

hope news

Fall 2017

“TRULY HE IS MY ROCK AND MY SALVATION; HE IS MY FORTRESS, I WILL NEVER BE SHAKEN.”

PSALM 62:2

The Right-to-Life movement has been in existence for about 50 years, and throughout that time, many have battled to awaken the conscience of America to the plight of her littlest, most vulnerable and valuable ones. Many are working tirelessly to establish the standard, that human life is precious, and that the taking of innocent life be unthinkable. More and more people across this nation are getting involved and helping to save the lives of the unborn children.

One of the highlights of August was attending the 2017 CareNet Conference in Washington D.C. Over 1300 nation-wide pregnancy center Directors and Staff spent four exciting days in the nation's capital, participating in workshops on effective client ministry. We listened to heart-felt presentations by guest speakers sharing their personal experiences with Jesus, and a testimony from an abortion survivor.

“NET” Talks were held with guest speakers who work closely on pro-life legislation with some of Washington's top officials.

Moderator, The Honorable Kenneth T. Cuccinelli II (Former Attorney General, Commonwealth of Virginia, President of Senate Conservatives Fund), and Panelists Jessica Smith, Senator Ben Sasse; Megan McCrum, Representative Chris Smith; Katy Talento, White House Domestic Policy Counsel led discussions which not only updated us on the pro-life agenda in our nation's capital, but brought much encouragement.

And as you can see with the letter from Vice President Pence (see this page), the message is clear from Washington that saving the pre-born is high priority!



THE VICE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON

August 30, 2017

Dear Friends:

Greetings to each one of you gathered for the 2017 Care Net National Pregnancy Center Conference, “The Foundation: Standing on the Cornerstone of our Faith.”


As a husband and father of three, I have long believed that a society can be judged by how it cares for the most vulnerable—the aged, the infirm, the disabled, and the unborn. Since every human life is sacred, a people that welcomes the smallest of lives expresses the largest of hearts.

Thanks in large measure to your loving concern for life and compassionate counsel to women and men facing pregnancies in crisis, life is winning in America. I applaud your devotion. Thank you for extending hands of healing and hope as caregivers at pregnancy centers in cities and towns across America. Your labors are lifesaving.

Because of the ongoing work of organizations like Care Net, countless unborn children will grow to enjoy the inalienable rights etched across our Declaration of Independence—foremost among them the right to life. Under President Donald Trump's leadership, this Administration will continue to advance this cause and restore the sanctity of life to the center of American law.

As you gather this week, rest assured you convene under a covering of prayer—that the message of love for unborn human life and hope for hurting hearts will echo from Washington to every corner of our Nation. May God bless each one of you as you stand on a sure foundation and heed Scripture's call to “open your mouth for the speechless,” encouraging our culture—one person at a time—to choose life.

Karen and I send our best wishes for a successful conference.

Sincerely,

Michael R. Pence
Vice President of the United States

Building hope...

~A Message from our Director, Sarah Ann Brummitt

As a child, I remember singing “The Wise Man Built His House Upon The Rock”. As a teen in Sunday School, we sang the hymn “Solid Rock—my hope is built on nothing less than Jesus blood and righteousness”. Just recently a song was released on Christian radio with the lyrics “Christ alone, cornerstone...” These songs all point to Jesus Christ. With Him as our foundation, we can say “Truly He is my rock and my salvation; He is my fortress, I will never be shaken.” Psalm 62:2.

HPC is a ministry built upon the foundation of Christ and His love. A foundation of hope. We serve a restoring and redeeming hope-filled God, and we’re called and created to spread that hope to others. The staff and volunteers have such a heart for doing just that! We continue to gain new clients on a weekly basis (15 new clients this summer!), and our daily client schedule continues to be full. What does this mean for HPC? It means we have the opportunity to pour into the lives of our clients—to mentor from a place of our own hope, thus providing a hope-filled outlook for them.

I love the example of Abraham, who against all hope, in hope believed! (Romans 4:18).

Abraham reaffirmed his hope and pressed through, when hopelessness was probably always only one thought away.

Would you continue to pray for Hope Pregnancy Center as we share the life-changing, hope-filled promises that come from Christ alone.



HPC Center Stats

September '16– September '17

A peek at what we do and who we minister to thanks to each of you who support us through prayer and/or financial assistance.

Client Visits:	347
Clients Served:	65
Client Age Range:	15 to 33 years old
New Clients:	32
Single/Engaged/Married/Other	39/5/7/12
Spiritual Discussions:	84
Babies Born:	37
Babies Due by Year End:	9

HOPE Program: Updates

This spring we implemented our new HOPE program that we had purchased the previous fall at the CareNet conference. The program came with updated videos that have worksheets, and note pages for the clients to fill out and further apply to their lives. It is a large program that covers pregnancy, childbirth, infancy, toddlerhood, fatherhood, life skills, special circumstances, Bible study and more! The wide range of topics allow us to help our clients achieve their personal goals so that we are setting them up to win at life. This program has streamlined the client coaching process because the lessons are ready to go ahead of time. Not only are the clients learning skills that will help them succeed in parenthood and life, but the directed discussion is allowing us to know our clients better. And as they share more with us, we can share more with them about the truth of Christ's love for us and for them!

