

Bundles of Joy



Earn While You Learn Reunion December 2010

All About “Earn While You Learn”

Our “Earn While You Learn Program” (EWYL) is a program that Carolyn’s Place hosts right here at our Center. It is designed to provide mothers-to-be and dads, with critical basic childbirth preparation and parenting skills, while they earn items they need for the care of their baby. The client earns vouchers for attending the six-week program and completing any “homework” assignments. These vouchers may be redeemed for cribs, car seats, diapers, baby clothes and other items. In addition to providing the client with valuable skills and information, the program builds community and a support system while fostering responsibility. Each program typically culminates with a home cooked dinner where the group sits together and enjoys the bond and fellowship of a shared meal, in the hope that this tradition will carry over to their homes and children. The photos above were taken at an Earn While You Learn Reunion where the parents, with their newborn children, were able to reconnect and compare notes. In keeping with our mission statement of providing “...education, comfort and assistance...” Carolyn’s Place thinks it is important for their clients to have an understanding and knowledge of both the physical and emotional needs of their baby as he/she grows and becomes a part of the family unit. Although we do provide many items to clients we strongly urge anybody who comes to us to participate in this important program. Throughout the years we have cultivated relationships, and as a result, have been able to watch many of these children as they grow. It is such a blessing to see these young families!

Mission Statement

**“Love one another”
(John 13:34)**

Carolyn’s Place Pregnancy Care Center is a ministry committed to empowering individuals, through education, comfort, and assistance, to make life choices related to their sexuality and child-bearing consistent with the sanctity of human life.

18th Annual Dinner Celebration

On Sunday November 7, 2010, Carolyn's Place celebrated its 18th Anniversary with its Annual Dinner. At this dinner Carolyn's Place also celebrated the 19th birthday of the infant girl, Carolyn Marie, who was found in a church doorway in 1991 by Father Robert Rousseau. This finding led to the formation of the Carolyn's Place ministry so that no woman should have to go through pregnancy alone. The event was held at the Villa Rosa Pontelandolfo Banquet Hall and had 185 guests in attendance.

In addition to dining on a delicious five-course meal, everyone was entertained by singer, guitarist Sandy Miles. Sandy entertained us with three beautiful Christian songs which she composed. The evening also featured guest speaking from award recipients Ed Flynn and Sr. Veronica Mary Sullivan, S.V.



Carolyn's Place has established three awards which are presented at this event.

The **Carolyn's Place Maureen A. Donohoe Life Award** is given to an individual who represents life affirming values and actively promotes them in the general community. [Maureen Anne Donohoe, daughter of Jessie and Ray Donohoe, died in 1986 at the age of 20. Despite having cerebral palsy, Maureen spent her short life courageously speaking out and writing in defense of the sanctity of human life.] This year the award was presented to radio talk show host, **Ed Flynn**.



Ed Flynn is a semi-retired radio veteran of 55 years. A New York native, Ed is an Air Force veteran. He has been married to Frances (a teacher) for 35 years and has one daughter, Regan. Mr. Flynn has always been a staunch pro-life advocate and often discussed right to life issues on his talk show "Talk of the Town" on WATR 1320 AM. He never shied away from an opportunity to promote his views on the sanctity of human life to his listening audience. Mr. Flynn addressed this important issue with authors, clergy, politicians, scholars, and the general public throughout his more than 19 years hosting "Talk of the Town." He shared his love for life with us in a motivating talk in support of life and the Carolyn's Place ministry.

The **Carolyn's Place Ministry Award** was established to recognize individuals with a religious vocation who exemplify extraordinary commitment to protection of the sanctity of human life. This award was presented to **Sr. Veronica Mary Sullivan, S.V.** formerly

Eileen Sullivan from Waterbury. Sr. Veronica is one of six children born of Phyllis and James Sullivan. In 1993, she became actively involved in the pro-life movement. She volunteered first at the parish level, then at Carolyn's Place. Upon meeting the Sisters of Life while on a special Carolyn's Place retreat in 1995, the seeds of her nascent vocation were planted. Eileen entered the Sisters of Life in 1999 and professed her solemn vows in 2007. She has served in the community as the vocations director, as postulant director, the local superior of their Holy Respite home for mothers in Manhattan, and now as the Director of the Family Life / Respect Life Office for the Archdiocese of New York. Sr. Veronica Mary shared her stories with us about her time at Carolyn's Place and the many accomplishments and growth of the Sisters of Life.

