

# Carolyn's Voice

**CAROLYN'S PLACE, INC.  
PREGNANCY CARE CENTER**

## *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.**

## College– A “Life Changing” Experience

In the United States, 22 percent of all pregnancies (excluding miscarriages) end in abortion.<sup>1</sup> Of these abortions, 44 percent are performed on young adults ages 18 to 24.<sup>2</sup> In short, college-aged women receive nearly half of all the abortions in the country.

As we face this travesty head-on, we must realize that young women are particularly susceptible to the cunning marketing of abortion clinics. As a young woman, she sees motherhood as a death to self—a death to the life that she once knew. The new mother realizes that no matter what choice she makes, her life will never be the same. She must choose: survival of her baby or survival of her old self.

Every person born after 1972 is the survivor of abortion. For a mere \$350, each of us could have been aborted. Many of us have seen the tragic aftermath of abortion with its effects on our friends, siblings, roommates, and even mothers. After undergoing abortion, many women will say they were told it was just a “blob of cells,” and that the procedure was simply medical. Other women say they didn't want to have an abortion, but they didn't know where to go for help.

Carolyn's Place has several education programs that we present in the middle schools and high schools regularly. Living in such a high-tech age, we are able to show students exactly what a “fetus” or “preborn baby” looks like. With the data and technology at hand, the question becomes; how do we reach the college population to provide them with the knowledge to make informed and healthy life choices? Further, how do we provide these women with the strength and support needed to not only avoid abortions, but to learn the virtues of self-respect and abstinence until marriage?

The answer lies in the growing ministry of *Students for Life of America* (SFLA). This small organization began five years ago, under the leadership of their young, energetic Executive Director, Kristan Hawkins. Kristan and her small group of dedicated assistants work with college students to form an SFLA group on their campus. They provide students (regardless of age) with training and resources they need to successfully build a pro-life group on their college campus. SFLA will give one-on-one support, provide kits, online training, step by step guides, legal help and ongoing ideas and training to maintain the group presence on each college campus. SFLA is a dynamic organization committed to “...end abortion by educating students about the issues of abortion, euthanasia, and infanticide; identifying pro-life student leaders; equipping student pro-lifers with the training, skills and resources to be effective and successful; promoting student activity to other local, college and national organizations.”

This program has been so successful that since its inception in 2006, they have assisted in the formation of an active respect life group on 678 college campuses nationwide! Unfortunately, Students for Life has a presence in only three Connecticut colleges. That is where Carolyn's Place and YOU can help.

Carolyn's Place is beginning a new initiative in conjunction with our education programs in order to reach highly vulnerable college-aged women. SFLA cannot just walk onto a campus and immediately establish a group. They need a student, or students, as a contact person at each college. Once this connection is made, a representative from SFLA will assist the students to form a group which will provide support, strength, and unity for the typically unheard group of pro-life students on campus. Carolyn's Place will be available to provide resources and a confidential place to seek consultation in the event of an unplanned pregnancy or other sexual health issues. We hope to show these young women the dignity of their life and their unborn child. We also want to provide SFLA with both women and men student contacts to the colleges in an effort to create as many chapters in the state as possible.

Here is where YOU come in. Who do you know in college that would be a possible contact person? Perhaps a child, grandchild, niece, nephew, neighbor, friend, co-worker or even yourself? Speak with this individual about being a part of this exciting group on their campus and have them contact Carolyn's Place ([staff@carolynsplace.net](mailto:staff@carolynsplace.net) or 203-597-9050) or contact Students for Life directly at [www.studentsforlife.org](http://www.studentsforlife.org).

You can help in some way to save lives. Never doubt the difference you can make. Remember and live by the words of Mother Teresa, "Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love."

<sup>1</sup> Jones RK and Kooistra, K., Abortion incidence and access to services in the United States, 2008, *Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health*, 2011, 43(1):41-50

<sup>2</sup> Jones RK, Finer LB and Singh S, Characteristics of U.S. Abortion Patients, 2008, New York: Guttmacher Institute, 2010.

## Celebrating 20 Years of Protecting Life

### Carolyn's Place to Mark Second Decade at November 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner

Nearly twenty years ago, a scared new mother made an important decision for her three-hour old daughter: Life.

