



Life Center of Long Island

CELEBRATING THIRTY-FOUR YEARS • ESTABLISHED MAY 1986 • FEBRUARY 2021

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

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OPEN MIND, OPEN HEART



Beth* was a rather challenging client. We at the Life Center live by the words “rely not on your own understanding.” Beth appeared to live by the opposite. Her spirit was fiery, and I knew if we could get through to her, there would be a beautiful baby born into an already large family.

As a client with us for well over a decade, Beth knew the work we did, and I believe there was a level of trust that had been formed with a number of consultants. I had met her for the first time in May last year. Our first visit was for baby needs for a couple of her younger children, but during that visit, she wanted a pregnancy test. As time went on, she was able to share more of her background and troubles. In the meantime, we scheduled a sonogram for her. Unfortunately, she relied on her own understanding, and three times,

she did not show up for her sonogram. I had my doubts that this baby was going to come full term, but I didn't give up.

At this point, with Beth being of Polish descent, conversations between us were very limited. Finally, in July, she took some advice and went to see her doctor. Beth said that the baby had a trisomy diagnosis. My heart sank as I knew she would believe this was a game changer. Her husband did not know about this. I called upon one of our consultants, Barbara, who spoke Polish but had relocated to Florida. It was important that Beth hear the truth in her native language. We are always a team here at the centers, and we all play a part to convey the truth to our clients. Beth was scheduled for an amniocentesis test, but from what Beth said, its conclusion was vague. She was frustrated and confused. We emphatically told Beth not to rush into an emotional decision; we advised her to get some clarity and a second opinion before deciding.

By November, Barbara and I started talking to Beth about an adoption process. Barbara told Beth of her own personal story of how she was unable to get pregnant. During this time, a priest explained to Barbara that although she may never have children of her own, that God needs people like her to take care of children nobody wants. Barbara and her husband eventually adopted a baby girl. Beth started looking into adoption herself. Barbara's life experiences made her very well versed in the adoption process. We believe it opened Beth's eyes to some possibilities. Barbara gave her the names of agencies which specialize in the placement of children diagnosed with Down syndrome. Beth was very fearful of caring for a child with Down syndrome. She was pretty clear on delivering the baby but not sure whether she wanted to keep the baby or allow for a loving family of her choice to care for her baby. Beth was beginning to understand to rely not on her own understanding! In the meantime, we equipped her with basic baby needs to get her started.

We lost communication with her through the Christmas and New Year's celebrations. It was difficult to consider what might have happened. Barbara and I spoke a few times. We kept praying and placing it in God's hands. We would text Beth, but nothing would come back.

On January 12, I heard from Beth! She delivered a beautiful baby boy right after the New Year! She asked if I could bring her some formula! Of course! She said he is a strong baby. Beth now doesn't understand why people are so afraid of babies with Down syndrome! How beautiful! Rely not on your own understanding! The picture says it all!

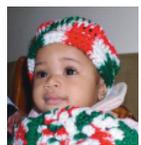
Barbara M.
Volunteer



Lisa Vigliotta
Deer Park Staff



**Name changed to protect confidentiality.*



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

Never Forget: Love Always Wins!

What a challenging position we find ourselves in while entering this new year of 2021. We can all agree that 2020 was very much the year of the pandemic, coinciding with additional societal eruption, challenges for everyday survival, and the turmoil of our presidential election.

Still, the greatest injustice is the destruction of more than 60 million preborn babies in the womb in our country since 1973. Yet, throughout all the unrest this year, you, our supporters, became our partners in saving babies' lives. You helped us, either financially or through material aid donations, to keep our doors open and remain on target to continue our mission of saving babies' lives and assisting families in need.

I am very grateful to all of you for your partnership and support and am very proud of our team — Board members, staff and volunteers — who responded to this injustice during this turbulent year when many excuses could have been made to not be involved and make a difference in saving babies' lives.

All of the pro-life gains made these past four years under the previous administration may well disappear. A new president and Congress in 2021 have the potential to impact our movement in a deeply disheartening way over the next four years. Should support for our mission be impacted, ONLY the pregnancy help part of the movement would continue to save babies' lives and advance "respect for the dignity of human life, from conception to natural death," which is our mission statement.

The focus on our recent election — and on elections prior — is a reminder of the political divide, and the focus is always on the candidates and the parties. The truth is that it really is about the spiritual battle of good vs. evil. The focus should be on God and His will for us. This is the foundation the Life Center has been built upon.

As we have experienced in the past, no doubt there will be hard times and difficult moments when there is not a pro-life president. But we have learned to trust, stay strong, and stay on target.

At such a time as this, the Life Center always defined "crisis" as an opportunity, whether that be an unplanned pregnancy, societal turmoil, or cultural unrest. We believe that the Lord birthed our organization and put us in the position of its guardians "for such a time as this."

We trust in God to give our leadership team the vision to lead us through the shifting sands to solid ground in order to advance our mission here on Long Island in the most effective way. In addition, we turn to our Blessed Mother and the Holy Spirit in prayer to remain our moral compass, especially "for such a time as this."

