

Life Center of Long Island

CELEBRATING THIRTY-SEVEN YEARS • ESTABLISHED MAY 1986 • FEBRUARY 2024

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FRIENDS REUNITE "ALL IS WELL"

Within our ministry, we cannot and should not rely solely on manuals, programs and handbooks, but rather our focus and objective should be primarily centered around **LOVE**, **kindness and understanding**. Establishing a genuine **relationship** from the very beginning is not only vital but necessary with each and every one of our clients. The importance of establishing a trusting, understanding and non-judgmental **relationship**, will directly influence the choices and decisions our clients will make in regard to the challenges that are presented before them. God leads our clients to us and has a specific plan for each of us.

















God had His intended purpose for Claire*. Claire was a young woman and a successful electrical engineer. Several years ago, while on a business trip from China to the U.S., she unexpectedly found herself pregnant. At the time, Claire was married and a mother to a young daughter. Claire could not help but focus on the idea that being pregnant with a second child in Chinese culture would not be looked upon as acceptable. Immediately she was flooded with an array of emotions, mainly worry, all the while knowing deep down within herself, when she returned to China she would be forced to have an abortion. This was definitely not something she would let happen. Her mind came to the resolution that she would temporarily have to make a life for herself and her baby right here in the U.S. Overwhelmed, to say the least, Claire connected with the Sisters for Life, who led her to the Life Center.

The second Claire walked through our doors, Lorraine Gariboldi (the Life Center's Center Director and Founder) and myself greeted her with open arms. We listened and learned for ourselves all about the struggles and challenges faced before this honorable and brave individual. We not only learned about Claire's tough situation but also about her identity; her values, beliefs and morals. One thing was certain, this was the ultimate act of selflessness. Claire had to not only separate herself from her husband and daughter thousands of miles away in China, but had to embrace a new world full of unknowns; all to protect the life of her preborn baby. It was now evident that through our **LOVE**, **kindness and understanding**, we enabled Claire to perceive herself and her future with hope. Today, I can say this moment was only the beginning of a genuine and sincere connection which blossomed into a beautiful friendship.

After much discussion, and no suitable place to live, Claire moved into my home. I held Claire in such high regard, admiring and respecting the sacrifices she was willing to make. She went on to have a beautiful and healthy baby girl, which she named Lorraine, after the Center Director, who granted her **Hope**, **Faith and Love**. Hope for a bright future, **Faith** in trusting her path was in the hands of God and ultimately forming relationships out of **Love**.

Claire has encountered some bumps in the road but also much success. She currently lives with her children in Norway. We have maintained a beautiful friendship throughout the years and look forward to her periodic visits to the U.S.

"Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things"

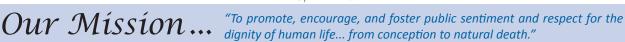
- 1 Corinthians 13:7

*Names have been changed to protect confidentiality



Meg Malley Hempstead Staff





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



Donor Facebook: www.facebook.com/lifecenterlongisland





GLORIA SCHREIBER

FROM THE DESK OF

Justice for Women

OUR 2023 RESULTS

- Served 2,978 client visits
- Distributed 210 PTKs (Pregnancy test kits)
- Served 2,722 client visits with baby material aid
- Saved 47 babies lives!

ast month, I mentioned that one of our new initiatives in 2024 is to reach out and introduce us to all the private and public schools here on Long Island and educate them about pregnancy care centers and how we serve our local communities. We will also invite them for a tour at any one of our Women First Pregnancy Options centers to further expand upon the services we provide.

Within this attempt, our goal also, is to educate the faculty and students that although abortion is legal, coercion and undue pressure to a woman to abort is illegal. We will introduce and share the "Dear Parent letter, Father of the Baby letter, School Counselor letter, etc.," from the Justice Foundation as a resource for the students and schools. Following is the letter being sent:

"Dear School Counselors,

This letter contains important information that will help you in your role as School Counselor. Have you ever had a young woman come into your office and tell you that she's concerned that she may be pregnant? We want to share vital information with you about the free resources available in your community that can assist and serve her in her time of need.

Thousands of pregnancy help organizations across the country provide a variety of services to pregnant teenagers. These centers and clinics offer confidential pregnancy services free of charge often including: pregnancy tests/pregnancy test kits, ultrasounds/ultrasound referrals, and trained advocates who can provide information about all of her options and numerous resources. These pregnancy help organizations can also provide referrals for prenatal care, direct material assistance, and parenting classes, where young women can "earn while they learn" a variety of items for their baby including clothing, diapers, car seats etc. Locating pregnancy help centers nationwide can be accessed by young women 24/7 at https://optionline.org/your-options You can also learn more about the important work of pregnancy help organizations by visiting www.pregnancycentertruth.com

Pregnancy Help Organizations are also equipped to answer questions about the legal rights of pregnant women. For example, it is unlawful for a minor to be forced, coerced or unduly pressured to have an abortion by her parents, relatives, boyfriend, or others. It is her decision alone, regardless if abortion is legal or illegal in your state. We have attached a letter from the Justice Foundation to further explain the law in this circumstance. To learn more about the legal rights of pregnant women and the resources available to them, please visit www.thejusticefoundation.org and scroll down to CAFA (Center Against Forced Abortion) for additional tools.

We invite you to learn more about our pregnancy help organization, Women First Pregnancy Options, right here on Long Island, by visiting our website **www.womenfirstpregnancyoptions.org** or contact us at 516-798-8746.