Left in a box to be found in a dark church entryway, baby Carolyn Marie and her birth-mother unknowingly illustrated the unmet need to support local women with unplanned pregnancies. Since its inception, Carolyn's Place has encouraged and educated women to make healthy life choices and has saved over 1,000 precious lives.

We invite all of our supporters and friends to share in our joy at Carolyn's Place 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration and Annual Dinner to be held on November 4, 2012.

Additional information about the event will follow in subsequent newsletters.

**November 2012**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	



Fr. Robert Rousseau with newborn Carolyn Marie, found Nov. 4, 1991 in entryway at St. John the Evangelist Church, Watertown.

# YOU ARE INVITED TO...OUR ANNUAL MEETING



Baby Hunter- Age 4 mos.

Each year Carolyn's Place provides the opportunity for our supporters to learn more about our ministry by inviting you to join us at our ANNUAL MEETING. This year our meeting will be held on **Wednesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>** at St. John of the Cross Church in Middlebury (1089 Whittemore Rd.)

beginning at 6PM with a mass celebrated by our founder, Fr. Robert Rousseau. The meeting will be held in the church hall directly below the church. During this session the Carolyn's Place Board of Directors and staff will update you on the year's activities and statistics, our plans for the future and our financial status. We

also look forward to answering any questions and hearing your comments. Please join us, bring a friend, and enjoy a dessert buffet.

**It's been 20 YEARS and we have much to be proud of and much to share!!**

## New Technology



Carolyn's Place is excited to announce that our newly designed and innovative website is up and running! You can access our website at [www.carolynsplace.net](http://www.carolynsplace.net).

We are also very happy to announce that we will now be accepting online donations. Our online donations will be processed by the company Our Sunday Visitor (OSV). After much research and consideration we chose

OSV because they are a faith-based organization that promotes and supports our pro-life values. Contributions can be made through our website by both electronic check and credit card. You may also choose to contribute through a one time quick account or by setting up an account that can be used regularly.

Carolyn's Place would

also love to keep in touch with you via email. If you would like to be placed on our email list please email us at [staff@carolynsplace.net](mailto:staff@carolynsplace.net) Subject should be: *email list*

Don't forget to visit us on Facebook!



Visit our new website or Like us on Facebook!



- For many years we have been blessed by a large donation of afghans and fleece blankets specially made by the employees of **IBM in Southbury**, with the leadership of Marie DePalma. (right)



- **St. Teresa's Men's Group** of Woodbury led by Nick Volkringer donated diapers, clothes and baby items. Thank You.



- **Ms. Jackie Dressler** knitted fun furry hats for our moms. These hats were donated through **Knights of Columbus Council #15 from Southington** who visited us with members from 2 other Councils. Thank you for your support.

# Thank You

- Thank you **Samaritan Stitches of St. Augustine Church, North Branford** for all of the beautiful handmade baby items including sweaters, hats and blankets.
- We are grateful for the lovely handmade baby blankets stitched lovingly by the members of the **Beacon Falls Senior Center**
- We extend a special thank you to the women from the **Soroptimist Int., Waterbury Chapter** for donating toiletries and personal care items that we used as gifts for our moms.
- We are grateful to **Karen Picard** for thinking of our moms during the Christmas Season with a donation of toiletry items.
- Many thanks to **Pam Juliano** and her friends who took up a collection of gift cards which helped 12 of our families.
- We sincerely appreciate all of the time and talent that **Sara Dillon** put into making beautiful blankets, scarves, shawls and hats which we distributed to our clients.
- We offer a warm thanks to **Karen Perrone** for her special donation of Beatrix Potter themed baby items.
- **Ms. Marlene Yeomans** made a financial donation to be given to help bring some Christmas joy into a family. Her generous gift was used to help a mother with a 3 month old baby boy. Thank you so much.
- Many thanks to **Sr. Marie Roccapiore** for her generous donation of baby items such as clothes, crib sheets and diapers.
- **Mrs. Crowley's 2nd Grade Class at St. Matthew School, Forestville** donated ten baskets of baby items after our Director, Ellen spoke with the children about their guardian angels and how each of them is a special gift from God.
- Each year **Mrs. Gilligan and her Pre-K class at Blessed Sacrament School in Waterbury** share their love for babies by providing Carolyn's Place with a gift. This year they gave us a beautiful basket filled with baby items for us to use to help care for our moms and their babies. THANK YOU.
- We are very grateful to **Immaculate Conception Church Women's Guild, Waterbury** for the donations they collected during their annual Christmas party. These items helped us bring Christmas joy to our clients.
- Thank you to **St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Woodbury** for spreading the Christmas spirit by collecting baby items for Carolyn's Place during their Christmas Pageant

