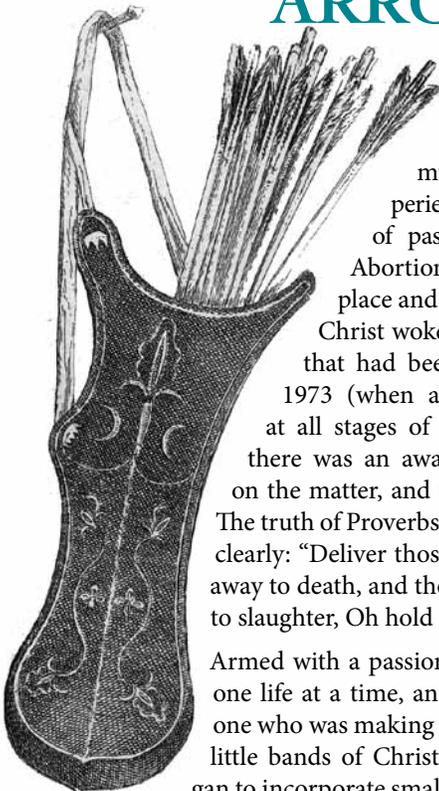


..... WINTER, 2015

From the Director's Desk
Braunda Butt, Executive Director, Manchester Center



ARROWS IN GOD'S QUIVER



In the early 80s, the Christian community in America experienced a groundswell of passion for the unborn. Abortion had become common place and it was as if the body of Christ woke up from a nightmare that had been subconscious since 1973 (when abortion became legal at all stages of pregnancy). Suddenly, there was an awareness of God's heart on the matter, and there was a will to act. The truth of Proverbs 11:24 spoke the reality clearly: "Deliver those who are being taken away to death, and those who are staggering to slaughter, Oh hold them back . . ."

Armed with a passion to make a difference one life at a time, and to speak to the very one who was making a life or death decision, little bands of Christians in every state began to incorporate small grass roots ministries that would meet one need women have in order to have the opportunity to share the truth about the new found "freedom" and perchance "hold them back." In 1985 we only had one arrow to "shoot," one offering to draw them in: FREE Pregnancy Tests. Resisting some fear, Christian ladies were running medical tests, so we might have the chance to discuss the undiscussable, and point out the not-so-obvious. To our surprise we found a need and desire for this relational approach to women in crisis.

Once a decision for life was made, we realized that these women needed material support for this new role: another opportunity to serve the least of these (Mathew 25:40). Free baby clothing and equipment became the second arrow in this battle. After the material needs expectations became too large and out-of-hand, we realized that our clients needed to have the dignity of earning their stuff somehow; hence "Earn While You Learn" was born at Care Net. The arrow of education fought off generational ignorance, giving hope for the next generation.

As we educated hundreds, empowering them to parent well, we realized that what they learned had to have some eternal signifi-

cance. Many of our clients have chosen to learn about the God of the Bible through *Christianity Explored*. It has become an arrow that has penetrated many hearts for Christ.

We have always counseled women in the area of relationships, but recently we have sharpened that arrow with the introduction of *Love Derailed*. This innovative approach to developing and keeping lasting relationships is making an impact on many—clients who are parenting, those who come in and have a negative pregnancy test, and those who are just willing to think about what they want their relationships to be in the future.

Wait! What about the men in these relationships? In the early days we never saw any men, but ultrasound has changed that, as they are often initiated to our services when they join the mom to see the ultrasound. This live view of life in the womb becomes like an arrow penetrating the hearts of the dads (and moms too), turning them toward their children. *Practical Fatherhood* was then developed to encourage responsible fathering, the missing link for many years. A father on the scene changes outcomes more than any other factor!

As you can see, the scope of this ministry and the impact on those we serve has broadened and become more holistic since 1985. We are grateful for God's faithfulness over 30 years as He has shown us creative and practical ways to love and serve those who often live in darkness and hopelessness... teaching them the way of life. We go forward, believing that the difference we make, one life at a time, will change the culture, and one day abortion will be obsolete. In the meantime, we will hold them back.

Braunda



BABY BOTTLE BENEFIT

This fund-raiser can be done any time of the year. In 2014, \$64,000 was raised by our local churches. Your change really DOES make a difference.

Call either Center for information or to arrange to get bottles.

..... He shot his arrows and scattered the enemy, with great bolts of lightning He routed them. —Psalm 18:14 NIV

A Tea Party for Care Net



Linda Barry & Susan Christopher at the garden party

(The following article appeared in the Nashua Telegraph on 10/16/14)

NASHUA: An afternoon garden party to benefit the Care Net Pregnancy Center was hosted recently by Susan J. Christopher and her friends. Linda Barry, executive director of the Nashua Care Net center, was the guest speaker. Care Net has been helping women and families in the community since 1985. The guests at the tea party brought baby gifts and donations to support the local work. For more information about Care Net, visit www.carenethn.org.

