

Facts ife

Transforming Fear into Confidence 2017 Summer Newsletter

From the Executive Director

What an amazing year it has been! I am still so humbled and grateful that God chose to place me as the Executive Director at Options for Women.

We hit the ground running, and surrounded by our incredible staff, board and volunteers, we worked to bring new services and events to our community. We are pleased to partner with local colleges to offer STD testing and counseling for students, and a new wellness program that can offer eligible women a FREE check-up with a local OB-GYN.

We were excited to offer our first of yearly legislative breakfasts with our pro-life representatives, as well as a wonderful 40 Days for Life celebration.

Because of each and every one of you, we were able to serve 325 women last year and are blessed to announce that we saved 259 lives in 2016.

2017 is shaping up to be our best year yet, and we are so grateful to everyone who is a

part of that. We are truly blessed with the most amazing donors and volunteers!

Together for life, Marilyn Paul



2016 numbers at a glance:

- * We served 325 women.
- * 303 had positive pregnancy tests.
- * 378 ultrasounds were performed.
- * 199 STD tests were performed.

*259 women chose life!



Our incredible staff and volunteers worked hard this year to help 259 women transform their fear into confidence!





We're so grateful to the staff and volunteers who work hard behind the scenes (and in the attic!) to help our office run smoothly!

Patient Story

Every day, women come to us scared, confused, and often convinced that abortion is the right answer for them.

In January, we had a 19 year old patient come to us who stated that an abortion was what she felt was the right choice for her. She was in a difficult situation and did not have a job, so abortion seemed like the only answer for her.

We listened to her, taking the time to get to know her so we could better understand her situation. Working with the medical staff, she completed a health questionnairre so we could better understand her health history. She wasn't sure of the date of her last mentrual period, so she wasn't sure how far along her pregnancy might be.

We were all surprised to see a 12 week ultrasound! The patient told us how hard it was to see the image on the ultrasound, and once she was in the counseling room with her advocate, she resolved not to have an abortion. We guided her to Medicaid to help her apply for insurance, and provide her with a resource list containing contacts for services she would need throughout the pregnancy.

She left our office knowing she wasn't alone, and that we would help however we could. Through our services, her fear was transformed into confidence and hope for

Steps to Sexual Integrity

Sexuality is a vital part of who we are. Not many are comfortable talking about sexuality and many taboos surround the subject, making it even harder for people to share and learn. Bust statistics show the need for education and open communication about sexuality. Without them, we see unplanned pregnancies, STDs, and sexual abuse, misuse and trauma surrounding poor decision making.

But it is never too late to educate yourself, and our Steps to Sexual Integrity program can do just that. You can break the cycle of unawareness and have a healthy sexuality for yourself and a legacy to pass down to future generations. It is such a privilege to facilitate these sessions and see how empowered people become when given the right tools. The first session always gets the same reaction: "I never saw it like that!"

The class discusses abuse, trauma and misuse, as well as the proper use of sexuality. The women who have taken the class work hard to learn and stretch themselves, setting positive goals for their future.

Past participants have said the following about the class:

- *I would recommend this class and I will say it is a freeing experience and it will help with future relationships and the present ones. I personally loved the affirmations, they made me feel like a new person just saying them.
- *This class gives you confidence, it gives important information all women especially young women (teens) should know.
- *Thank you from the bottom of my heart, you are a God send, I'm healed of sexual trauma.

Class can be done as a group or individually and are available by calling our office at 863-393-6988.

Free Women's Wellness Program

We are pleased to be offering a new, free wellness program for women in our community.

If a woman is over the age of 18, does not have Medicaid or health insurance, and hasn't had a women's wellness exam in the last 12 months, she may qualify for the program. Once qualified for the program, the patient can receive a voucher for the follow services:



- * Pap smear * Lab testing * STI testing
- * Breast exam * Flu shot * Tetanus shot

This program is a wonderful way for us to reach even more women in the community. Appointments can be made by calling our office at 863-393-6988.

Thank you to the Life Choice Society Members

Through their 5 year pledges, we create a strong foundation for the women we serve.

