

Spring/Summer 2025

life choices RESOURCE CENTER

Saving Babies & Families
Over 40 Years!



Mission Statement: The Mission of Life Choices Resource Center is to promote and defend the sanctity of all human life, born and unborn, through the provision of abortion-alternative services and resources that empower mothers and families to CHOOSE LIFE. We provide loving help, hope and healing, recognizing that each human being is made in the Image and Likeness of God, and we value each LIFE as His GIFT.

ALL Free Services

- 24 Hour Help Line
- Pregnancy Tests
- Ultrasound
- Mobile Unit
- Peer Consults
- Material Aid
- Abortion Recovery
- Adoption Referrals
- Housing Referrals
- Medical Referrals
- Breastfeeding Instruction/Consult
- APR Reversal Info



'Let all that you do be done in love''

-1 Corinthians 16:14

Celebrating 40 Years Remembering Rose Mary

Rose Mary Lyons's beautiful life seemed a contradiction of terms: humble yet fierce, quiet yet passionate, prayerful and unrelenting. As I sat there listening to her friends and colleagues describe Rose Mary, her life unfurled before me so reminiscent of the stories of saints — common people accomplishing extraordinary things through Christ. And make no mistake, what Rose Mary began — Life Choices Resource Center — has been nothing short of a miracle factory, changing the lives and enabling the destiny of countless people, the ripples of which will impact generations of families far into the future. In the end, Rose Mary's legacy will be incalculable.

It was her remarkable faith and intense prayer life that undergirded her indefatigable passion to help mothers and save babies. A parishioner of Saint Francis of Assisi in Metuchen, Rose Mary was a devout Catholic. She drew her inspiration and her fearlessness from the *Holy Spirit*, and this was apparent to her friends.

"Before we did anything, we'd gather together in prayer. There would be six or seven of us in a room," recalled Debbie Vokral, a longtime volunteer and former Chairman of the Board for **Life Choices**. "It was the most spiritual experience. You would come out of there and feel like you could conquer the world. Rose Mary had such a drive, an undercurrent. She was so Christlike. It was a power you could actually feel."

Emily Hayes, bookkeeper at **Life Choices** for eleven years, agrees, "What I remember most about her personality was her quiet power and prayerfulness." Through this quiet leadership, over time she inspired a group of like-minded women and men to pray in front of abortion clinics and, ultimately, to start the Problem Pregnancy Center, which would later become **Life Choices Resource Center**.

It was praying outside of an abortion clinic where Rose Mary's grit would be tested. A thirteen year old girl bolted out of the clinic, crying for help. Her mother was forcing her to have an abortion, but she wanted to carry her baby to term. Outside she found the support of Rose Mary and others. Rose Mary took the girl home to remove her and her unborn baby from the dangerous situation. Shortly after, the police would arrive at Rose Mary's home, demanding to take the girl. While Rose Mary was on the phone with her family lawyer, she heard the young teen screaming again. This time the police were dragging the girl, against her will, out of the home. Defiantly, Rose Mary blocked the door. "She's not a sack of potatoes," Rose Mary told the officer. "She has a mind of her own!" The police whirled Rose Mary around, quickly put her in handcuffs, stuffed her into a squad car and brought her to jail. Eventually the charges against Rose Mary would be dropped, but she would not regret a minute of it. "I had no doubt it was the right thing, and I would do it again," she had told a reporter at the time.

"She was quiet and humble, but when it came to defending life, she was like a pitbull defending its family," Debbie recounts. "Her focus was always on the clients and the volunteers. She would say, 'As soon as a client walks in the door, drop everything.' Her passion kept me going."

Rose Mary's singular drive to help women and their babies would propel the burgeoning ministry to move from a makeshift basement to a professional building in Metuchen in less than a year. In that short time, they had counseled 288 women; of those that were pregnant, the vast majority chose to give birth to their babies. In 1999, the name of the Center officially changed to **Life Choices Resource Center**.

During that time Rose Mary was already being recognized for her efforts. In 1991, she received the **Guardian of Life Award**, where it was written:





Tributes to Our Loved Ones





In Memory of Paul Coleman By: Marine Corps League, Inc. and Life Choices Resource Center

> In Memory of Timothy Dowling By: Bill & Kathy Dowling



In Memoru of Joe Giorno By: Tony & Susan Santowasso

In Memory of My parents, Joan & Ūgo d'Andrea By: Gabriella D'Andrea Carlino

In Memory of Msgr. Leon Kasprzyk By: Rev. Sean Winters

In Memory of **Tracy Manning** May She Rest in Peace By: Mary Ann and Larry Blackburn



In Memory of Lynn Yondolino By: Deacon Thomas Yondolino

In Memory of Ed Daley, Fr. Hirsch & all deceased members of the Spotswood Right to Life By: Gerry Blinstrub, Mark Mizin

> In Memory of Kathleen Bobal By: Gerard Bobal

In Memory of Joseph Faccone a great brother, husband, father & grandfather. We love and miss you.

