

The Pregnancy Care Center of New York

Newsletter

June 2023

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Pregnancy Care Center Mission:

Acknowledging that every human life begins at conception and is worthy of protection, the mission of the PCC of NY is to offer servant-hearted love, hope, and help to anyone considering abortion by presenting them with realistic alternatives and Christ-centered support through our life affirming network of counselors, churches, and individuals. Referrals for abortion will not be offered.

Board of Directors' Message

As the newest board member of the Pregnancy Care Center, I have become part of a like-minded group of Christians eager to serve the Lord in the capacity of protecting life and coming alongside those struggling to make difficult decisions about whether to terminate a pregnancy. We believe that God will make a way even in tremendously trying situations and we desire to be a resource for those seeking support to keep their unborn children. We know that pregnant women and girls are not being told the whole story when abortion is purported to be a wise decision that quickly disposes of an inconvenience. Many women and girls suffer for decades marking the birthdays and other milestones of their aborted children and many are filled with regret. We offer post abortion counseling to help heal these wounds and offer God's unconditional love to our clients.

As a board member I now have the privilege of hearing many pregnancy stories and I wish to highlight the testimony of one story that I heard recently. These stories should be told to remind us that although we do not know the future, we know the One who holds every decision in His hands. As told to me by a dear church member:

When I was 28 years old, I became pregnant with my sixth child. I went to the doctor and my pregnancy was confirmed. The doctor expressed concern regarding my pregnancy because he said my uterus wall was too thin and I was in danger of not being able to carry full term. He recommended I consider aborting the baby.

After the initial shock of hearing this news, I replied, "NO! Absolutely not. God has given me this precious gift and I cannot and will not even think of such a thing."

Executive Director's Message



Arlene Rutuelo

Every June, we celebrate fathers.

I want to share with you some troubling realities that are here in our Staten Island backyards, and I ask for your prayers and your help.

Did you know that "celebrating" is not a word to describe this holiday for numerous children here on Staten Island and across this nation? According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 18.3 million children, 1 in 4, live without a biological, step, or adoptive father in the home. Some fathers may choose not to be involved with their children, while other dads may find themselves alienated from their children due to lengthy custody issues. Fatherlessness is an epidemic that transcends racial, cultural, and socio-economical barriers.

We must all do more to walk alongside families, to point them

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The doctor said, "Your life could be in danger." I was so upset, and I thought about what he had said and my answer was, "God will take care of me." I thought what if the wall isn't so thin and I am not in danger? That would be an awful mistake.

I was sent to Manhattan for a sonogram because at the time they did not have the equipment on Staten Island. The doctor explained to me that it was a serious problem, and I would have to visit him every two weeks to be observed. I told him that would be fine.

In Hebrews 10:35-36, God tells us, "Therefore do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what is promised." God showed me His love at a very young age. He helped me through some very hard times in my life and I trust Him with my whole heart. He tells us in the Bible, "I will be with you always." I knew He would take care of my baby and me.

I did not get an abortion and I gave birth to a beautiful baby boy. We had a few issues such as placenta previa and God stepped in and took care of both the baby and me. My "baby" is now 46 years old and doing well. I pray for his salvation each day and I know God will answer my prayer in His own time.

Board member, Lynore Rerick Bruno

Outreach Coordinator — Jessica Bocaya

It's so good to be back! After taking a maternity leave, I have finally returned. And what better way to come back then to go straight into outreach at the "Fatherhood Matters" event at Clove Lakes Park!! I was so excited to be joined by volunteers from partnering churches and even vendors that saw us working on our display were so inspired, they asked if they could join and help us with our display! What a blessing! Our display was so beautiful and inviting, it brought many families to us. We were blessed to meet existing clients and new clients.