The third award, the **Carolyn's Place Walter J. Williams Service Award**, is given to an individual who has provided outstanding volunteer service to the Carolyn's Place ministry. [Walter served on our Board of Directors from 2000 until his death Feb. 8, 2009, providing invaluable legal advice to us while organizing fundraisers for Carolyn's Place, a pro-life group and a monthly rosary at his parish- St. Teresa, Woodbury.] This year's award was presented to **Barbara C. Theriault**. Barbara (Chasse) Theriault, Treasurer of Carolyn's Place, was born in Fort Kent, Maine where she lived until moving to Connecticut in 1966. She has been married to Brian Theriault for 43 years and they have three children and three granddaughters. Mrs. Theriault was a stay at home mom while her children were in school and has worked as the Administrative Assistant at Adams Samartino & Co. for the past 17 years. She began volunteering at Carolyn's Place as the bookkeeper. She has been an active member of the Board of Directors for the past eight years and served as the Treasurer for the past five years.



Happy 19th Birthday Carolyn Marie



Once again, local artist Sam D'Ambruoso, provided us with a framed oil painting of the landscape of the Housatonic River in Cornwall, Connecticut. This beautiful piece of artwork was raffled, raising just under \$1000. The lucky winner was Ms. Roberta Ryan from North Branford. Our second raffled item was a shirt printed with Our Lady of Guadalupe which was donated and made by Peter Harkins from his company Risen Glory Enterprises. This was won by Bernadette Lysaght.



Thank you to all those who helped make it a memorable evening.



SINCERE



Christmas Donations

During the Advent Season we were very blessed to receive generous donations from MANY people, parishes and organizations. We are truly grateful for every donation, large or small. These donations enable us to distribute Christmas gifts to our moms and their babies, as well as restock our supplies to help our clients throughout the year. We sincerely thank the following parishes and organizations:

St. Mary Magdalen-Oakville, Sts. Peter and Paul-Waterbury, St. Teresa Men's Club-Woodbury, Bank of America Knitting 4 Neighbors-Hartford, Middlebury Elementary School, Bucks Hill Elementary School 2nd Grade Class-Waterbury, Soroptimists-Waterbury, Southbury Women's Club, St. Francis Xavier Church- Waterbury, Women's Guild at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception-Waterbury, St. Matthew's Church-Forestville, Woodbury Women's Club, Blessed Sacrament and The Shrine of St. Anne for Mothers-Waterbury, Blessed Sacrament Pre-K Class-Waterbury, Beacon Falls Senior Center, Oxford High School Booster Club, Watertown-Oakville Ecumenical Council, St. Stanislaus-Bristol.

We apologize if we inadvertently neglected to acknowledge any organization. Please know that we say THANK YOU to all of our supporters.

IBM Blanket Bonanza

The employees at IBM in Southbury donated blankets of all shapes, sizes and colors to Carolyn's Place. They will be a comfort to our moms and their babies on those long winter nights! Thank you Marie DePalma and IBM!

Quilting for Community

The Family and Child Development Class at Wilby High School in Waterbury used their newly learned sewing skills to give back to the community. The Class learned quilting skills by making baby quilts. The class delivered these quilts personally during their "field trip" to Carolyn's Place where they took a tour and learned about all of our services. We are truly touched by the effort that the class put into making these quilts and for the baby items the students brought. We are grateful to all of their teachers, especially Anita Watkins for spearheading this "field trip" and donation.



Dozens of Diapers

A big thanks to ALL who donated diapers. We now have this bountiful supply to distribute throughout the year.

Thank you to Pam Juliano and friends who adopted a family from Carolyn's Place for Christmas, providing them with gifts and needed items to bless them this Christmas.

Brownies Baskets for Babies

Thank you Brownie Scout Troop #64232 for the two beautiful baskets that you made: One pink basket filled with items for a baby girl and the other blue for a baby boy. The baskets were delivered by troop member, Valerie Nobrega. We are truly grateful!



THANKS

Abounding Boomerangs

During the 2010 year Carolyn's Place has been blessed by the many parishes and organizations that have sponsored Baby Bottle Boomerangs which have helped us to continue our ministry efforts. Boomerangs sponsored earlier in the year include: St. Francis Xavier Parish in New Milford, St. Michael's Church in Beacon Falls, St. John the Evangelist School in Watertown, St. Aloysius Parish in Plantsville, St. Rose of Lima in Newtown, St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Naugatuck, St. Bridget School-Cheshire and Church of the Epiphany-Cheshire.