By: The Tagliareni Family

In Honor of

Sarah & Paul Passero.

By: Frank &

Donna Morelli

Do you know

someone who would like to

In Memory of Eleanor Sammond & In Honor of Ken Sammond & Samina Ali

By: Robert Sammond

In Honor of The York Family & Sweet Baby Judah, By: Rebeccah Davies

> In Memory of Emily Miller By: Nancy Duffy

In Memory of my grandson Matthew Eckert By: Michael Ciasca

In Honor of Fran Johnson & In Memory of Frank & Shirl Perry By: Patricia Stanley



In Memory of Charlie Thompson By: Ann Thompson

In Memory of Sue Kaloyerakis By: Tom and Arlene Botti

In Memory of Rev. Msgr. Edward Puleo, By: Rose Torre

In Honor of Marie Hack We LOVE you Grandma By: Julia, Johnny & Gianna





Tributes - Gifts of Hope

What better way to remember a loved one, honor someone 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...)

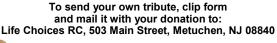
Name: Address:

Send Acknowledgment to:

Town, State Zip: My Name:

My Address: Phone:

and mail it with your donation to:



JOIN our Student Ambassadors Program?

(6th grade—12th grade students)

We are looking for students to become part of our team! We know the struggles of the youth today. We invite you to participate in an amazing group of youth who want to make a difference. Sometimes the world is hard on kids. We understand that! Come join our lovely group of young adults who truly understand

acceptance and unconditional love. We are all UNIQUE—just the way God made us!

Email us today at LCRCSA@lifechoicesrc.com

Dear Friends,

Spring has sprung with all the color and joy the warmer weather brings! With it comes a very busy time of year, and Life Choices Resource Center is no exception!

Our spring "Baby Bottle Blessings" campaign is in full swing. If you are not doing the "Baby Bottles" at your Church in these next few weeks, perhaps it is because your Church does "Baby Bottles" in the fall. If your Church doesn't do "Baby Bottles" at all and you feel called to help us, please contact us (732) 516-0911)! We can explain what's involved, and we welcome more "hands on" to help protect God's babies and serve families in need.

Life Choices Resource Center has been so blessed to celebrate our 40th Anniversary! We had an eye-popping 340 beautiful souls attend our Banquet last February - one of our record numbers! But wait.....if you missed our Banquet there's still time to celebrate with us! On June 12th, 2025, Life Choices Resource Center will continue our 40th celebration events at the 5 pm Mass at St. Francis Cathedral, celebrated by Metuchen Diocese's Bishop James Checchio. Following the Mass we will have dinner and fellowship in the Church basement. All are invited! Please RSVP (for dinner headcount) as soon as you receive this LIFE LETTER. A free-will offering will be taken. Come laugh, enjoy, and make new friends in our Life Choices Resource Center's pro-life, pro-family community.

Just two weeks later on June 26th, we will gather for our 3rd annual Somerset Patriots Game! Tickets are \$15.00, and can be obtained through our Center. CHOOSE LIFE T-shirts will be available if so desired, and fireworks will take place after the game! Don't delay! Call us (732) 516-0911.

Please don't forget our annual "Walking With Moms in Need" WALK FOR LIFE on October 25th - fun for the whole family, and community hours for students! More details to follow in our next LIFE LETTER!

Thank you for your faithfulness and support for God's most vulnerable. This year we have 5 known babies that were SAVED! Praise Jesus! YOU are a vital part of our LIFE CHOICES FAMILY and we love and pray for you. We couldn't do all that we do without YOU!

God Love You,

Jo Ann



Dear Lord, we pray for these women who are often unaware of the effects of abortion. Please send them to us so we can give them life-saving information. Amen

URGENT NEWS FLASH

Alarming study exposes complications from the "Abortion Pill" -

22 Times HIGHER than FDA claims! **11%** of women experience life-threatening complications.

LCRC offers Abortion Pill REVERSAL (APR) which may save the baby's life!

June 26th, 2025



3rd Annunal
Somerset Patriots Game!
Gates open at 5:30
Game starts at 6:35
Fireworks to follow
Our goal is

250 Life Choices Fans!

Tickets are \$15 per person! Choose Life shirts will be sold at the gate prior to the game! \$12 for 1 / \$20 for 2



calendar





Who doesn't love pampered Chef??? — We Babies do!!! Place your order TODAy!!!

