



Life Center of Long Island

CELEBRATING THIRTY-FOUR YEARS • ESTABLISHED MAY 1986 • MAY 2020

LIFE CENTER
OF LONG ISLAND
*A Voice for the Unborn
on Long Island*

1767 Deer Park Avenue
Deer Park • NY • 11729
T. 631.243.2373
infodp@lifecenterli.org

35 East Willow Street
Massapequa • NY • 11758
T. 516.798.8746
infoma@lifecenterli.org

474 Fulton Avenue
Hempstead • NY • 11550
T. 516.408.6300
infohp@lifecenterli.org

SEEING IS BELIEVING

The building where our Hempstead center is located has a medical assistant training program upstairs. Now and then, young women come into our office after having noticed us on the first floor. A few weeks ago, Kristine* came in for a consultation. She was taking classes upstairs and saw our sign for free pregnancy test kits.

Kristine is 19, living with her mother, and in a relationship that she's not sure has much chance of a future. She always assumed she'd be a mother herself someday, but wasn't thinking it would be now.

When we were chatting about her relationship history, Kristine shared that she'd already had an abortion. She'd been encouraged to abort by her mother. As is typical, when Kristine went to the abortion clinic, she wasn't shown either a fetal model of the preborn baby or her own baby's ultrasound, which may very well have been just the motivation she needed to carry her baby to term. Research has shown that even for a young pregnant mom with little or no support around her, seeing her child's ultrasound brings about a change of heart right then and there 80 to 90% of the time. The maternal instinct kicks in, and no one can deceive the mom after that in trying to convince her "it's just a tiny blob of tissue."

I shared this point with Kristine, hoping that realizing the suppression of crucial information at her time of need might help mitigate her feelings of guilt. Yet in spite of her regret, she still said she'd probably abort again if she was now pregnant.

Deciding to continue our discussion after her test, I handed the kit to Kristine and led her to the ladies' room. A short time later, she returned, sharing that she read the test as positive. She looked somewhat anxious as she sat back down. This is when it's important to share with our clients the ramifications of an abortion on *her*, not just the baby. I told Kristine that abortion increases a woman's likelihood of future infertility or miscarriage, so she could not assume she would have another child. In addition, relationship problems and severe depression are very common after abortion, as well as drug and alcohol problems. Breast cancer is highly correlated with abortion, and the suicide rate for women who have undergone abortion were six times higher compared to women who gave birth.** Having a second abortion was against Kristine's best interests, besides the obvious taking of an innocent life.

After talking, I showed Kristine fetal models emphasizing the very early development of the preborn baby. I then asked Kristine if she was willing to go for an ultrasound, pointing out her right to an informed decision and reminding her of Planned Parenthood's anti-choice sales tactic of refusing to show ultrasounds. She immediately said yes and seemed curious. I made the appointment for the next day and told her that, if she wanted, she could bring her mother or her boyfriend. She didn't have transportation, so I offered to provide that for her. In the meantime, we would be praying for her. I explained all of the help we had available for her going forward, from discussing adoption as a possible option, to free maternity clothes, relationship counseling, and more.

It was a good sign that Kristine was agreeable to going for an ultrasound, but sometimes our clients cancel or don't show up for these appointments, especially if anyone is pressuring them to abort. It's as if they're afraid to see the truth because they know aborting will then be that much harder. So I was thrilled the next day when Kristine still wanted to see her preborn child and I was able to accompany her to her sonogram appointment. Later when we returned, I could tell by the look on her face that she was happy! The ultrasound had indeed been the convincing she needed to protect her baby's life. After telling her mother the news and sharing all she'd learned about abortion, her mother was supportive. ***Kristine is keeping her baby!***

*Name has been changed to protect confidentiality

** Reference - Life News 11-20-19

Meg Malley
Hempstead Staff



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



Donor Facebook: www.facebook.com/lifecenterlongisland



FROM THE DESK OF
The CEO



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE LIFE CENTER!

GLORIA SCHREIBER

Happy 34th Birthday to the Life Center! From when we opened in May 1986 to date, to the best of our documented record keeping, we have **served over 65,000 women, and over 2,300 babies** have been saved! This does not include the number of men who have come to our centers in search for education, guidance, and hope, which enabled them to make empowered decisions with their wives and girlfriends in efforts to save their babies.

Together, we are experiencing uncharted waters. We must realize that God is directing us to seek and understand what His plan, not ours, is for each one of us.

