

LIFE NETWORK of Southern Illinois

A Pregnancy Resource Center

Spring, 2021

From the Executive Director, Debbie Geist

What does it mean to be pro-life? I have always considered myself “pro-life” and have been actively involved in the movement for over 16 years. I am proud to stand for the life-affirming mission of Life Network and many other pro-life organizations. I am compelled by the core message of the Bible – that God created ALL life in his own image and that we are called to help rescue the most vulnerable. It is not something that I just say – but something that I try to live out in every aspect of my life.

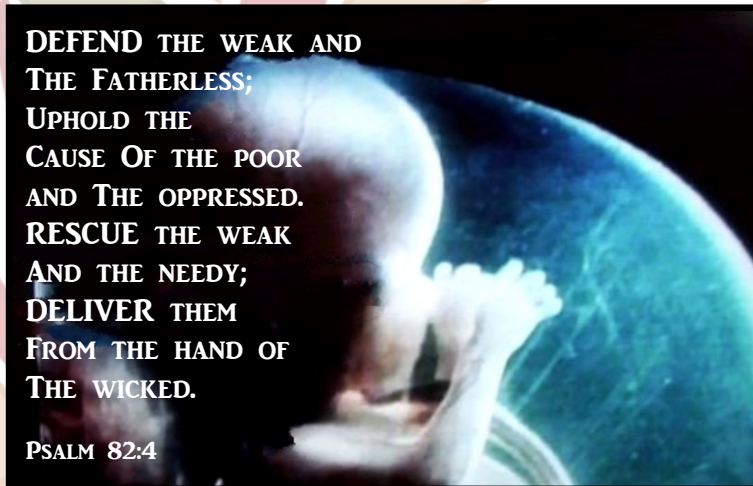
With that said, there are certain elements to participating in this work that are more difficult than others. In many circles, the word “pro-life” or “abortion” can cause tensions to rise quickly and emotions to go unchecked. Women who view legal abortion as a fundamental right or health care may fear losing that freedom. Men may stand with the pro-abortion crowd to be politically correct or because they are not sure what to believe. Some folks who are uncomfortable with the idea of abortion may waver with the hard questions like, “What about in the case of rape?” Today, the word “pro-life” too easily conjures up negative images or thoughts in people’s minds because of abortion advocates who have worked long and hard to deaden our conscience when it comes to protecting the most vulnerable among us.

Since the Roe v Wade decision 48 years ago, over 62 million babies have fallen victim to this injustice and pro-life supporters and organizations like Life Network have been targets of unfounded attacks and misguided media. They would like nothing more than to silence us and tell us that we are narrow minded and refuse to see the big picture. While I do admit, there are extremist on both sides of the issue, the beautiful work done by pregnancy care centers around the nation is often dismissed as “fake” or “intolerant” of those facing the crises of an unplanned pregnancy. That is simply NOT TRUE.

This misconception about pregnancy care centers and the work we do is extremely disheartening. Our goal is to never mislead or coerce anyone but to empower them. We are not mean or insensitive to their situation and we are not trying to prove a point or take away their freedom to choose. In fact, quite the opposite is true. The overarching theme of pregnancy care center work is LOVE – love for the pre-born, love for their moms and dads, love for God. We care deeply about the women we serve and believe, that for them to make an informed decision, they need education and hope for the future. We want to offer them practical help and alternatives to abortion – not take away their choice.

**DEFEND THE WEAK AND
THE FATHERLESS;
UPHOLD THE
CAUSE OF THE POOR
AND THE OPPRESSED.
RESCUE THE WEAK
AND THE NEEDY;
DELIVER THEM
FROM THE HAND OF
THE WICKED.**

PSALM 82:4



Part of that education is sharing the truth with them about their developing baby – at all stages of pregnancy. During Roe v Wade we lacked the scientific technology to answer the important question – is it really a baby? Now, thanks to medical technology and imaging techniques we no longer need to ponder that question. An ultrasound gives us the privilege of observing the developing life within the womb and allows us to see the heart beating at just

21 days after fertilization. At 3 months (which is what the original Roe v Wade decision was based on) we can see that the baby has all the major organ systems and is a distinctly recognizable human being. That is critical information when trying to make a decision about “life” and we would be doing our clients a disservice if we did not share it with them.

We are not a “fake clinic” or intolerant of those that come to us overwhelmed with a crisis pregnancy. Our objective is to be a safe place of compassion, understanding, and truth for them as they contemplate perhaps one of the hardest decisions they will ever make. We pray that our work and the work of our WONDERFUL supporters is seen as the ultimate example of what it means to be “pro-life”.