Shop: pamperedchef.com/party/lifechoices



Let's Go to the Parade!

Our very dedicated and wonderful **Pro GOD** warriors represented the **LCRC** ministry by walking in a few local parades in recent months. The crowds ap-

> plauded as they passed



MOBILE CARE
TO BLE CARE
TO BLE

by cheering them on! If **you** would like to join us for any upcoming parades please contact us and be a part of this amazing team!





Our sweet Katie just happened to stop by one day with the most adorable baby items which she tied up with beautiful ribbons! Katie, **you** help to make our babies feel *fancy*!



Baby Bottle Blessings!

One of our **BIGGEST** joys (other than the babies) is spreading our "**good news**" to all of our generous donors! When we go out to do our *Baby Bottle Blessings* campaigns. It gives us an opportunity to share our ministry with you! We couldn't do it without **YOUR** support. **YOU** are just as much part of our team as

those in our office!
We welcome you anytime. If you plan
on being in the area CALL us to schedule



our dear friends!!!

Our Knights in God's Armor - True Soldiers

Knights of Columbus, we thank YOU! Whenever we need help to move furniture, to pick up items, crib donations or whatever other requests we have, YOU are there! We are blessed to have you as part of our family.

May God bless and continue to protect you all!



Defenders of Life



Without our volunteers we would be CRAZY! OK we are just a little bit crazy but we all fit together like **God** has intended! We couldn't do this work without their dedication and LOVE

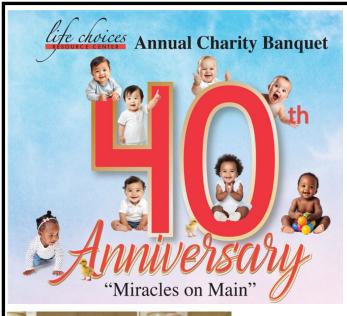
for the families we are serving!
Well done
"Good and Faithful
Servants".







Any Minute...we are always sooo grateful to see our clients especially when it's almost time to meet their newest miracle!



40 YEARS of Saving Babies & Families

What an evening it was! On February 23rd we celebrated with 340 of our closest & dearest friends! It truly was an evening filled with inspiration, hope, charity, compassion, and lots of LOVE for this blessed ministry that God has trusted us with! Thank you to all of

our friends who shared in this amazing event and we look forward to seeing you next year!!!



















(continued from pg. 1) But Rose Mary never seemed particularly interested in accolades, as Mike Gilligan, Board Member recounts, "She was never concerned about her legacy – she was always worried about the women and the babies."

Even after she stepped back from a leadership role at *Life Choices*, Rose Mary continued to help, emboldening the volunteers and staff, and guiding the board.

As Mike remembers, "She encouraged us to bring in an ultrasound machine, recruit new volunteers, always encouraging us to focus on the women and their unborn babies. She was the BEST leader and founder, and the reason *Life Choices* is celebrating their 40th anniversary."

At Rose Mary's funeral, Emily recounts a conversation she had with one of Rose Mary's grandsons, "Speaking lovingly of her, he said they had dozens of pictures of his grandmother holding babies, and nobody knew who all those babies were!"

There are countless people alive today because of Rose Mary's unrelenting spirit. As Debbie states, "We don't know how many 'saves' we have. Someday when we get to the pearly gates we will. And, I'm sure when Rose Mary closed her eyes, she was surrounded by angels. She continues to be a great mentor for the rest of us."

-Anna Aquaviva



2025 Spring/Summer Life Saving Newsletter Donation

Name			-
Address:	Town:	State:Zij	p:
Amount \$	Check Phone #:		
Card #		Exp Date:	CVV
Email	Parish		

To Donate Online Go To: www.LifeChoicesRC.com

Mail Checks to: Life Choices Resource Center, 503 Main Street, Metuchen, NJ 08840 Become a Monthly Donor! Call for more info! 732-516-0911



life choices

503 Main Street Metuchen, NJ 08840 LifeChoices@Optonline.net (732) 516-0911

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So proud and so blessed that we have been able to assist our families for 40 years. We thank **God** everyday for allowing us to serve, love, and administer to HIS beloved children.



Join us to ALLARE WELCOME, Celebrate our 40th Anniversary Mass Celebrated by Bishop Checchio

June 12th, 2025

5 pm Mass at Saint Francis Cathedral 6 pm Dinner Reception to follow (Free will offering)

RSVP @ lifechoices@optonline.net Space is limited! Email us TODAY to reserve your seat!

"For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister." - Hebrews 6:10



Hey YOU! Don't miss out on our 40th! RSVP today!

