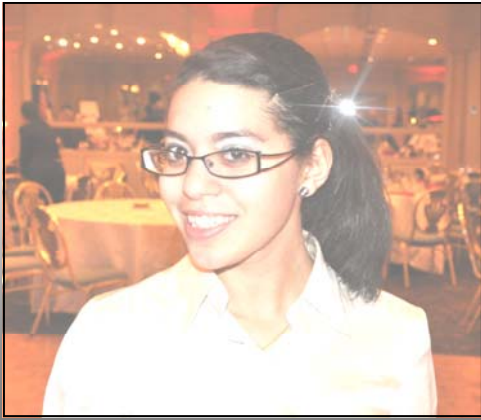
*In Loving Memory of
Lydia DeAndrea
by: Bob & Dee Sneddon*

*In Loving Memory of
Elayne Dudik
by: Michael Dudik*

*In Loving Memory of
Msgr. Leon Kasprzyk
by: Bill & Kathy Dowling*

*In Loving Memory of Rose Jablonski
by: Daughter, Rosemary Jablonski*

*In Loving Memory of Fred Gorra
by: Marilyn Sdyba*



Volunteer Spotlight



Rebecca Madrigal

“I have begun to envision a world without abortion ...”

2014 will mark 10 years I have had the pleasure of volunteering with Life Choices Resource Center. Not only have I learned so much from them, but at times the little cozy office on Main street has welcomed me like a family. I have helped out at the annual Walk for Life in Iselin, tabled during the summer carnival at La Asuncion Parish in Perth Amboy, translated documents for Spanish clients and served as an interpreter when Spanish clients call in. I really have Carolyn to thank for training me to take over the hotline a couple of times last semester.

This year I have finally decided to start a pro-life group at my school. Calling myself pro-life is one thing, doing something about it is another. It started in October last year, on the snow-storm day attending the Critical Life Issues Conference. I was searching for information to start my own club, wondering about long-term and short-term goals. Nevertheless God's plans are so beautifully designed, His blueprint was right before me as I met Kristen Hawkins, Executive Director of Students for Life of America. Since then, I have worked with Phil Eddy, North East Regional Director and am on the brink of having our club recognized on campus. Looking back at freshman year, it was always my goal but never my priority until now. And so joy-filled, I finally said 'yes' to not just being someone who is pro-life but an activist; a leader to help end abortion.

In the last couple of months I have begun to affiliate myself with other pro-life groups and blogs and RSS feeds to keep up-to-date and how I can share the information with others. I have begun to *envision* a world without abortion and that has given me the push to keep moving forward. This has also helped me to become an intern for LIFENET which I am extremely grateful for.

Lastly, I thank God above all for truly sharing His blessings and gifts to me and helping to discover my calling. And this is just the beginning!

We are truly grateful to Rebecca for sharing her many gifts with our ministry. Her love of life coupled with her inherent “fight” and enthusiasm fills us with the hope that one day soon we will live in a nation where every human life is treasured and protected—from conception to natural death. Thank you, Rebecca! May the Lord continue to bless your life and your efforts! You are an inspiration to us all.



Pat Walsh, Christine Riggio & Rebecca



Welcome Grace Maria!

***“To the world you may be one person,
but to one person
you may be the world.”***

—Brandi Snyder

When Belinda first came to Life Choices, she was in her 5th month of pregnancy and had little hope of bearing her child. When she came for her appointment she brought with her ‘friends’ whose idea of support begins and ends with finding the number to the nearest clinic. Their misguided and lethal influence is often times too much to overcome. *But thanks be to God and her wonderful counselors, Belinda and her little one triumphed. Little Grace Maria was born in March, and baby and mom are both doing well.*

What was it that “opened” her heart to the baby growing inside her? Simply put: **resources:** the assurance that she would have access to maternity clothes, baby clothes, diapers, vitamins, car seats, cribs, medical referrals, etc. *She was actually willing to give up her baby because she couldn’t meet those basic needs.* And that’s where your generous material donations come in. Life Choices is so grateful to all of the many organizations, churches and schools that hold baby showers for our clients as well as those that provide us with diapers and other supplies on a regular basis. ***Your support makes all the difference for moms like Belinda. We can’t thank you enough!***

