

Lifelines

Winter 2005

Pregnancy Help Center of San Gabriel Valley



5626 N. Rosemead Blvd., Temple City, CA 91780 626-444-HELP 626-309-0788
HOURS: Mon.-Fri. 12 noon-6 pm WEBSITE: www.phc-sgv.org e-mail: phcsgv@pacbell.net

CAROL'S CORNER



"Hundreds of thousands dead or missing in tsunami disaster..."

"More Marines killed in Iraq. Details at 11:00"

"Mudslides and torrential rains responsible for many deaths in southland..."

"Suicide attempt derails commuter trains; eleven feared dead..."

These are recent news items making headlines in papers and broadcasts. They are dreadful and upsetting numbers, affecting us all. But one shocking story is missing. We never see national news items about "3561 babies aborted daily in the United States..." Network newscasters do not open their broadcasts with: "2003 statistics from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) show that 3561 babies are murdered daily in the United States."

Isn't this news just as important as reporting military deaths and statistics from natural disasters? Is the reason for not being shocked about death from abortion because so much of the world does not regard an unborn child as a human being? Who can view an ultrasound image of a very young baby and not know that this is indeed a human being, albeit small. Who cannot watch the beat of a 5 week-old heart and not know there is life?

Just as a two year-old clinging to tsunami debris is living, so is a two month-old fetus developing in his mother's womb. All is life ordained by God.

We at the Pregnancy Help Center are so blessed to be able to offer ultrasound to our clients so that they can see for themselves that there is life, from day 1.

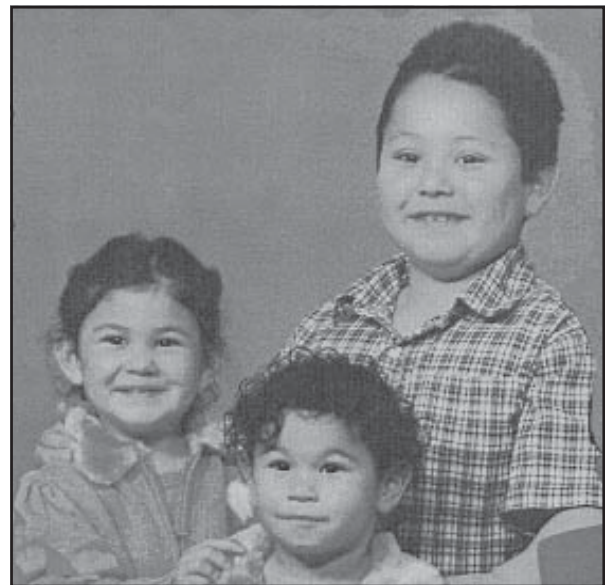
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A DIFFERENT KIND OF HELP

by Tina Apodaca
(as told to Carol, Denise and Mary Jo)

(Ed. note: Our main mission at the Pregnancy Help Center is to help mothers make good choices for themselves and their babies. However, we do much more to help with all phases of life and its accompanying situations. Many people in our community support the Center and truly become involved with our clients. The following is an example of such involvement.)

In December 2004 a family called (the Center) and wanted to help a family in need. To this day, I can't believe how blessed I am. Out of all the needy families that go to the Pregnancy Help Center my family was chosen to receive this help. My year had been a rough one. The property where we lived was sold and we were given 60 days to find a place to live. Everywhere we looked was so



L-R: Precious 3 yrs, Lillianna 18 mo, Marcus 8 yrs.

expensive. We were homeless for 5 long months. We got an apartment in Los Angeles in December. I as a mother felt so sad for my children, wondering what kind of Christmas would they have. Then my phone rang. My biggest angel in my life, Denise from the Center, was on the other end. She told me she had a family that would like to buy presents for a family in need and would I like for her to tell that family about me. I just could not believe it! To make a long story short, my 3 children all received beautiful things from this wonderful giving family. Once again, I am truly blessed to know such great angels.