Thank you to the parishioners of **St. Mary Magdalen Church in Oakville** for sponsoring a Boomerang that raised \$2,608.45. We are very grateful for their generosity and for the assistance given by Joan Gugliotti to run such a successful event.

Sponsoring their first Boomerang this fall, **Our Lady of Mount Carmel-Waterbury** raised \$2,231.95. We are extremely grateful to Fr. Frederick Aniello for allowing his parish to host this event. A special thanks to M. Jane Teta for coordinating this Boomerang. Thank you to the parishioners for their generosity.

The parishioners of St. Joseph Church, Canaan and the Immaculate Conception Church in Norfolk raised \$1,245.28 during their 2010 Boomerang. A big thanks to the parishioners and Fr. Brian Jeffries for their support.

St. Thomas Becket Church in Cheshire sponsored their second Boomerang with the help of Noreen and Ron Pearsall. They raised \$3,259.59. Thank you so much for your hard work and continued support.

Students of St. Vincent College Radiography classes held their first Boomerang under the leadership of their professor, Emmy Russo. They raised \$865.13. A special thanks to this class for taking time away from their academic schedule to do community service to support our ministry.

Thank you to the **Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem** for their continued support. Their Advent Boomerang raised \$2,482.83 for Carolyn's Place. We thank Fr. Joseph Looney and Deb Quinn for their hard work. We are extremely grateful.

Fr. Robert Rousseau and the parishioners of **St. Augustine Church in North Branford** raised, to date \$3,061.25 during their Boomerang this Advent Season. A heart felt thanks to Melayna Lovelace, Mary Pacelli and Linda Proto for organizing this event.

Thanks so much to the parishioners of **St. Ann Church in Bristol** for supporting our ministry by hosting another Boomerang. This year they raised \$2,041.48. A special thanks to Corrine Clark for her leadership.

The updated total funds raised by the parishioners of **St. John of the Cross Church in Middlebury** is \$2,274.10. Thank you for your generosity!

Thanks to the staff at **St. Michael's Bookstore at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception** in Waterbury. They raised \$19.35 with a baby bottle placed at their register. We thank you very much for your support.

This fall **Our Lady of Loreto Parish in Waterbury** sponsored a Baby Bottle Boomerang under the leadership of Louise Brogna which raised \$3,594.30. We are truly grateful for the faithful support they have given to our ministry.

IF YOUR PARISH OR ORGANIZATION WOULD LIKE TO SPONSOR A BABY BOTTLE BOOMERANG:

- Purchase, or borrow from us, a sufficient number of baby bottles for your parish or organization.
- Distribute a baby bottle to anyone interested in participating.
- Ask them to fill the bottle with spare change.
- Have everyone return the filled bottle at the end of a specified time period. (Usually about 3 to 4 weeks.)
- Total the donations, and send one check to Carolyn's Place, Inc.
- Return borrowed bottles to Carolyn's Place, or save your purchased bottles and reuse for a future boomerang.

From Ellen's Desk

The last few months have been very busy ones at Carolyn's Place. In an effort to get information out about our various programs our Outreach Team met with various social service agencies, medial staff and school personnel. As soon as an Earn While You Learn class ended another began. In fact "Earn While You Learn" classes are booked through April. We've begun a support group for students who are parents at Kaynor Technical High School and an after-school program "Teens Take Charge" at Kennedy High School, Waterbury.

Most importantly 49 babies were born this past year! Initially many of these babies' moms were abortion vulnerable. Each one came to us with their own unique story. God rewrote these stories with an abundance of grace and mercy. He allowed Carolyn's Place the privilege of taking part in the plot. Blessed Mother Teresa said "If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other." We at Carolyn's Place have not forgotten, because it is in building relationships and touching hearts that we help to build a culture of life.

LOOK FOR THIS...

**Think you're Pregnant?
We can help!**



SUPPORT – EDUCATION – CHOICES

- 24/7 Hotline
- Free Pregnancy Tests
- Child Birth Prep Classes
- Parenting Program
- All Services Free & Confidential
- Convenient Waterbury Location

Carolyn's Place, Inc.