We welcome your questions and hope you'll consider visiting and touring one of our four facilities located in Hempstead, Massapequa, Deer Park, and Smithtown, to learn more about the numerous resources available to assist pregnant young women in their time of need and beyond. We look forward to meeting and working with you to assist our women here on Long Island. Please contact me at 516-798-8746 to coordinate scheduling a meeting and/or tour."

We are hopeful about this opportunity to reach our local educators and youth and welcome any suggested introductions to schools you, our donors, may have.

Sincerely,

Gloria Schreiber, CEO, LAS

Happy Valentine's Day









Office Space for Lease at Our Smithtown Center

91 Maple Ave, Smithtown- Entire 2nd Floor (1300 +/- SF) For more information, contact 516-798-8746 or email mpiccolo@lifecenter.org



THANK YOU ~ THANK YOU ~ THANK YOU

special note of thanks to John Cullinan and Conor Brown, students from St. John the Baptist Diocesan High School, West Islip, for choosing the Life Center of Long Island as their recipient of their most recent community service projects. Over the past two months, these two young men coordinated a series of donations to assist the specific needs of our families. Baby clothing, diapers, wipes and many other infant necessities were collected and then delivered to the Massapequa Life Center. Our sincere thanks to these students who provided many families with items such as coats, jackets, gloves and hats to their children to keep them nice and warm this winter.

We are sincerely grateful to the **Knights of Columbus, Mother Teresa Council, St. James RC Church in Setauket,** particularly **Fred Peritone** and **Rich Frazita**, for their very generous donation of toddler winter coats. Many children will be nice and cozy this winter thanks to all of you. Pictured are member Knights at our Smithtown office. Many Thanks!

Thank you to the parishioners of **St. Michael the Archangel in Farmingville** and **Our Lady of Victory Church in Floral Park**, for hosting their most recent baby showers to benefit the mothers and babies we serve. The overwhelming amount of gifts, including diapers, wipes, infant/children clothing, toiletries and so much more are very much appreciated by our clients.





Honorarium





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

Jenn Vermilye ~ Irene Buatti

May you be blessed always with God's eternal love and grace.

IN LOVING MEMORY



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

Brian Mulvey ~ Marie M. Jabovin ~ John Collar ~ Dominic J. Romeo
Catherine Jo Ryan ~ Edwin J Lucie ~ Rosemarie Burke ~ John Broderick
We commend their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed to the
loving embrace of our Father.



May you be blessed always with God's eternal love and grace.

Welcome to Linda Boggio





inda discovered the Life Center through a Baby Bottle campaign at her parish, St. Michael's the Archangel in Farmingville, NY. After volunteering at the Smithtown Women's First Pregnancy Center, Linda was presented with the opportunity to work as a bilingual counselor at the Smithtown center. Linda hopes to utilize her language and mediation skills to assist the Life Center in its essential mission. Linda is deeply honored in joining the ranks of all those both past and present who have made and continue to make the Life Center a shining star to families in need. *Welcome Linda to our Life Center Team!!*

THANK YOU LISA VIGLIOTTA



isa will be retiring from her current position as our Program Administrator as she is looking forward spending more time with her grandchildren.

Lisa will remain with us as a Baby Bottle Campaign Speaker and continue being a facilitator of our Post Abortion Healing Program, Surrendering the Secret.

Lisa's teamwork has been a tremendous asset to the Life Center. Her sense of humor brightened many days while her spirituality and the life lessons she shared had impact with those she came in contact with, especially her clients.



She always has the best interest in heart and mind for the mission of the Life Center. Lisa has helped us propel our mission to where we are today by the contacts and networks she established as resources for the Life Center. *Thank you Lisa!*





Men Wanted!!!



re you semi-retired or retired? Do you often wonder, how YOU can help save babies? God has a special calling for men to be strong, courageous leaders. His word inspires and sets men apart in a special way to be the protector and defender of families. Answer His call to you by joining the Life Center and assisting us in protecting and providing for the babies and families we serve.

"Be strong and of good courage" Joshua 1:9

Male Volunteers are urgently needed in all of our four locations: Hempstead, Massapequa, Deer Park and Smithtown....to help property and building maintenance, management of baby item donations (ensuring items are in good, clean, working condition) and small handyman tasks as needed. This volunteer position is a great opportunity for the semi-retired and retirees. Please contact Lauren at 516-798-8746 for further details.



Volunteers Needed



Please help our cause by offering your gifts of time and talent as a volunteer.

English-speaking and bilingual counselors - excellent training provided **Layette Volunteers** - to sort baby item donations and prepare layettes for new moms Baby Bottle Campaign Speakers – for those interested, please contact our Baby Bottle Campaign Coordinator, Regina Lawler at 516 -798-8746.

Data Entry ~ Clerical ~ Gardeners

High school student volunteers are welcome to receive Community Service Hours! Please contact 516-798-8746 for details.





Life Center Requests





New Vacuum Needed

Our Smithtown Center would greatly appreciate a donation of a new vacuum as the one previously donated when we opened our Smithtown Center is no longer working. Please call Mary at 631-656-0441. Thank you!!



PCOMING EVENTS... DATES TO BE ANNOUNCED





5K Run/Walk to be held at Cedar Creek Park in Seaford on Saturday, June 8th, 2024.



Comedy Night with Chrisitan pro-life comedian and our recent Gala Emcee, Gordon Douglas, a two-time Mike Huckabee show guest!



Please join us for our first time ever Bingo Night!

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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Gloria Schreiber Chief Executive Officer **Paul Hodermarsky** Chairman

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