



Life Center of Long Island

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

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

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HOPE IN NEW LIFE

On a recent Saturday morning, a woman came in for a pregnancy test.

Lisa* sat down with me and shared that she's from Colombia and came to New York to live with her boyfriend. She wanted to know if our office performs abortions. I told her we do not, but we do provide all of the information about abortion that is normally omitted from a visit to an abortion clinic. I assumed she wanted an abortion, as is frequently the case with women coming in for a pregnancy test kit.

Instead, she seemed relieved to know we don't provide abortions and went on to explain that last winter, she became pregnant just as the coronavirus was spreading. She went to Planned Parenthood for a pregnancy test, not realizing their main focus is abortion. After receiving a positive test, the staff strongly urged that she "should" abort because "there aren't any studies yet on the effects of the coronavirus on a pregnancy." There was nothing positive about a new baby, they said, and nothing negative about an abortion was mentioned. Meanwhile, Lisa had not tested positive for the virus, she did not have any symptoms, and she had not even been near anyone with symptoms. Yet without showing her a fetal model or ultrasound, without telling her any of the risks involved in abortion, Planned Parenthood pressured her to abort. They said they could go ahead and "take care of this" right then and there.

And so Lisa's first child was aborted. Since that day, she'd been regretting it, especially thinking about getting older, now that she was 33, and wanting a family. She had been crying and having trouble sleeping. She said she would never have an abortion again.

Lisa's pregnancy test kit was positive, and she looked so happy. She texted her boyfriend immediately as I got out the fetal models to show her the size of her baby, then about 10 weeks. Thinking about the baby she'd aborted at seven weeks and seeing the baby model at that stage brought tears to her eyes. Lisa said she felt she needed some counseling. We talked about the research on post-abortion trauma, and I gave her the name of a therapist who is familiar with this kind of wound.

She said she felt a little overwhelmed and unprepared to be a mother, especially without her own mother or any other family here. We talked about how she had been deceived and manipulated against her better judgment with her first baby, but now, she was accepting God's plan just as our Blessed Mother did, trusting in His plan when she too found herself scared and away from her hometown when Baby Jesus was about to be born. Mary truly is an example of humility and bravery for all of us, not just at Christmas, but all year long.

I then asked Lisa if she and her boyfriend had talked about marriage, and she said once or twice. We talked about the benefits of marriage for them, as well as for their preborn child. I encouraged her to start going to church again and to encourage her boyfriend to go with her as a great way to prepare for getting married and welcoming a new child. She had been raised Catholic but hadn't been to church in a long time.

Lisa left that day with an appointment for an ultrasound, saying she felt so comforted knowing that the Life Center would be there for her. She plans to return in a month or two for some maternity clothes.

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." —Isaiah 9:6

**Name changed to protect confidentiality.*

Patty Knap
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.womenfirstpregnancyoptions.org



Donor Facebook: www.facebook.com/lifecenterlongisland



GLORIA SCHREIBER

FROM THE DESK OF

The CEO



Wonder, Faith, and Hope

Christmas is the season of wonder and giving. I — and I believe many others — am looking forward to the New Year 2021, and I hope to move on from this current year with the pandemic and the impact and uncertainty it brought to just about every facet of our everyday lives. But there is one facet in which I found the pandemic had a *positive* impact: *my faith*.

I had a choice to make when the pandemic began spiraling out of control, and fear began setting in. There was no doubt the services we provide were and are essential: critical to lives being saved, hearts being healed, and futures being rescued. My choice was clear: *My decision was to turn all fear into faith*. I realized just how much my faith in God gave me clear focus, sustained me, and gave me hope during this darkest time, especially in serving our clients. We have been through so much this year, but despite the odds, the Life Center of Long Island reimagined how to operate and kept our doors open at all three centers.

Here is my true Christmas story: During the pandemic lockdown, I received a call from a woman living in a shelter who was desperate for a certain kind of baby formula for her newborn son, but this formula was very expensive and beyond her means. As luck would have it, a donor had just given us six bottles of that very formula, and we were able to get that to her. When I asked her if she had any other needs (diapers, wipes, clothing, etc.), she replied humbly, “No, I will make arrangements myself. ***I want them to be available for the other mothers in need.***”

That humility truly touched my heart. If this young woman in need could show such bravery and sacrifice, *does it not behoove those of us who have the means to do the same?*

I am sure you will agree that there is no price too high to save a baby. The Life Center staff and volunteers work around the clock to save babies from abortion every day, of every week, of every month — even during the lockdown earlier this year. By your contribution, you become a part of saving a baby’s life. **What greater gift can you give this Christmas season?**

Thankfully, you know this critical, life-saving ministry. You know that everything we do comes from the heart, because we know your hearts are in this, too. As always, our goal is to reach out with the love of Christ to women and families facing unplanned pregnancies, no matter their creed, color, or socioeconomic status. In the process, *we are seeing the lives of children saved.*

So, our simple request is this: If your Christmas celebration will be enhanced by making the Life Center a part of your giving, we would greatly appreciate your joining us. Whether your gift is \$10, \$50, \$500, or \$5,000, every gift is appreciated, and every gift helps to save babies. Please make your largest gift possible via the enclosed envelope, or go online to lifecenterli.org/online-donation.

