



Life Center of Long Island

CELEBRATING THIRTY TWO YEARS • ESTABLISHED MAY 1986 • MARCH 2019

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POT OF GOLD



It was another busy day here at the Life Center. I was in the reception area, helping to answer the phones. I picked up a call, and on the other end, I heard a frantic voice asking if we do abortions. We NEVER bring anyone in under a false pretext, so I told her, "No, we do not do abortions." I continued to tell her all the wonderful services we do offer, including referrals for free sonograms and all the options. She said she would like to come in and talk, so we set it up for later that morning. Megan* arrived on time, and surprisingly, her boyfriend, Sean*, was with her. I asked Sean if he would like to talk to our male consultant Mike who was on that day, and he agreed.



As I guided Megan to our consultation room, Mike spoke to Sean. Megan began to tell me why she did not want the baby. She said she was from a strict Irish family, and they would be very disappointed in her, as she and Sean were not married. She told me she felt she was too young and was not ready for a child. I asked her what Sean thought of all this. Megan said he would support whatever she decided. As we talked further, I found out that Megan and Sean wanted to marry in the future, and her family did like him.



I asked Megan if I could share a few things, and she agreed. I shared that while her family may be upset at first, there was a good chance they would come around. She said they were faithful Catholic people. I expressed that their faith would tell them that abortion is not the answer to a surprise pregnancy, and we would pray that they receive strength and courage to do what was best for all involved. I also shared that while pregnancy changes things, so does abortion.



I asked her to take some time and think of her future with her child and then without her child, and which choice did she feel brought her more peace. I also offered Megan a sonogram, which she accepted. We were able to go that afternoon. Before we left, Mike and Sean joined us in the consultation room. Sean appeared to be very open to the sonogram.



It was a wonderful experience, seeing their precious 11-week-old child moving his or her tiny hands and feet. Both Megan and Sean were amazed at what they saw. As they were leaving, I reminded them that the Irish culture has a strong love for family, and to hold on to that.



The next day I heard from Megan. She said she thought about all we talked about, which gave her the courage to show her mother the sonogram picture of her baby. Even though her mother was upset by the pregnancy, she said she would support her.



Some time has passed since, and both families are offering support. The young couple is talking about marriage. The family's faith and love of each other helped them to get through an emotional time. They also realized that this new family member is truly their "Pot of Gold," filled with the grace of the Lord.



*Names have been changed to protect confidentiality

*Catherine Petruzz, MSW
Assistant Center Director, Deer Park*



Our Mission...

"To promote, encourage and foster public sentiment and respect for the dignity of human life... from conception to natural death."

Donor Site: www.lifecenterli.org • Client Site: www.aaapregnancyoptions.org



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GLORIA SCHREIBER

FROM THE DESK OF

The Executive Director

AAA PREGNANCY OPTIONS ANNOUNCES EVOLUTION TO WOMEN FIRST PREGNANCY OPTIONS



We are excited to announce that after 33 years, our pregnancy care centers known as AAA Pregnancy Options are getting a facelift.... Why? Our new name, **Women First Pregnancy Options** more accurately reflects our mission and the business we are in: helping women first with options when they find they are pregnant. As a result, our Long Island-based private, independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization functioning as a life-affirming pregnancy resource center—is announcing its rebranding to the new name.

The Board of Directors, our staff, our client advocates, and I recognized that as our clients' behavior evolves, so should our brand. We must stay relevant and noticed. A perfect example is how the internet, social media, and cellphones have resulted in changes to the things that are important to our clients. Keeping up with those changes is our goal. We want to be present to a woman who has just learned she is pregnant and not sure if she wants to carry her baby to term.

Our story began over three decades ago in 1986 when a group of dedicated volunteers realized the necessity to help pregnant women in need on Long Island. Since then, we have grown to be the largest, most comprehensive client services and pregnancy help center on Long Island.

We are known for providing no-cost services to pregnant women and their families in need, and **Women First Pregnancy Options** will continue offering the same compassionate care to clients at each of our centers under the new name. This rebranding is expected to reflect services broader than just providing emergency help amid an unplanned pregnancy.

In addition to distributing material aid, we provide a multitude of services including self-administered pregnancy test kits, client advocacy, referrals for community resources, relationship education, post-abortion counseling, our male advocacy program, and new parenting programs and workshops.

Young people in an unplanned pregnancy or with a sexually transmitted disease often feel they have nowhere to turn – making the free and confidential resources **Women First Pregnancy Options** provides life changing for many. As a caring alternative, **Women First Pregnancy Options** provides a truly personalized approach and non-judgmental, fact-based education for clients and their families, enabling them to make informed decisions about their pregnancy while remaining steadfast in providing alternatives to abortion and contraceptives.

Current and future clients of **Women First Pregnancy Options** can take comfort in knowing that they can still receive the same tangible resources and emotional support needed to take care of themselves and their children. As we move forward, we remain committed to the mission that has brought us here today. Please pray that our efforts serve even more abortion-vulnerable women and men in our mission to save lives.

Blessings,

Gloria



OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSE

To the NYS Reproductive Health Act

The Board of Directors of the Life Center of Long Island is deeply saddened by the passage of late-term abortion legislation in New York, which is now being promoted in other states throughout our country.