Each year, many parishes generously donate to Carolyn's Place by hosting Advent Giving Trees or Christmas collections. The countless number of baby item collected help to supply our clients' needs for the following year. The items vary from diapers and clothing, to blankets and gift cards. We are sincerely grateful for the overwhelming generosity of the following parishes. Thank You!

- SS. Peter and Paul Church, Waterbury
- St. Mary Magdalen Church, Oakville
- St. Matthew Church, Forestville
- St. Anthony Church, Prospect
- Immaculate Conception Church, Norfolk
- St. Stanislaus Church, Bristol
- St. Ann Church, Bristol

## Thank You

- Thank you **Knights of Columbus Ojeda Council 33 of Naugatuck** for supporting us in many ways throughout the year, and for the beautiful Christmas gifts for our moms and babies.
- We greatly appreciate all the diapers and gifts that the students of **Our Lady of Loretto Confirmation Class in Waterbury** collected to bring some Christmas cheer to our moms.

## Baby Bottle Boomerangs

During 2011 Advent and Christmas Season, Carolyn's Place has been blessed by the following parishes that sponsored Baby Bottle Boomerangs which help us to continue our ministry efforts.

Thank you **St. Mary Magdalen Church in Oakville** for sponsoring a fantastic Baby Bottle Boomerang. The parish raised \$1,785.60. We are so grateful to Fr. James Gregory, the event coordinator, Joan Gugliotti, and the parishioners for all of their hard work and support.

**St. Augustine Church in North Branford** held their sixth Boomerang and raised an amazing \$4,046.30. Thank you to the parishioners, Fr. Rousseau and BBB coordinators, Melayna Lovelace and Mary Pacelli for your continued and faithful support.

**Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem** held a successful Baby Bottle Boomerang which raised \$2,437.41. Thank you so much to Fr. Joseph Looney for his support. Thank you to the coordinator, Rick Trotta and the parishioners for making this a huge success.

**St. Ann Church in Bristol** raised \$1,841.98 during their eighth successful Boomerang. Thank you to Fr. Alvin LeBlanc and the coordinator, Corrine Clark, for leading the parish in this fundraiser for so many years. We also thank the parishioners for their very faithful support.



### 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.

## Wilby High Visits Carolyn's Place

Wilby High School's Child Development and Advanced Clothing Classes visited our Center this Christmas Season. The students used their sewing skills to make baby quilts which they generously donated to Carolyn's Place for Christmas gifts for our moms and babies. The students

also brought two gift baskets donated by Wilby Family, Career and Community Leaders of America Club. Each basket was overflowing with special items for our moms. During the visit, the students took a tour of our Center, heard about our founding story and services, viewed a

powerful DVD, and asked questions. Carolyn's Place enjoyed the time the students were able to spend with us, and we thank them so much for the beautiful quilts and baskets.



Wilby High Students

## Grant Awarded to Carolyn's Place

The Naugatuck Savings Bank Foundation recently awarded Carolyn's Place with a grant. The grant was in the amount of \$3,000 designated for the purchase of new cribs that meet

the federal safety codes, to help our moms and babies. With this grant we will be able to purchase 12 new and safe cribs. We are extremely grateful to have been selected as a recipient of this

grant and we look forward to helping young families throughout 2012.

From Ellen's Desk

For old "war horses" the March for Life in D.C. was an opportunity to protest, to walk in solidarity with fellow pro-lifers and to meet with legislators to discuss pertinent issues. But , in the last few years this has changed and the change is a wonderful one to see.

The most recent March for life in D.C. boasted the largest number of young people ever! They held creative signs, chanted pro-life slogans, and prayed. One group of young people made a wooden "life boat." The boat was carried by several young men with one young man in it leading them all in pro-life chants. Their energy and enthusiasm was contagious. Their message was clear, "We are here to stay, thirty nine years is too much.