As the Christmas season approaches, we may remember that 2,000 years ago, another baby was honored, cherished, and bestowed with three gifts, **from strangers...** May this be a tremendous time of celebration for you as we remember a little child, a child who gives us the precious gift of Eternal Life.

*Merry Christmas, and wishing you a
Healthy, Happy, and Prosperous New Year!*

Blessings,

Gloria



LIFE CENTER POSITION OPPORTUNITY



The Life Center of Long Island is in search of a full-time staff member to fill our **Client Services Coordinator** position at our Massapequa facility, located at 35 East Willow Street.

The candidate must have strong supervisory, training, communication, and interpersonal skills and be able to coordinate client services with staff and volunteers. Proficiency in Microsoft Word and Excel a must. Bachelor’s degree preferred, and bilingual a plus. Please send resume to Gloria Schreiber at gschreiber@lifecenterli.org. For more information, please contact Gloria at 516-798-8746.



THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU!

The Life Center of Long Island wishes to thank the parish of **St. Martin of Tours, Bethpage**, and their Respect Life Coordinators, Jerry and Diana Mirando, for spearheading a parish-wide Baby Shower to benefit our clients. The parishioners of St. Martin's have continually shown generosity to the Life Center, and we are grateful for their support.



The Life Center of Long Island wishes to thank all of those donors who, despite the COVID-19 pandemic, have offered contributions of diapers, wipes, baby blankets, clothing, and monetary gifts to our organization. We are amazed at the willingness of contributors to open their hearts to our clients in need.

A reminder that all donations of diapers and wipes made each month are matched up to \$500.00 by our anonymous "Diaper Angel." This program allows the Life Center to conserve our precious funds for other client needs. Help us close out 2020 with needed "gear for the rear!"

CHRISTMAS DRIVE THANK YOU

We also wish to thank those who have supported the Life Center at this time for our Christmas Drive for our clients. This year, we are able to provide for 40 families for their gift giving to their children. The outpouring has been tremendous! The following have been so generous: Parish and Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court Ave Maria #832 of St. Joseph, Kings Park; Parish of the Holy Family, Hicksville; St. Matthew, Dix Hills; St. Patrick, Smithtown; St. Thomas More, Hauppauge; St. Mark, Shoreham; Chad Mathon; Dr. and Mrs. R. Savino; and Mr. and Mrs. D. Vigliotta.

HOPE AND HEALING AFTER ABORTION

The Life Center of Long Island offers confidential post-abortion healing programs:

FOR WOMEN: *Surrendering the Secret* is an eight week Bible study program designed to bring together women who have faced an abortion in their past, guiding them on the path to abundant life, for which Jesus sacrificed His life. Contact Lorraine at 631-463-4399 for information.

FOR MEN: *Healing a Father's Heart* is a men's program addressing the effects of abortion on the father. Come feel the healing love of Jesus, who longs to embrace you. Contact Deacon Frank at 516-523-0586 to learn more about this life-affirming program.

SAVE THE DATE

31ST ANNUAL NATIONAL NIGHT OF PRAYER FOR LIFE

begins Tuesday, December 8 at 9 p.m. and continues through Wednesday, December 9 until 1 a.m.

Contact your parish for participation information.

Website: sites.google.com/site/nationalnightofprayerforlife

ANNUAL MARCH FOR LIFE - FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 2021

This year, it is imperative that the voice of the pro-life community be heard in Washington D.C. Although we have much to be thankful for with the confirmation of Justice Amy Coney Barrett to the U.S. Supreme Court, we must remain vigilant in the cause for Life. Please encourage your parish to participate. The Ancient Order of Hibernians is organizing buses in Nassau and Suffolk counties. For more information, email Jack at AOH11@Live.com.

LAST CHANCE...

Last Chance For 2020 Charitable Giving Tax Benefits!

Thanks to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, signed into law by President Donald J. Trump, there are many benefits to help you make the most of your charitable donations in 2020!

The CARES Act provides a new deduction for CASH contributions up to **\$300 for taxpayers who elect not to itemize**. For taxpayers who do itemize, the new law allows for CASH contributions to qualified charities, such as the **Life Center of Long Island**, to be deducted up to 100% of one's adjusted gross income for the 2020 calendar year. The CARES Act makes it a win-win!

OTHER WAYS TO HELP THE LIFE CENTER OF LONG ISLAND

- Make a gift in honor or memory of a loved one or special occasion by calling Nancy at 516-798-8746.
- Match your gift through your company's matching gift program.
- Make a request through a will or trust, or name the Life Center of Long Island as a beneficiary of other assets, such as property, appreciated securities, or life insurance policies.

DONATE WITH CONFIDENCE!



amazon smile

Make your gift giving extra-special this year!
Shopping and saving lives can be done in **two easy steps! It's free: no cost to you!**

1. Set up an account at smile.amazon.com.
2. Select **Mother And Unborn Babycare Of Long Island Inc** as the charity you wish to support.

95% of the products on Amazon qualify; this also includes purchases made online at Whole Foods. You pay *nothing* extra. This program does not require an Amazon Prime subscription. Once you sign up, it is automatic. Please share this family and friends. Shop guilt-free, knowing your purchases are supporting our life-affirming work!

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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