The act of killing a child at any stage of life is unconscionable, but killing a baby about to be born into the world, even when she or he could be in the birth canal or partially delivered, can be considered as nothing more than a barbaric act unworthy of this great nation, a nation that notes the right to life in our Declaration of Independence. We pray that our legislators will understand the sacredness and extraordinary gift of life and that abortion is not a political issue but that there is a moral imperative to preserve and cherish life at all stages.

We believe that there is always forgiveness for those who have chosen abortion, and we know that God loves them as He does all His children and hope they find the healing they will come to need. There are wonderful options for those who carry a child but do not feel they can parent that child. With medical advances, as well as the services of the Life Center of Long Island, there are few, if any, cases where the choice must be made of one life over another.

The Board of Directors is deeply shocked and saddened by this abortion legislation, and by late-term abortion itself, and wishes to register our opposition to these laws that destroy, rather than preserve, that most precious gift: life itself.

The Life Center of Long Island, a pregnancy care center network for pregnant women founded in 1986, acts through its membership to support, empower, and educate all pregnant women to choose life for their preborn babies. To request an interview with Life Center Executive Director Gloria Schreiber, contact gschreiber@lifecenterli.org, or call 516-798-9100. Thank you.

Alive, from New York!

In the wake of the passage of the New York Reproductive Health Act passed in January of this year, as well as in the face of similar legislation across the country, *Focus on the Family* is determined to make the public face the reality of the humanity of the preborn.

Over the course of 12 weeks, *Focus on the Family* is running its “**SEE LIFE CLEARLY**” campaign, culminating in an event planned for May 4 in NYC’s Times Square “Alive, from New York!”

According to Focus on the Family: “We’re looking to fill Times Square with pro-life Americans, and it will feature live music, compelling and inspirational speakers, and best of all, live 4-D ultrasounds broadcast on a massive digital marquee in Times Square, powerfully showing the world a baby inside the womb is fully human and should be given the chance to be born.”

We hope you can witness this event on May 4th. Make a city trip of it - and bring a friend!



IN LOVING MEMORY



We are grateful for donations made to the Life Center of Long Island in memory of:

Henry F. Barbeau

*We commend his soul, and all the souls of the faithful departed, into God's loving arms.
The Life Center of Long Island has "Memorial" and "Honorary" cards available.*

Kindly call Nancy at 516-798-8746 for details.



Thank You * Thank You * Thank You



The Life Center wishes to thank our staff and volunteers who assisted with the REGIFTING SALE on Sunday, January 27, 2019. We also greatly appreciate everyone who donated items in order to make this fundraiser a success. As always, we are grateful to Msgr. James Lisante and the Parish of Our Lady of Lourdes for hosting the event.





COMING EVENTS



UNPLANNED

Coming to theaters nationwide March 29th Based on the best-selling book by Abby Johnson.

Abby Johnson is the former Planned Parenthood Director, who after participating with an abortion procedure for the first time, made the courageous decision to quit her job in favor of life.

Please visit www.lifecenterli.org Click on Donor Site for more information regarding UNPLANNED showtimes and locations.



2019 PASTA DINNER AND SILENT AUCTION



ADOPT-A-BASKET

Each year, the Knights of Columbus Councils of the 8th New York District sponsor a delicious and bountiful Pasta Dinner and Silent Auction to raise funds for the Life Center of Long Island. This popular and often sold-out event is a major fundraiser for the Life Center. The date of this year's event is Sunday, June 2, 2019 at Our Lady of Grace Church Hall, 666 Albin Avenue, West Babylon. The Life Center's offices are presently accepting items and theme baskets. Past examples include gardening baskets, game baskets, home goods baskets, sports baskets, or use your imagination and create something of your own. **All donated items must be new.** Unused gift cards of any value are appreciated as well. More information regarding tickets for this event will follow in upcoming newsletters and on our website, www.lifecenterli.org.



SAVE THE DATE!



LIFE CENTER OF LONG ISLAND DINNER DANCE!

Come Celebrate the 33rd Anniversary of the Life Center of Long Island on Friday, September 27, 2019 - 6:00pm-11:00pm at the Muttontown Club, 5933 Northern Blvd., East Norwich, NY 11732

We are honored to have Terry Beatley as our Guest Speaker!



Terry Beatley is President of Hosea Initiative, a nationwide ministry dedicated to educating, restoring, and unifying America around a culture of life ethic by fulfilling the promise she made to Dr. Bernard Nathanson, the father of America's abortion industry, who deeply regretted unleashing abortion onto our country. Her vision is an America where every unborn life is welcomed and protected by law and where the average citizen has a basic understanding of how toxic worldviews have brought America to the brink of legalized infanticide.



CALLING ALL DRIVERS!



If you have some free time and would like to assist the Life Center of Long Island with baby bottle pick-ups and drop-offs, we could really use your help. Kindly call Barbara at 516-798-8746 for information. Schedules are flexible to meet your needs.

PLEASE NOTE:

If you would prefer to receive this newsletter via email, kindly forward your email address to infoma@lifecenterli.org.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO OUR DONORS: Your privacy matters to us. Please be advised that the Life Center of Long Island never sells or shares our e-list with third parties.

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