Waterloo Office

618.939.4224
722 N. Market St.
Waterloo IL 62298

Mission Statement

Life Network of Southern Illinois is a Christ-centered ministry committed to upholding the sanctity of human life.

www.mylifenet.org

Red Bud Office

618.282.4225
324 N. Main St.
Red Bud IL 62278

supportmylifenet.com

Client Story...

Allison Kirkpatrick, Director of Client Services

Our God is a God of second chances...

A familiar face walks through the doors of Life Network. We recognize her immediately; however, something is different about her - aside from her physical appearance. She tells us she needs a pregnancy test. She has faced many hurdles in her life. Life has not always been kind to her and she would readily admit she has not always made the right decisions. The consequences of those decisions have been difficult to bear at times. When she hears the news that she will once again be a mother, her eyes well up with tears. She

But this I call to mind
and therefore I have
hope: The steadfast
love of the Lord never
ceases; his mercies
never come to an end;
they are new every
morning; great is your
faithfulness.

Lamentations 3:21-23



proclaims that this time it will be different; and it is. She delivered a beautiful, healthy child who is thriving. She is determined to provide this child with a better life and surround her with love.

Second chances are a recurring theme at Life Network: the mother who is overcoming drug addiction, the man who steps up to be the dad he never had, the woman who needs to heal from a past abortion, or the woman who is haunted by abuse. The needs of our clients exceed material needs. There is an innate desire to rise above their current situation as well as their past. In every parent, there is an innate desire to give their children life. It is our hope to help our clients rise above their fears so they may see the beauty of life at every stage and in every circumstance. It is our hope to lead these women and men to accept God's divine plan and celebrate the second chances.

BANQUET 2021

This year only, we are going to attempt a virtual streaming experience that will be available to view from your home on one of the evenings. This event will be for INVITED/REGISTERED guests only and the link will only be sent to them. We are still in process of trying to make this happen. If you are interested, please contact our office at 618.939.4224 or email to dgeist@htc.net with your email address. We will do our best to make this a reality!



The Falls Banquet Center will be implementing all available precautions to ensure this event can proceed in the safest way possible. They are in constant contact with Monroe County Health Department and adjustments will be made per their recommendations. Please contact our office with any concerns or questions.

This event is by invitation ONLY - either by receiving a personal invitation from your table host OR receiving an invitation in the mail. If you have not been contacted and could like to attend or be a table host, please contact us.

Life Network of Southern Illinois 2021 Annual Fundraising Banquet

DEFEND the cause of the weak and fatherless; maintain the rights of the poor and oppressed. RESCUE the weak and needy; DELIVER them from the hand of the wicked.
- Psalm 82:3-4

Keynote Speaker:

Dr. William Lile

Speaker and Founder of Prolifedoc.org



We hope you will make plans to spend this special evening with us! For more information on this exciting event, please call our office at 618.939.4224 or email dgeist@htc.net.

Location: The Falls Banquet Center
300 Admiral Weinell Blvd * Columbia IL

Thursday & Friday
March 18 & 19, 2021

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED
618.939.4224

Gifts have been received
In Honor of

DiCarlo's Restaurant, Karen Kersualis and Julie Marie

WE HAVE BEEN ABUNDANTLY BLESSED...



THANK YOU!!

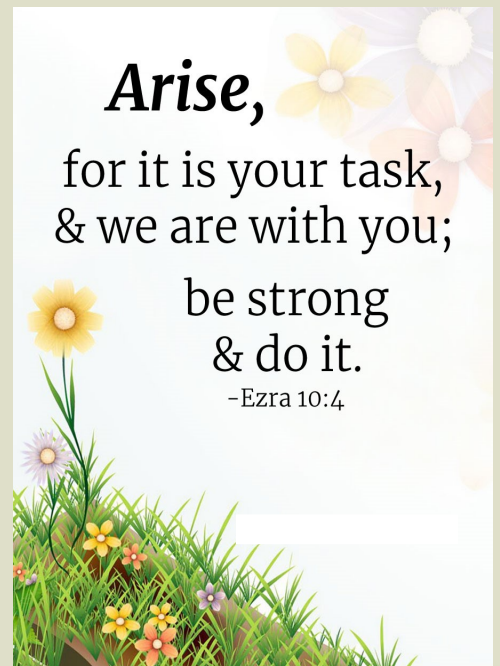
God will make a way even when we can not see the path.

We give thanks to our surrounding communities of supporters, churches, organizations, and businesses who have sustained us throughout 2020 through prayer, encouragement, lunches, donuts, financial and material support. A year of uncertainty, constant changes and no in-person fundraisers, yet YOU have held our clients in your hearts and continued to give!