CAROL'S CORNER

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Here are some interesting statistics to share, from the CDC:

- 82% of women obtaining abortions in 2001 were unmarried
- 45% were minorities
- 12% of the total abortions were at 13 weeks gestation or later
- 44% of the women had had at least one previous abortion
- 8% had three or more previous abortions.

Presbyterians Pro-Life NEWS, Winter 2005

In closing, may I offer this Pro-life prayer to end abortion:

*Lord God, I thank you today for the gift of my life,
And for the lives of all my brothers and sisters.
I know there is nothing that destroys more life than abortion,
Yet I rejoice that you have conquered death
By the Resurrection of Your Son.
I am ready to do my part in ending abortion.
Today I commit myself
Never to be silent,*



Illustration courtesy of Little One Sweet, Baltimore, MD

An unborn baby in the second month

*Never to be passive,
Never to be forgetful of the unborn.
I commit myself to be active in the pro-life movement,
And never to stop defending life
Until all my brothers and sisters are protected,
And our nation once again becomes
A nation with liberty and justice
Not just for some, but for all,
Through Christ our Lord. Amen!*

www.priestsforlife.org

Love endures long and is kind;
love is not jealous; love is not out for display;
it is not conceited or unmannerly;
it is neither self-seeking nor irritable,
nor does it take account of a wrong that is suffered.

1 Corinthians 13:4,5

LIFELINES

Editor

Carol Melvin

Publisher

*Pregnancy Help Center
of San Gabriel Valley*

5626 N. Rosemead Blvd.
Temple City, CA 91780

Mission Statement

The Pregnancy Help Center of San Gabriel Valley exists to create a safe, confidential, loving and caring haven in which sound alternatives to abortion may be provided to women experiencing a crisis pregnancy, in the hopes that they will make a sound decision for themselves and their child; to provide practical services related to a woman's pregnancy, childrearing, and relationships; to exemplify and promote sanctity of life principles in the community through education.

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ARTICLE SUBMISSION:

We welcome article submissions. Please include name, address and telephone number.

VITAL STATISTICS

October to December 2004

Total Clients seen	514
New Clients	161
Abortion-minded/undecided	50
Turn Arounds	8

THANKS TO OUR DONORS:

During the months of November and December 2004, the following parishes and organizations sponsored a project for the Pregnancy Help Center:

- Bishop Amat Pro-Life Club** *baby shower drive*
- La Salle High School** *baby shower drive*
- St. Bede** *cash donation*
- St. Dorothy** *cash and crib project*
- St. Philip** *crib project*
- St. Therese** *cash*
- St. Therese Religious Education program**
baby bottle drive
- San Gabriel Mission** *layette drive*
- Anonymous donors** *layette items*



Sr. Immaculata and students from SS Felicitas & Perpetua School

During the month of January 2005, the following parishes and organizations sponsored a project for the Center:

- Nativity Church**
baby shower drive/ food donation
- St. Elizabeth of Hungary** *baby bath tubs for layettes*
- St. Lorenzo Church**
baby shower/diaper drive
- St. Louise de Marrillac**
baby shower drive
- St. Thomas More**
baby shower drive/cash donation
- San Gabriel Mission**
baby shower drive (continuing)
- Community of Christ**
ongoing diaper drive



Jo DeLaTorre and Carolann Jones, St. Luke



Thanks to all of you for your generosity, which allows us to continue helping those in need.

Sr. Timothy and Lisa Thorpe, St. Lorenzo

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT:



A few months ago we were sent another Angel to work in the "Baby Room" every Wednesday. (We suspect that Mary Ann Kelsey, working from her station in Heaven, had something to do with this!) ROSEMARY THERESA SCHILLER, who attended daily Mass with Mary Ann and Harry Kelsey, volunteered to take Mary Ann's days at the Center. (Mary Ann passed away last October.)