As this pandemic was unraveling, we were presented with a choice: **Without a doubt, God knew this was going to happen, and it is in Him that we knew to trust and lead from fear to faith.**

Our team reimagined how to continue our mission providing excellence to our communities. We have flexed, pivoted, and adapted to constantly changing pandemic circumstances. Client calls are coordinated and transferred to us by our 24/7 after hours Heartbeat International Option Line where clients are then scheduled to meet with us. This allows us to provide hope to women in unexpected pregnancies and emergency necessities for babies, while ensuring compliance with CDC safety guidelines and minimized exposure.

Since the pandemic, we have served over 60 women and saved 6 babies!

We have volunteers who have personally recruited and delivered food to both our expectant and new moms who had no resources or transportation. One of the expectant mothers was so grateful for the food delivery, she said, *"I don't know what I would have done without your help. My boyfriend left me, and my parents kicked me out of the house. I found a place to stay, but I don't have anything else."* Another new mom who desperately needed diapers and formula shared, *"You are always here for me. Thank you for all you do."*

Please help us help them. Your financial donations, especially during this time, enable us to obtain and fulfill the diverse and individual needs of our clients as they occur. Our wish is for all expecting and new mothers to have the necessities they need to care for their children.

The Magic of a Mother's Touch



*There's magic in a mother's touch, and sunshine in her smile.
There's love in everything she does, to make our lives worthwhile.
We can find both hope and courage, just by looking in her eyes,
Her laughter is a source of joy, her words are warm and wise.
There is a kindness and compassion, to be found in her embrace,
And we see the light of heaven, shining from a mother's face.*



—Anonymous

Wishing all mothers a Happy Mother's Day!

Blessings,

Gloria



MOTHER'S DAY HONORARIUMS AND MEMORIALS

In May, the month of Mary, we celebrate and wish to recognize the special place in God's Creation reserved for mothers.

We are blessed by our mothers' greatest gift to us: the gift of LIFE!

**Mary Averill ~ Helen Barry ~ Geraldine Boening ~ Rose Bozza ~ Mildred Breisacher
Lydia Colapinto ~ Madeline Corrigan ~ Irene Corulla ~ Stella DeCicco ~ Susan Ennis
Katherine Eschmann ~ Mildred Farrell Shurack ~ Mary Gallagher ~ Margaret Gill
Beatrice Kenny ~ Mary Kenny ~ Veronica Kenny ~ Ruth M. Kirvin ~ Helen F. Lorenz
Patricia Miller ~ Denise Murtagh ~ Ellen Pagano ~ Julie Richert ~ Susan Richert
Patricia Schlosberg ~ Josephine Senatore ~ Nicolina Sorrese ~ Gloria Winslow Thumser
Virginia Vela ~ Dorothy Walsh ~ Joan Zambraski**



IN LOVING MEMORY

The Life Center of Long Island is grateful for donations made in loving memory of:

John Cifichiello ~ Mark Russell ~ Patricia Vallaincourt

We commend their souls, and all the souls of the faithful departed, to the loving embrace of the Father.

The Life Center of Long Island has "Memorial" and "Honorarium" cards available. Kindly call Nancy at 516-798-8746, or email at ntantone@lifecenterli.org for details.



LIFE CENTER NEWS



Heartbeat
INTERNATIONAL

As a member of Heartbeat International, a worldwide network of pregnancy help organizations, the Life Center of Long Island has participated in Heartbeat's annual conferences over the years. This year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the conference was held online over three days. It was a blessing to be able to participate in the life-affirming presentations offering guidance and hope during this crisis.

Outstanding presenters in the pro-life arena facilitated 80 workshops and daily keynote addresses, including daily Mass with Father Frank Pavone. Topics included: *Refocusing Your Ministry, An Online Presence, Sex-Ed, Human Trafficking, Domestic Violence, God-Sized Dreams for Pregnancy Care Centers, and Adoption.* All of these and more are issues that we encounter at our centers, which we can now approach with new insights and hope for a vision of the future.

Our spirits were renewed and encouraged in this unprecedented time. We were able to share Heartbeat International President Jor-El Godsey's keynote address with the staff and the Board of Directors of the Life Center for a perspective of where we need to go in order to meet our clients where they are on social media. It was excellent!