Dr. Anita Arnold Dr. Matthew Mick

Ms. Becki Bentz

Rev. Ramon Bolatete

Ms. Mary Buckler

Mr. and Mrs. Sal Campisi

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Chritton

Ms. Frances Clark

Mr. Joseph Connors

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Deardorf Mr. and Mrs. Mike DelBovo

Mr. and Mrs. Mike DelBovo Mr. and Mrs. Scott Demski

Mr. and Mrs. Nico DiGioia

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Dobson

Dr. and Mrs. Francis Drake

Mr. and Mrs. Judson Drewry

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Elliott Mr. and Mrs. Bob Ettohnson

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Fulco

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gates

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Grant Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Hillis

Mr. and Mrs. Rick Hubert

Mr. and Mrs. Steve Jones

Mr. and Mrs. William Joppien Mrs. Mary Lou Klockenkemper

Mr. Thomas LaPointe

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Massarella

Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Miller

Mr. and Mrs. Chris Montgomery

Moody Engineering Ms. Angela Morris

Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Murphy Mr. and Mrs. Richard Noble

Rev. Ivan Olmo

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Palma

Ms. Christy Paul

Mr. and Mrs. Tim Paul

Mr. and Mrs. JJ Phelan

Ms. Christina Philip

Mr. and Mrs. Eldon Phipps

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Reycraft Ms. Shaira Rodriguez-Santa

Mr. and Mrs. Morgan Roe

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Rogers

Mr. and Mrs. William Rousseau Dr. and Mrs. Richard Rutherford

Mr. and Mrs. David Sabatino

Mrs. Luz Santa

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Santangelo

Mr. and Mrs. Jan Sauls

Mr. and Mrs. Scott Schaal

Mr. and Mrs. Don Schluender

Mr. and Mrs. James Spindler Mr. and Mrs. Art Stitzel

Ms. Laura Tenpenny

Mr. and Mrs. Matt Tompkins

Mr. and Mrs. Marc Vander Poel

Mr. and Mrs. Kirk Walden

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Waller

MII. and MIIS. Infolias walle

Mr. and Mrs. John Walton

Dr. and Mrs. Frederic Wehle, Jr.

Mrs. Christy Wessel

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Wizda

Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Wood

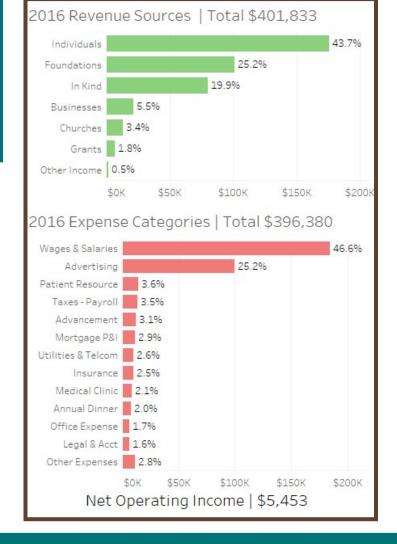
Save the Date!

Our 2017 Vision for Life Fundraiser will be held on Thursday, September 14 from 6-8 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church on Lake Hollingsworth. We hope to see you there!

2016 Vision for Life Sponsors Elite Watson Clinic

Al Marshall St. Joseph Catholic Church Dr. Richard and Mary Rutherford Women's Care Florida Zaxby's Moody Engineering Classic Controls Mulling Insurance The Kevin F. Browne Family Fund (within the GiveWell Community Foundation) Denis and Mary Grant Lakeland OB GYN David Ramos, CPA Henkelman Construction Paul Painting, Inc. Bopp Tarver Dentistry for Children Jasper Construction

Dennis Campagnone, Merrill Lynch Bank of America



Thank you to Representative Dennis Ross and Senator Kelli Stargel for joining us for our first ever legislative update breakfasts.



\$40 + FAITH = LIFE



Thank you to everyone who participated in our \$40 campaign. We raised \$6,971! We had a wonderful time celebrating the good that can be accomplished with only \$40 but a lot of faith at our event. We look forward to celebrating with you again next year!





4435 Florida National Drive Lakeland, FL 33813 www.optionsforwomeninfo.com

bregnancy help clinic, inc.

ismo V rof snoitd