We will change this culture of death."

Riding the metro after the march, I had the privilege of hearing a conversation between several teens and a thirty-something man. The man began the conversation by intimating that the teens took part in the march because they were Catholic. The teens respectfully admitted to being Catholic ("and proud of it"). They also said that being Catholic didn't mean being uneducated. They took on pro-life issues, including contraception. By then everyone on the metro was listening. One listener who identified himself as Catholic said that he had never heard contraception explained the way the teens had explained it.

When we got off the metro, I thanked the teens. They were sophomores at a Catholic high school in Kentucky. They asked where we were from. We told them a bit about Carolyn's Place. One of the girls gave me a hug, looked me in the eye and said, "Don't worry, we'll keep fighting for the culture of life and we'll win." Those teens will never know what a gift they gave me. I left D.C. knowing that no matter how things look, we will win. With young people like these coming up in the ranks the culture of life will win.

I am reminded of 1 Timothy 4:11 "Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith and in purity." We, as adults, would do well to follow their lead.

Our Education Programs

Carolyn's Place offers the following programs for schools, parish CCD classes, organizations, and adult or youth groups. If you are interested in any of our programs, please contact us at 203-597-9050 or by email at staff@carolynsplace.net. All programs are free and adapted for each audience.

Early Childhood Talk- This program is designed for pre-school, kindergarten and primary

school-aged children. This talk will show each child how each one of them is a special gift of life.

Respect, Responsibility and Relationships- This program is designed for middle and high school students to empower them through education to make healthy life choices related to their sexuality. Some of the topics discussed include: abstinence, self respect, life goals and STDs.

Adult Workshops/ Presentations- This workshop offers information to adults and parents on the current trends and health risks that face our teens today.

The Story of Carolyn's Place- This presentation tells our story and gives a brief overview of our services and programs.

To schedule a talk please call us at 203-597-9050.



Spring 2012 Wish List

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

ITEMS NEEDED: New or lightly used Vacuum Cleaner, 2 Flash Drive (Memory stick), 2 pair of good scissors, Home Depot gift card and Staples gift card, spring plants for our flower boxes and beds.

We are sincerely grateful for the donation received from our Fall/Winter Newsletter. Thank you to Tom Kenney who donated a digital video camera and printer paper; Jackie Ritacco for her donation of light bulbs; flashlights and rubber bands; Phyllis and Dean Tarsi for donating printer paper, light bulbs and rubber bands; Pamela Deldonno for her donation of a digital camera; printer paper and a projector screen; and to our supporter Evelyn who donated a projector screen. Thank you, these screens will be a huge help at our presentations.



## 2011 - 2012 Membership Drive (as of Feb. 17, 2012)

Cornerstone Circle		Patron		Guardian		Guardian	
Anonymous	1	Mr. Mrs. Raymond	Kozlowski	Brass City Unit Marine Corps. League Aux	Ms. Patricia	McKinley	McKinley
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Mr. Mrs. Robert	Colucci	Deacon & Mrs. Ernest	Pagliari, Jr.	Mrs. Louise	Doucette	Mr. Mrs. Robert	Rock
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Mr. Robert	Ratchford	Mr. Jim	Proe	Mr. Mrs. Edward	Dwyer	Mr. Mrs. John	Sipper
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Mr. Mrs. Louis	DeLuca	Mr. Mrs. Kevin	Zupkus	Ms. Debi	Klik		
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Ms. Joan	Gauthier	Mr. Mrs. Alvira	Ambrose	Mr. Mrs. Charles	Linck		
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		Ms. Catherine	Boulay				
		Mr. Mrs. Robert	Bourassa				

Thank you to all who participated in our 2011-2012 Membership Appeal. It is because of your generous donations that we are able to continue our important work.



*CAROLYN'S PLACE, INC  
PREGNANCY CARE CENTER*

137 Grandview Ave.  
Waterbury, CT 06708

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VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE!  
[www.carolynsplace.net](http://www.carolynsplace.net)

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## *Celebrating 20 Years*

Join us at our Annual Meeting— March 28th, 6pm—see page 2  
New website, New Online Giving, New Facebook Page— see page 3