We are grateful for each of you and can't wait to see you at 2021 Banquet and Life Day in 2021. We have no words to describe how much we miss seeing our donors in-person and being able to share with you what is going on at the ministry and how blessed we have been through your prayers and gifts.

We ask for your prayers and support as we continue the fight for LIFE!! Thank you!!

Arise,
for it is your task,
& we are with you;
be strong
& do it.
-Ezra 10:4



UPDATES...

2021 BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN HAS BEGUN!!

2020 BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN TOTAL

\$26,641.93

If you haven't received a bottle at your church please contact us or stop by one of our offices!

EVERY PENNY MAKES A DIFFERENCE.

LIFE NETWORK OF SOUTHERN ILLINOIS' 2021



Life Day

(formerly Walk*Run*Ride)

Saturday, September 18th

SAME FUN EVENT | NEW NAME & LOCATION!!!

First Baptist Church of Columbia Property
Valmeyer Road | Columbia IL

Follow us on our Facebook page or
website (supportmylifenet.com) for upcoming details.

WAYS TO HELP US!!

- **BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN**

- * Pick up a bottle at your church or our office, fill with coins, cash, check and return to us.
- * To give online, use our link
<https://secure.egsnetwork.com/donate/6A1F2B220FCF466>

- **DONATE ONLINE**

- * Please go to our website at supportmylifenet.com
- * Click on DONATE, then CLICK HERE TO DONATE

- **PRAY FOR THE UNBORN / MAKE YOUR PRESENCE KNOWN**

- * Hope Clinic in Granite City
- * Planned Parenthood in Fairview Heights

- **AMAZONSMILE**

- * Log in to AmazonSmile and choose **Life Network of Southern Illinois** as your charity! A percentage of your eligible purchases will be donated to Life!
- * Don't want to shop at the stores? Use our **Wish List** link to purchase from Amazon and have donations delivered to us!
<https://a.co/2jwnASS>

UPDATES

CENTER NEEDS

- Pull Ups - Boys, size 2T-3T
- Diapers (Pampers/Huggies) size 3 & 5
- Little Swimmers (all sizes)
- Baby Wash & Lotion
- Diaper Cream
- Infant Ibuprofen/Tylenol
- Baby Thermometers
- Comb & Brush Set
- Sunscreen
- Baby Cereal - Rice
- Baby Food - Stage 1
- Breastmilk Storage Bags
- Walmart Gift Cards (used for specialized formula)

2020 STATISTICS

Total Client Visits/Contacts	1429
Clients choosing Life (known decisions)	100%
Pregnancy Tests Performed	66
Ultrasounds Given	49
Baby/Maternity Supplies	162
Classes (EWYL, Dads 4 Dads, Childbirth, Post Abortion Recovery)	211
Professional Counseling	29



Our Babies

Ella	Kaytie	Zekiel
Noah	Braxton	Jonah
Rosalie	Alecander	Rayah
Raine	Gage	Reese
Rylie	Ryan Elisha	Mateo
Railynn	Charlie Marie	Phoenix
Emelia	Kingston	Nova
Lawrence	Flynn	
Hailie	Amelia	

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)

Life Network is 100% donor funded. Thank you!!!

Gifts have been received

In Memory of

Sonny Allison, Welda DeRousse, Arnold Hogan, Carol Juergens,
Cornelius McCarthy, John Prigge, Rebecca Roschnafsky

722 N. Market St.
Waterloo IL 62298

LIFE NETWORK
of Southern Illinois

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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Waterloo, IL
62298



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Executive Director

Allison Kirkpatrick
Director of Client Services

Julie Stuart, RN
Nurse Manager

Michelle Schweiger, RN
Satellite Manager, Red Bud

Georgia Hutchinson
Financial Administrative Assistant

PARTNER WITH US

PRAYER:

- Please keep our clients, volunteers, donors, Board of Directors and staff in your prayers.
- Join our Prayer Team - send an email to Allison at akirkpatrick@htc.net

DONATE:

- Website - supportmylifenet.com
- Mail, Call or Come Into the Office - We accept credit cards, checks and cash

Member of

CARE  **NET**



**National
Fatherhood
Initiative®**



NIFLA
NATIONAL
INSTITUTE of
FAMILY & LIFE
ADVOCATES

SAVE THE DATES:

- **ANNUAL SPRING BANQUET**
March 18 & 19, 2021
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED
See details inside.
- **40 DAYS FOR LIFE**
February 17 - March 28, 2021
- **LIFE DAY 2021**
Saturday, Sept 18, 2021
See details inside.

 /lifenetnetworksoill

 LifeNetworkSouthernIL