Board member profile: Jill McCulloh

Jill joined Hope Pregnancy Center in March 2014. Jill is married to Randy McCulloh and they reside in Chenoa, where Randy is the Funeral Director of Duffy-Pils Memorial Home. They have three children: Trevin (Krystal) McCulloh, Carlee (Andrew) Gerber, Tanner (soon to be wife, Melissa) McCulloh, and five grandchildren: Madie and Mason McCulloh, and Brynlee, Boston, and Brekyn Gerber. Jill is employed at the Livingston County Health Department, working for a program called Healthy Families. Jill has been at LCHD the past six years doing home visits with new moms, providing family support. Besides being passionate about HPC ministries, Jill is also passionate about planting seeds and caring for the moms she serves. During one particular visit, Jill had a mother tell her that “HPC is my church”. To Jill, this spoke volumes on how important Hope Pregnancy Center is to our communities.



The Lord Has Been So Good To Us.

God has been so very gracious to us in His ministry at Hope Pregnancy Center over the last 31 years. He has raised up many volunteers and staff members to keep the ministry thriving. It is such a heritage, and a blessing to be a part of something that has touched the hearts and lives of many. Souls and lives have been saved. We firmly believe that God continues to do His work here. He equips the volunteer for His work and His will is done, no matter the length of their season at this ministry. We are in awe of all that God has accomplished throughout the years that Hope Pregnancy Center has been open. God continues to bless this ministry, and hearts and lives continue to change.

As you well know, many things have changed over the last year for Hope Pregnancy Center, the least of all being our name. Some seasons seem to have ended, but others are just beginning. This year some volunteers retired, or left this ministry for other pursuits, but God continues to raise up more hearts that are ready to serve in this capacity. One of the volunteers leaving us for retirement has been with us for over 26 years! So many years of giving hope to the hopeless, representing God's love, and being salt and light to many. As the Lord has released some from this ministry, He has been calling others. Just this month, two new volunteers have enthusiastically joined the ministry; and we are seeing God equip them for powerful ministry here. He has called these new volunteers for "such a time as this." Has the Lord been calling you? Has He been tugging on your heart? We'd love to hear from you, to meet with you.

Volunteer profile: Jennifer Walker

Jennifer grew up in Streator, IL and is the youngest of three. She earned her Bachelor degree in finance from Bradley University in 2013 and now works for Anthony Liftgates, Inc. Jennifer is a member of St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Parish in Streator, and she is excited to be volunteering her time to the pro-life movement, and started volunteering at HPC in August this year. She currently lives in Gridley with her puppy, Dexter.

Volunteer profile: Ashley Diaz

Ashley Diaz started volunteering as a receptionist at HPC in September of this year. She is a stay-at-home mom and lives with her husband and 3 young children. Ashley has been a part of different prayer and missions organizations over the years and is currently very involved in serving at her home church, Central Church of Christ, in Streator. She is excited to be a part of all that is happening at Hope and can't wait to see all that the Lord is going to do in this ministry.



We would like to thank David Ochs for his service on the HPC Board. Dave joined HPC in May of 2013 and faithfully served with wisdom, grace, and love these last four years.

PASTORS, PASTRIES, AND PURPOSE

In August, area Pastor's were invited to Hope Pregnancy Center for "Pastors, Pastries, and Purpose". The Pastor's, along with the HPC staff met to share ideas and to discover how we can better partner together to share the love of Jesus. Together we can make a difference in the lives of women, men and families by not only meeting their physical needs, but also by addressing their spiritual needs as well.



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HOPE RUN/WALK 2018

We hope you will join us in April, as we Run/Walk for Life, and raise needed funds for Hope Pregnancy Center, 100% of which, goes to offering help and hope to area families facing an unplanned pregnancy. Your participation will help save the life of a baby and transform at-risk families to families that thrive!

More details coming in January

HPC Wish List

High Chairs, Crib Mattresses

Large Storage Tubs

Printing Paper

Nurse Manager, RNs, Client Advocates for weekly 3-hour shifts on medical team

Size 4 & 5 Diapers, Wipes, Baby Gates, and Enfamil Gentle Ease Formula

If you have a heart for women & men who are hurting, we would love to hear from you! Join the Hope Team as a Receptionist or Client Coach

Please Pray with Us.....

- Praise for 37 healthy babies born so far this year
- Praise for the New Volunteers that have joined HPC
- Clients to apply the life skills program, open hearts to Christ, and thrive
- Physical, emotional, and spiritual protection over all HPC volunteers, staff, and board

Board Members

Lisa Watson – Board President; Daryl Evans – Vice Chair; Marie Haag – Secretary; Jill McCulloh, Darcy Woodburn & Janelle Zotz

Staff

Executive Director-Sarah Brummitt; Administrative Assistant-Normandie Lyon; Program Coordinator-Jayna Vroman