One woman walked towards us, pointed us out, and said, "You!!!" I was startled for a second, but then realized I knew who she was! You may remember the time we were desperately searching for a special formula for a baby with a severe allergy? The baby had been vomiting blood and the nationwide shortage made it impossible for mom to find his formula? Well ... this was the mommy —

to Christ, to help them get on their feet and to be good parents to their children.

The Pregnancy Care Center is thankful for wonderful organizations doing great work here on Staten Island. Organizations that refer clients to us and we also refer clients to them.

I want to highlight one of them, United Activities Unlimited, Inc. — Fatherhood Matters program:

This program is a supportive resource geared to uplift and educate non-custodial fathers, with a focus on healthy parent-child relationships, self-care, and modeling responsibility. Through a 10-week father-specific workshop series, the Fatherhood Matters program provides fathers with a knowledge and skill-based certificate program on effective parenting skills. The dedicated Fatherhood Matters case managers assist and empower fathers in their endeavors, while providing guidance along their journey by supporting fathers in navigating child support or public benefits, finding and sustaining employment, or arranging child visitation. UAU Fatherhood Matters also offers continued support to those alumni who have completed the certificate program and want to offer support to other fathers. The Fatherhood Matters program aims to impart a new understanding of the importance of fatherhood and empower fathers to play an active role in the life of their child/ren.

If the Lord has touched your heart for these fatherless children, please reach out to me. Christian men, we need you! Let's brainstorm together along with the churches to see how we also can make a difference for

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these children and families. There are many services fathers can benefit from and we are thankful for these services. At the PCC we can also offer the hope that is found in Jesus Christ!

*“Learn to do right, seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow.”
Isaiah 1:17 NIV*

Together for Life,
Arlene



the mother of baby Dante!! She continued pointing, and said, “You! Because of you, you guys saved my baby! I came to say thank you!” Baby Dante was so happy to see me! His eyes said it all! They really captured my heart. I grabbed him out of the stroller and squeezed his little body and was so thankful that the PCC played a role in his well-being.

Featured Pastor’s Corner (We will be highlighting a different pastor every month)

Psalm 139:13-17

*“For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother’s womb.
I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.
My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depth of the earth.
Your eyes saw my unformed substance;
in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me,
when as yet there was none of them.
How precious to me are your thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!”*



Pastor John and Rosy Saldanha
Lead Pastor
New Hope Community Church

This Psalm of David has been my favorite go-to Psalm to thank God for my life. I am considered a miracle child in my family. Doctors had told my mom that I wouldn’t survive more than three months after birth. Of course, in those days (I was born in 1965), and being poor, my parents had no access to sonography or any other intrusive medical procedure to see why the doctors said what they did. I was born prematurely at seven months. After I was born, I was constantly sick. I passed blood every time I urinated. I refused to drink milk. I could not sleep because of the constant pain I was in. This went on for three months. My mom always reminds me that she could not see my suffering, and therefore, she prayed to God to either heal me or take me. And yet here I am in the USA serving the Lord as a pastor in a church on the Island. No one could have seen then that I would live,

and even more so, live to serve Jesus. Therefore, I am sure you understand the reason why I love Psalm 139. The verses quoted above affirm that the Living God, the Father, and our Savior Jesus Christ who is a sovereign God and the God of all knowledge, by the power of the Holy Spirit, personally formed me in my mother’s womb.



Not only did He form me in His eternal wisdom, but He was a constant presence in the womb caring with concern over the child He formed in my mother's womb. These verses speak of the fact that God knew me before I was born, He knew me when He put me in my mother's womb, and He has known me all my life. He knew all along where I would be and what I would be doing. He has guided me all my life even though for 28 years of my life I did not know Him or follow Him as my Lord and Savior.

All of you who are reading this article know that God knew you before you were born, because He knew you; He formed you in your mother's womb, and He has never abandoned you.