25 New Cribs for Clients



One of the major concerns for new parents is having a safe and secure place for their sleeping child, but providing a new, safe crib can be an expensive undertaking. In 2010, through a mutual friend, we were introduced to a wonderful organization called Keeping Babies Safe. Supported by donations from many sources, they offer to provide a safe, secure sleep environment to a needful parent, in the form of their specially designed crib. In November 2010, we invited Keeping Babies Safe to Life Choices to demonstrate their crib and inform us of important ways to keep that new child – and grandchild – safe and sound. From mid-2010 thru all of 2011, we were able to provide at least 15 cribs to our clients, through the generosity of Keeping Babies Safe.

In January of 2012, we learned that Keeping Babies Safe was awarded a \$25,000 grant from the Toys “R”Us Children’s Fund, which allowed them to donate 25 new, safe cribs to Life Choices Resource Center. This in turn allows us to provide a needful mother-to-be with a safe sleep space for her newborn. We are overwhelmed by the generosity of this group and so pleased that we are able to assist our clients in this practical way.

In addition, Joyce Davis, the founder of Keeping Babies Safe, was the major force behind the legislation that became effective June 24, 2011 regulating the sale of all full-size and non full-size cribs. The new rules prohibit the manufacture or sale of traditional drop-side rail cribs, strengthen crib slats and mattress supports, improve the quality of hardware and require more rigorous testing. Through the efforts of Keeping Babies Safe, we are able to pass on valuable information for the safety and well-being of these little ones, who may not have been totally expected, but are now being totally loved. To learn more about this organization and safety tips for babies, go to www.keepingbabiesafe.org.

—Carolyn Glodek, Client Services Director

Understanding ObamaCare's \$1 Abortion Surcharge in Three Steps

***By: David French, Attorney for the American Center for Law & Justice
Reprinted with from LifeNews.com, March 26th, 2012***



Step 1: As most people understand, ObamaCare requires every American to purchase insurance. This requirement – the individual mandate – is the legislation's most notorious feature and will be the subject of intense argument at the Supreme Court next week. However, the mandate is only the tip of the ObamaCare iceberg. **Step 2:** Under the provisions of ObamaCare, the federal government dictates what is and is not insurance acceptable to meet the mandate's requirements. In other words, the Department of Health and Human Services has very broad rulemaking power to define what insurance will – and will not – cover and the cost of that coverage. This rulemaking power is the source of the now-famous battle over contraception mandates. **Step 3:** As part of its rulemaking power, HHS is proposing a \$1 abortion surcharge that will require individuals who purchase certain health insurance plans to pay an additional monthly surcharge for abortion coverage. According to early reports, individuals enrolled in those plans would not be able to opt out of the surcharge alone and would only be informed of its existence during enrollment. If you opt out of the surcharge, you would have to opt out of your plan entirely and may not be able to find a suitable replacement.

If all this sounds complex, it is. And if you think it's a clever gimmick to both compel and deceive millions of Americans into directly subsidizing abortions, you're right. The Obama administration is one of the most radically pro-abortion administrations in American history. After all, President Obama is the same person who – as a state senator – voted against born-alive infant protection in Illinois, his administration is attempting to force states to fund Planned Parenthood and he's now using the fine print of ObamaCare to subsidize abortions. But the battle is not over.

Happy Mother's Day!



We would like to wish all of our clients, friends, family and volunteers a Blessed & Happy Mother's Day. There is no job on this earth that is more important, meaningful and rewarding.

"Mother is the name for God on the lips & hearts of little children"

—William Makepeace Thackeray



Bishop Bootkoski Blesses Our Ultrasound!



Bishop Bootkoski With Life Choices Nurses Mary Wolfram & Pat Bustin



Official Blessing of Ultrasound Machine, 3/2/2012



John Brower of K of C Council 857



Life Choices volunteers are all smiles with Bishop Bootkoski

Life Choices Annual Banquet, March 4, 2012



Debbie Vokral, Life Choices Chair, with Mickey Schiavone of the Chapter 4 Knights of Columbus, Jennifer Ruggiero, Gene Baker & Jim Vokral



Pastors Jeff Wildrick & Silvio Del Campo, Faithful Servant Award Recipients presented us with a check for \$4,414!