Rosemary was raised in central Iowa. She received her nursing degree from Mount Mercy College in Cedar Rapids. After graduation, she moved to California and went to work at the Veteran's Hospital in West Los Angeles. She met and married Dr. Francis Schiller, an orthopedic surgeon, and they settled in Whittier, where he practiced for over 30 years. They have four children and six grandchildren.

They now live in Arcadia, where Rosemary is a Eucharistic Minister at Arcadia Methodist Hospital and is active with the Maryknoll Guild in Monrovia.

We thank her for her dedication to the Pregnancy Help Center.

CENTER UPDATE

Exciting changes are being made at the Pregnancy Help Center! We are expanding our physical plant to include an annex located on the Center property. When painted (soon, we hope!) we will be moving all our baby supplies to this space. We will be able to store baby furniture and other large items here, instead of off-site. Distribution of items to clients will be handled by teams of volunteers on specific days and hours of the week. This move will allow us to create a much-needed 4th counseling room in the Center building.



Clean-up crew from Nativity Parish Confirmation class, under supervision of Mike Reyes

THE CENTER COULD REALLY USE:



A banquet-style folding table, either 6 or 8 ft. long

A piece of laminate shelving 28 inches wide by 10 or 12 ft. long

A small refrigerator (in working order)

A space heater (electric)



Clothing racks for maternity clothes and baby clothes on hangars



Pregnancy Help Center of San Gabriel Valley
Right to Life League of Southern California
P.O. Box 2440, San Gabriel, CA 91778

Address Service Requested

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U.S. POSTAGE
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PERMIT #2

Pregnancy Help Center provides caring and professional assistance to pregnant women. Services include a 24-Hour HelpLine (444-HELP), free pregnancy testing and counseling. Pro-Life education is presented in various civic, classroom and church settings.

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter please enclose your address label in the envelope and return.

THE PREGNANCY HELP CENTER OF SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

WHERE WE HAVE BEEN

- ◆ 1972: First Crisis HelpLine for San Gabriel Valley
- ◆ 1974: Pregnancy testing and counseling available through local hospitals
- ◆ 1975: First counseling center at St. Philip's Church
- ◆ 1980: PHC opens office on Green Street in Pasadena
- ◆ 1981: Formation of San Gabriel Valley Auxiliary
- ◆ 1984: Center moves to San Gabriel. Free pregnancy tests, counseling, 24 hr. HelpLine.
- ◆ 1993: Center moves to Temple City for better visibility and more space
- ◆ 1994: T. Murphy Goodwin, M.D., joins the PHC as a resource and ultimately as Medical Director
- ◆ 1999: Clinic license granted from California Department of Health Services
Salaried Staff: Nurse Director and 5 part-time lay counselors
Services: free pregnancy testing and counseling, post abortion counseling, 24 hour HelpLine, speakers bureau
- ◆ 2000-2004: Over 2000 clients served per year
- ◆ 2002: Center provides Website, Email and internet
- ◆ 2004: Free ultrasound services offered



CENTER CELEBRATES 30TH ANNIVERSARY

HOPES AND DREAMS

- ◆ Increase client base with improved marketing and advertising in the San Gabriel Valley
- ◆ Renovate clinical facilities to include updated examination/ultrasound room and additional counseling room
- ◆ Expand physical plant offering space for client supplies, literature and volunteer activities
- ◆ Add staff for additional medical procedures as needed
- ◆ Expand and improve Website

ROOM SPONSORS NEEDED

After 11 years of heavy traffic, the Pregnancy Help Center is looking a little shopworn and is in need of some freshening up. Our budget is very limited as to what we can purchase, so we are appealing to our supporters to help sponsor a room. We have the donated services of a very talented interior designer who has some great ideas for giving the Center a more professional look.

Cash donations and donations of furnishings are always welcome, but we are also looking for a few painters and carpenters who could lend a hand and keep our expenses down. Could you help? Would you help? Please contact the Center during business hours, Monday – Friday, 12 noon to 6:00 p.m.

As always, we are so grateful for your support!