All mothers who are carrying babies in the womb right now, please know that the child who is in your womb is there because God knew the child in eternity, and God wants the child in your womb. The truth is that no one is created without His knowledge, and not one is born without His knowledge and concern, and care. It also means that life in the womb begins at conception. When some people claim that mothers should have a right to an abortion, it is based on the lie that it is the mother's body, therefore she has the right to do what she wants to do. The verse above very clearly states two things. David uses two words to clarify the error and lie. In the verses mentioned above, David uses the words "MY", "ME", "YOU", and "YOUR", claiming that he was a "SEPARATE" PERSON in his mother's womb and that God put him in his mother's womb. Therefore, no one can claim the right to kill or abort a baby.

David was many things: a shepherd, a soldier, a king, a poet. But God gave him scientific wisdom to write what he wrote thousands of years ago. Without having the benefit of modern intrusive equipment, David claimed that "he was fearfully and wonderfully made." In the same vein, every human being born on earth and those who will be born on earth are "fearfully and wonderfully made." How much more then, having seen, or having the ability to see and know the development of a baby in a mother's womb, should we not have the same awe and praise when we see a baby?

As Spurgeon says, "The Psalmist had scarcely peered within the veil which hides the nerves, sinews, and blood vessels from common inspection; the science of anatomy was quite unknown to him; and yet he had seen enough to arouse his admiration of the work and his reverence for the Worker." (enduringword.com/bible-commentary/psalm-139). David sums it up very well, "*How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them.*" Another Psalm, Psalm 92:5-6 says, "*How great your works are, O LORD! Our thoughts are very deep! The stupid man cannot know; the fool cannot understand this.*"

As God's people let us not lose the wonder and awe of God's creation of human beings. As God's people let us not lose the wonder of God's care for us while in the mother's womb and after we are born. Pregnant mothers and fathers, you will do well to consistently speak to your baby in the mother's womb, the words of David as in verse 14: for You are Fearfully and Wonderfully made. How Wonderful are God's works! My soul knows it very well. (paraphrased and emphasized by me). And I encourage parents to speak these verses after the baby is born and in their growing years. Children need to grow with the truth that God made them and that they are precious and unique in the eyes of the God who made them.

As God's people, because we know of the awe and wonder of God's creation of babies, let us rise to help save babies and help mothers who need help during their pregnancy and after the babies are born. Yes, we want babies to be born and not killed, yet as a church of God and people of God are we ready to rise and help take



care of pregnant mothers who need help and mothers who need support after their babies are born? What will help is never to lose the “awe and wonder of human creation.” We can be constant in our praises for our lives, for the lives of others around us, and for those lives that will be born by joining David in saying Psalm 139:17, “How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!”

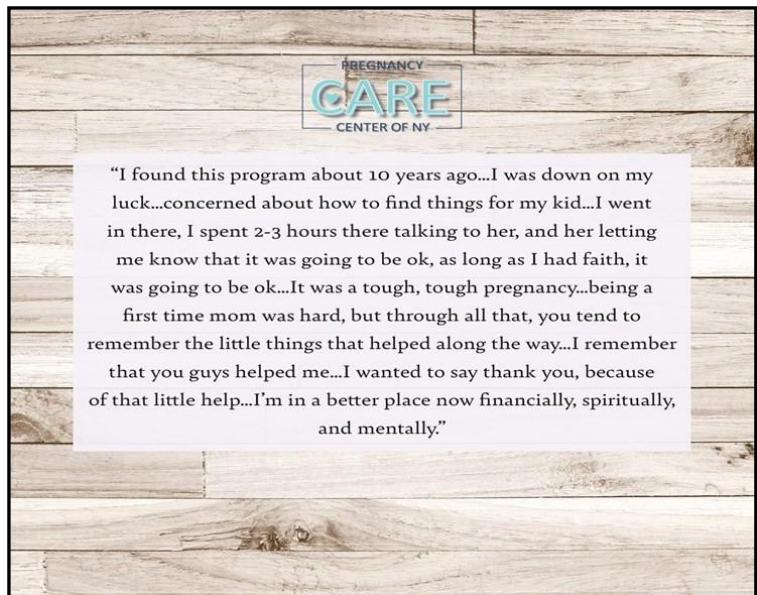
GOD is Faithful!