PREGNANCY CARE CENTER

(203) 597-9050

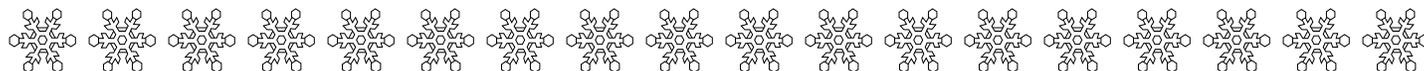
www.carolynsplace.net

137 Grandview Ave.

Waterbury, CT

Look for our poster at the Brass Mill Mall in Waterbury on the first floor right outside Burlington Coat Factory. If you would like an 8x10 or 11x14 copy of this poster for your office, organization or parish please contact us at

203-597-9050



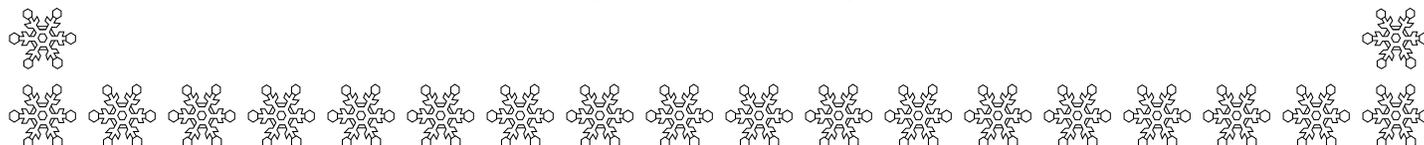
Winter 2011 Wish List & Thank You!

(If you can help with any of these items, new or used, please contact us at (203) 597-9050.

ITEMS NEEDED: New Cribs (see article on page 7), Rubber Bands, Printer Paper, Home Depot gift card, Staples gift card, Scrapbook and Large Photo Albums.

LABOR NEEDED: Occasional small carpentry and painting jobs, some yard clean-up

We are sincerely grateful for the donations we received from our Spring/Summer Newsletter. A special thank you goes out to Lillian Foley for donating an extension cord, to Darlene Baer for the Home Depot Gift Card, and to the many individuals and organizations that donated diapers.



URGENT

WE NEED YOUR HELP

Recently the Consumer Product Safety Commission passed legislation banning the production and sale of cribs with drop down sides. This will go into effect this June. Parents can still use existing cribs in their homes with a warning from the CPSC to check for secure sides to keep the child from falling out. However, organizations such as Carolyn's Place will no longer be able to accept cribs with drop down sides and we will need to dispose of any cribs not meeting with new regulations. This means we will need to purchase new cribs that are in compliance with the new standards. This will create a serious shortage of cribs for our moms.

HERE'S WHERE YOU CAN HELP....

We are looking for individuals or organizations who are able to raise funds to purchase a new crib, that meets all new safety regulations, for one of our moms that comes to Carolyn's Place. Most of our cribs are given to us second hand and therefore will not meet the new codes so we will be in need of new cribs for a few years until more of the cribs, without drop down sides, are in people's homes and are recycled to us. The cost for new cribs range from \$100 to \$200, dependent upon its features and the manufacturer.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO CAN HELP!

JOIN US AT OUR ANNUAL MEETING

The Carolyn's Place Pregnancy Care Center Annual Meeting will be held Wednesday, March 30, 2011 at St. John the Evangelist Church, 574 Main St. Watertown, CT. The evening will begin at 6:00PM with a Mass celebrated by Fr. Robert Rousseau to affirm the "gift of life", followed by the meeting which will update you on our year's activities while offering you an opportunity for questions and answers.

ALL ARE WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND. Bring a friend! Meet our Board of Directors and enjoy a dessert buffet!



Book Review

Hooked: New Science on How Casual Sex is Affecting Our Children

By Joe S. McIlhaney, Jr., MD and Freda McKissac Bush, MD

Dr. McIlhaney is the founder/chairman of the Medical Institute for Sexual Health (MISH). He is an obstetrician/gynecologist with many years of experience. For most of the last 16 years, MISH has concentrated on the two primary factors that can impair sexual health, which are non-marital pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections. In this book, Drs. McIlhaney and Bush present a third factor.

Modern neuroscience research has uncovered startling new information about how sex affects the brain. When sex is experienced in healthy ways, it adds value to our lives. If sex is experienced in unhealthy ways, at the wrong time, it can damage essential elements of who we are.

This is a fascinating read from a purely health focused perspective. It also proves that God, the Creator of all life, knew what He was doing when He gave us those ten commandments! Gotta love those "instruction manuals"! Parents, educators, medical professionals and anyone who deals with tweens, teens and young adults should give this book a close look.

Carolyn's Place, Inc
Pregnancy Care Center

137 Grandview Avenue
Waterbury, CT 06708

(203) 597-9050

Web Site: www.carolynsplace.net

**NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
WATERBURY, CT
PERMIT NO. 345**

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

*Join us for our Annual Meeting
March 30, 2011
See page 7*

**Urgent Need for Cribs
See page 7**