Faces & Places



Laura Mate of the Southeast Chapter Columbiettes who held a fantastic Baby Shower benefitting Life Choices



Deacon Danny San Jose & Father Anthony Siriani of St. Helena Church, Edison stop by the office with a delivery of Baby Bottles



Volunteer Stephanie with daughter Sofia



Joan & Richard Segally of the Knights of the Nativity, Monroe with Rosanda Grau at their March 19 meeting



“This is what your work is all about: the triumph of love over fear, the triumph of hope over despair, the triumph of life over death.”

March 4, 2012

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

It is an honor for me to send greetings to you today on my own behalf and on behalf of the entire international association of Priests for Life, the Catholic Church’s largest pro-life ministry. I regret that I’m not able to be there tonight** but I assure you that before long, circumstances will permit me to be among you and to address you at greater length. We are grateful for the work that Life Choices Resource Center is doing. As you well know, to be pro-life is to be pro-woman. We do not say, “Love the baby and forget about the mother.” What we say instead is, “Why can’t we love them both?”

In 1994, I spent a week with Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta, discussing the strategy and mission we would adopt for Priests for Life. We spoke, in particular, about how we could get stronger support for the pregnancy center movement in America and around the world. These meetings took place just a couple of months after Mother Teresa’s famous speech at the National Prayer Breakfast in Washington, DC, and she asked me personally to distribute copies of that speech throughout the country. In that speech she said that the way we overcome abortion is to teach the mother how to love until it hurts. This is what your work is all about: the triumph of love over fear, the triumph of hope over despair, the triumph of life over death.

Priests for Life stands with you in all your efforts. Our Pastoral Team and Family of Ministries, which includes Rachel’s Vineyard, the Silent No More Awareness Campaign, the outreach of Dr. Alveda King, the work of Marie Smith, and much more, are at your disposal throughout the year. Together, let us rejoice in the privilege to do this work, and the promise of victory.

Sincerely,

Father Frank Pavone, *National Director, Priests for Life*

***We are grateful to Father Pavone for his extraordinary life’s work, which has been solely dedicated to defending the lives and rights of unborn children. We regret that he was unable to join us the night of the Banquet but we look forward to celebrating with him in the future. He remains in our hearts and prayers and we wish him all of God’s blessings.*



Father Pavone with Janet Morana (far left) and friend in front of the Supreme Court, 2007



Banquet Reflections “Two Hearts Beat as One”

It was a wonderful evening of music, dinner, dancing and the joy of being in a room packed with pro-life champions. The night started off with the ethereal sounds of First Presbyterian Church of Dunellen’s Bell Choir and quickly led into our traditional awards ceremony. One of the highlights of the night was Msgr. Robert Zamorski’s compelling testimony of his own amazing entry into this world—due to a difficult pregnancy, his mother was urged by her doctors to abort him. With overflowing gratitude he relayed the story of his birth and the profound knowledge that his life had a purpose—that in fact all of us, being created in the image of God, have a special purpose that only we can fulfill and that no one has the right to take that away. *We’d like to thank everyone who supported the Banquet in any way; for your generous financial donations; for the Silent Auction baskets; for your time and talent—and a special thank-you to our DJ Steve Penk and our faithful volunteers.* ***We are grateful to all of you!***



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“All that is necessary for the triumph of evil, is that good men do nothing” - Edmund Burke



We deeply appreciate your generous donations which enable us to continue educating women and saving babies from abortion. We pray for your continued support and blessings in our mission of *Promoting the Value of Life. Thank You & God Bless You!*



“Memorial for Unborn Children”

This incredibly moving and emotional sculpture captures the traumatic and long journey of the post abortive woman. Her unspeakable grief is met with forgiveness and love from none other than her own child, who is beautifully depicted in almost angelic form.

We pray for all women who carry this pain & hope that they will accept the healing love of the Risen Christ, who is the King of Mercy.

Jesus, We Trust in You.

Young Slovakian Sculptor, Martin Hudacek Captures Post Abortion Pain, Mercy & Forgiveness

Martin Hudacek was born in 1984 and lives in Banska Bystrica, Slovenia