This is why we do what we do.

At a recent community outreach event, we had the pleasure of meeting a mom who had received help from us 10 years ago! (See picture below of this former client and her daughter.) She gave us her testimony, thanking the PCC for giving her what she needed to care for her baby.

How incredible to see God working in so many families’ lives. We make it our goal to reach every parent and child in this way! If you have a testimony of how the PCC has helped you, we would love to hear from you!

Email us @ info@pccofny.org



Prayer Corner

Prayer requests:

- ◆ Pray for government, community leaders, and those in authority over us, that God will have mercy on us and heal our land (2 Chronicles 7:14)
- ◆ Pray for the PCC’s upcoming outreaches as we prepare to meet the maternal needs of those in our community and pray for opportunities to minister to their spiritual needs (Romans 10:14-15)
- ◆ Pray for the Board members that the Lord will grant them wisdom and guidance as they lead the ministry of the PCC (James 1:5)
- ◆ Pray for baby Jason and his mother Stacey — Jason has had a low grade fever for the past three days (Philippians 1:6)



Praise reports:

- ◆ We praise God for Jason’s homecoming and six-month birthday celebration!
- ◆ We praise God for old clients returning to thank us and share their testimonies with us!
- ◆ We praise God for baby Dante’s health! He is growing and no longer suffers from milk allergies.
- ◆ We praise God for two of our clients who just gave birth! Please pray for baby Grace and baby Noah!



- ~ PCC will host a Golf/Walk/Run in September. Please look for more information in the next newsletter.
- ~ Informational meeting and Volunteer Training will be Saturday, August 12th from 1 to 4 pm, at Gateway Church. Email Arlene@pccofny.org if you are interesting in attending. More information pending.
- ~ Save the Date: 23rd Annual Spring Gala, April 18, 2024

Food for thought:

“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.”
Ephesians 2:10

Let us pour ourselves into the work He has called us to do!
Lord, help us to redeem the time You have allowed us to have on this side of eternity.

“Precious in His Sight”
2023 Special Appeal

I am committed to making the Pregnancy Care Center of NY unavoidable in every space women in crisis pregnancies are present.

Let’s save 52 babies in the coming year! Here is my pledge for:

\$20 per week _____
 \$80 per month _____
 \$1000 for the year _____
 One time gift of _____

Please make checks payable to:
 Pregnancy Care Center of New York
 Or
 Please scan the QR code for credit card payments



As a part of our 2023 Fundraising campaign, we are working towards creating a geofencing marketing platform — a virtual perimeter for a real world geographic area. Imagine a pregnant woman walks into an abortion clinic and an immediately triggered advertisement for the Pregnancy Care Center pops up on her phone. This can help our reach immensely, giving us the ability to meet women we otherwise wouldn't have, and possibly saving a life.

It's not too late to contribute to this campaign and the important work of the Pregnancy Care Center for this coming year. For those who were not able to attend our gala, and still would like to make a donation, you can do so by scanning the QR code. Make sure to choose 'Gala' under 'Fund.'

Let us be committed to making the Pregnancy Care Center of NY **unavoidable** in every space women in crisis pregnancies are present.

Thank you for your continuous support in saving unborn lives.

Donation Link: <https://pushpay.com/q/pccofny>

2023 Donations are Welcome

Another easy way to increase your donation is by asking if your employer offers matching contributions to charities. Your donation of \$100 can become \$200 at no cost to you.



You can donate by going to our website: <https://www.pccofny.org> or our App and go to DONATE. All donations are tax deductible. You can make a one-time gift or set up regular monthly support on our secure site. If you prefer send a check, please send to: PO Box 141128, SINY 10314.

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