Lisa Vigliotta, Client Services Coordinator, Deer Park



It was a wonderful experience and a pleasure attending the virtual Heartbeat International Conference. It was a tremendous opportunity to be able to network with people from all over the world. All of the workshops were extremely educational and the Key Presenters were inspirational and motivational and helped me realize how to move forward in faith during these times. I especially learned from the workshop I attended, "Everyone Speaks, Not Everyone is Heard," which incorporates the LOVE APPROACH based upon the concept that it is important to listen with compassion to gain understanding to better assist our clients and not with the intent to automatically reply first. Also, it is very important to care for our clients with the utmost respect just as we would like to be treated. I am very grateful to the Life Center for this wonderful opportunity to grow in knowledge and to better develop my staff and volunteers so we can ensure excellence in our center.

Veronica Reyes, Center Director, Hempstead



DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS, A FEW OF OUR IMPORTANT SPRING FUNDRAISERS HAVE BEEN POSTPONED. WE WILL ANNOUNCE NEW DATES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WHEN RESCHEDULED, YOUR PARTICIPATION AT THESE EVENTS WILL BE MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER AND WILL MEAN MORE THAN YOU KNOW TO HELP US ASSIST OUR CLIENTS.

How You Can Help Now

*“We have been called to heal wounds, to unite what has fallen apart,
and to bring home those who have lost their way.”*

—St. Francis of Assisi

As we comply with New York State’s order to “shelter in place,” there are ways to help the life-saving work of the Life Center of Long Island:

- 1) Become a Vessel of Hope and Grace.** Give one hour of your time weekly to pray for the needs of the Life Center and our clients. Please ask for God’s grace to renew and revitalize the belief that all life is sacred, from conception to natural death.
- 2) Please support Giving Tuesday on May 5th!** As our Baby Bottle Program and all scheduled fundraisers have been temporarily suspended due to the pandemic, the Life Center of Long Island would greatly appreciate monetary donations in order to keep our doors open to the women and families we serve. We are humbled by the generosity you have provided over our 34 years of operation. And with a special **Giving Tuesday** event designed to bring the world together during the COVID-19 outbreak scheduled for **Tuesday, May 5**, now is an opportune time to support us and our good work.
- 3) Make a New Tax-Deductible Charitable Donation for 2020.** Charitable organizations, like many for-profit businesses, are facing significant hardships due to the COVID-19 pandemic. **Recognizing that businesses and individuals want to support charities in these times of need**, President Trump signed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), which made changes to encourage charitable giving to nonprofits. This targeted relief recognizes the important role charities play during the pandemic and provides additional tax benefits for taxpayers supporting charities.

The CARES Act creates a new partial above-the-line deduction for cash contributions up to \$300 for taxpayers who elect not to itemize deductions in 2020. Those taxpayers who itemize may deduct qualified contributions above the previous 60% of Adjusted Gross Income (AGI), meaning itemizers can deduct more of their charitable cash contributions for 2020.

Please consult your tax adviser for specific rules regarding your tax deductions, but the CARES Act provides some additional tax relief for donors. This makes it easier to give and save at the same time!
- 4) Shop using Amazon Smile.** If you haven’t yet, set up an account by going to smile.amazon.com, and select Mother and Unborn Baby Care of Long Island as the charity you wish to support. Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the Life Center. 
- 5) Sign up for HopeSync.** Recently, the Life Center of Long Island subscribed to a program called HopeSync, which allows the Life Center to text our supporters, in real time, asking for prayers when a client is contemplating abortion or in immediate need of prayerful assistance. If you would like to participate and become a Prayer Partner, kindly send your cellphone number to infoma@lifecenterli.org, and you will be added to our list. In keeping with the Life Center’s policy, no phone numbers or personal information is shared. Thank you!

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.



OFFICERS

Paul Hodermarsky
Chairman

Larry DiBlasi
Vice President

Gerry Judge
Treasurer

Lorraine Gariboldi
Secretary

Gloria Schreiber
Chief Executive Officer

Nancy Tantone
Chief Financial Officer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Paul Hodermarsky
Chairperson

Lawrence Di Blasi
Deacon Frank Gariboldi

Lorraine Gariboldi

Gerry Judge

Deacon Jim Murphy

Carleen Russell

Charles M. Sorrese

ADVISORS

Jim Jenkins
Marketing Consultant

Dr. Robert Scanlon
Medical Advisor

Msgr. James P. Lisante
Spiritual Advisor

Chris Modelewski, Esq.
Legal Advisor