Because of all your support, we are entering 2021 with much momentum yet realize the expected responsibility of results. The Life Center will be celebrating 35 years this May, and we are hoping for many opportunities to celebrate our history and envision our future.

Your belief, commitment, and support to the mission of our organization will enable us to forge ahead. God will light the path as we move forward, one step at a time.

Happy Valentine's Day!

Blessings,

Gloria





WE REMEMBER...



Patricia Hughes, formerly the President of Mother and Unborn Baby Care of Long Island, Inc. (MUBC) now known as the Life Center of Long Island, recently passed away. Pat was a pioneer and one of the original founders of this organization. Prior to forming our pregnancy care center, Pat was one of the prayer warriors at the Deer Park abortion site called Options. Those early prayer warriors had great faith and courage to step out and open AAA Pregnancy Options at 1959 Deer Park Avenue.



As you may know, the Life Center underwent New York State scrutiny in the mid-1980s under former New York State Attorney General Robert Abrams, who forced the yellow pages to create a new category, "Abortion Alternatives." Our center's ads now had to appear with a disclaimer indicating that we do not perform abortions. Pat Hughes was named in the litigation that ensued and was at risk of losing her home and everything she owned. Thank God, after eight years in litigation, a new attorney general was elected who was pro-life and settled the litigation.

There is a phrase most famously used by English scientist Sir Isaac Newton while writing a letter in 1675, to fellow scientist Robert Hooke, "If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of **Giants**."

Pat Hughes is to be remembered as a "**Giant**" in the pro-life movement. May she rest in a well-deserved peace.

"His master said to him, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master's joy.'"

—Matthew 25:23

Lorraine Gariboldi
Former Executive Director,
Secretary of the Board of Directors
Life Center of Long Island

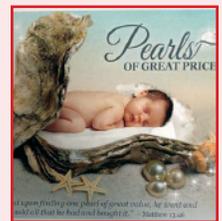
IN LOVING MEMORY



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

Tom Dannelly ~ Robert F. Nolan ~ Shirley T. Nolan

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



The Life Center of Long Island has Memorial and Honorarium cards available. Kindly call Nancy at 516-798-8746 for details.



LIFE CENTER POSITION OPPORTUNITY

The Life Center of Long Island is in search of a part-time staff member to fill our **Communications Coordinator** position. This position is mostly remote but requires occasional work at our Massapequa facility, located at 35 East Willow Street.

The candidate must have strong communication and interpersonal skills. Proficiency in social media, writing/editing, and public relations is required. Bachelor's degree preferred; master's a plus. Please send résumé to Gloria Schreiber at gschreiber@lifecenterli.org. For more information, please contact Gloria at 516-798-8746.





NOT GOODBYE, BUT SEE YOU LATER



By Damian Geminder, Communications Coordinator



For the past three years, it has been my honor to serve as Communications Coordinator at the Life Center of Long Island. Many of you have probably never met me, but you have seen what I do every time you visit our Facebook page, open our emails, or read our newsletter (including this one!). And it is because it has been such an honor that I write with a heavy heart that I am stepping down from my position.

Due to both professional and personal obligations, I decided that the Life Center would best be served by someone else filling this critical role, getting out the message about our good work to the Long Island community. As I told Gloria, however, I still intend to lend a hand on a volunteer basis, not the least of which will be coordinating baby showers and baby bottle campaigns at my parish, Saint Mary's Church, Amityville, where I co-chair our respect life ministry, the Holy Innocents Guild.

My fondest memory will no doubt be the time Gloria, Lisa, and I had the privilege of attending the 2018 Heartbeat International Conference in Anaheim, California. Seeing so many pro-life advocates from all over the country and world was an awesome and humbling experience. All of them are doing their good work in their communities, thanks to millions of people who, like you, share in the mission of a more loving world for all people, at all stages of life. Thank you for allowing me to join in that work; I will hold this in my own heart, always.



DONATION NEWSFLASH!



Diaper for Diaper Drive

Our donors are probably the most creative people in the world! One of them, who has chosen to remain anonymous, has made a matching financial pledge for Diaper for Diaper donations of diapers and wipes up to \$500 each month! Can you please help our centers? Our donor will generously match your monetary donation. **Be sure to make checks payable to the Life Center of Long Island and put "Diaper Drive" in the memo section. Mail to the Life Center at 1767 Deer Park Avenue, Deer Park, NY 11729. You may also donate online by going to lifecenterli.org/online-donation and selecting "DIAPER FOR DIAPER DRIVE" from the dropdown menu.**

As always, your generosity is very much appreciated; we cannot do this work without you!

Baby Buggy Car Donation

Cars for Charity is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization that accepts all vehicles, regardless of condition. Trucks, motorcycles, boats, recreational vehicles, and heavy equipment are accepted as well.

Call Cars for Charity at 888-755-5435 and tell them that you wish to donate your vehicle to the Life Center of Long Island. Our EIN # is 11-2767098. You may also visit www.carsforcharity.com, click the "Find a Charity" button, and select "Life Center of Long Island." Fill out the donation form and submit to begin the car donation process. Cars for Charity will schedule your fast, free pickup! It's that easy!

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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