What do 33% of American women have in common?

They share the experience of abortion and often suffer alone in silence.

- Are you one of them?
- Are you alone with your pain?

For a growing number of women, abortion has become a personal tragedy.



OUR MENDED HEARTS PROGRAM IS FOR YOU!

Forgiven and Set Free is an eight week Bible Study, facilitated by women who can identify with your grief and pain and are ready to encourage and support you as you process your experience in a journey toward healing and freedom. **Groups will be held in January, 2015.**

Call the centers for information and to be contacted confidentially by one of our group leaders:

Manchester – call 623-1122 text 996-1564
 Nashua – call 883-1122 text 996-1208

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Sanctity of Human Life Sunday:** January 18, 2015
- Walk for Life:** May 9, 2015, Saturday before Mother's Day! In BOTH CITIES!
- Post Abortion Recovery Bible Study:** January, 2015. Call either Center for details.
- Annual Banquet:** October 23, 2015
- Baby Bottle Benefit:** Can be done anytime. Call Centers.

MINISTRY NEEDS

- Diapers: CRITICAL NEED!** sizes NB, 2, 3, 4, 5.
- Maternity clothes:** newer, fashionable, all sizes
- New infant car seats** always needed (Clients can't take baby home from the hospital without one.)
- PLEASE NOTE: Cribs with Certificates of Compliance accepted (less than two years old).**
- Car Seats new or less than two years old with original directions.**

2014 BANQUET UNDERWRITERS

We are grateful for the faith these businesses and individuals demonstrated as they gave upfront gifts to underwrite our banquet.

HERITAGE CIRCLE (\$1,000+)

- Anonymous
- Boyd & Boufford Insurance Agency, LLC
- Hollis Pharmacy
- Living Hope Church of Manchester
- Soil Away

ADVOCATE'S CIRCLE (\$500-\$999)

- Anonymous
- Art Meconi-Ameriprise Financial
- Concept Communications, Inc.
- The Congregational Church of Goffstown
- CrossWay Christian Church
- Gurney's Automotive Repair
- Edward Hiers
- Morgan Self Storage
- NH Right to Life Committee
- Riverside Christian Church
- Triangle Credit Union

BENEFACTOR'S CIRCLE (\$251-\$499)

- Anonymous
- Rico & Elsie Petrocelli
- Mar-Mar Rogers
- Safe Harbor Christian Fellowship

FRIEND'S CIRCLE/TABLE SPONSORS (\$100-\$250)

- Agretech Corp.
- Mark & Andrea Almquist
- Duane & Janie Beaulieu
- Bridgeway Christian Church
- Buckley Disposal Services, LLC
- Calvary Chapel of Nashua
- Garrett Caputo
- Chestnut Hill Chapel
- Anita Chow
- Susan Christopher
- Church of the King
- Colbert/Urban
- Daughters of Isabella,
- St. Anthony Circle
- Nancy Elliott
- Gagne & Dager Ins. Agency
- Grimard's Auto Sales
- Dale Hartling
- Alfred Lafferty, Jr., CPA
- Gary Lemay & Donna Starr
- Dick & Gloria Nagel
- New Life Christian Church-Hudson
- RJP Auto Repair
- Petrocelli Marketing Group
- Duane & Angie Smith
- David Spataro
- Trinity Life Community
- Douglas & Jane Verbeck

www.carenethn.org (client website)

www.TheFriendsofLife.org (donor website)

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Heartbeat is published by Care Net Pregnancy Center of Manchester and Nashua. Care Net Pregnancy Center of Manchester and Nashua empowers individuals to make informed, life affirming decisions relating to pregnancy, sexual health and relationships, by sharing the practical love of Jesus. *All services are free and confidential.*

CPC Board of Directors: Michael Danis, Kathy Edelblut, Dick Nagel, Lindsay Hyvonen, Annie Campbell, David Spataro • Medical Director: Dr. Nicole Varasteh • Nurse Manager: Andrea Almquist, RN • Directors: Linda Barry - Nashua, Braundra Butt - Manchester • Editors: Ed & Mary Ann Edman • Publisher: Liberty Press, Manchester, NH



2014 ANNUAL FUNDRAISING BANQUET

OUR THEME FOR 2014 has featured the story of a small boy who was chastised for throwing starfish that had been stranded on the beach back into the water. The adult observing him comments that the boy is wasting his time—he can never make a difference to the thousands of starfish before him. As the boy picks up one more and throws it into the lifesaving water, he replies, “It makes a difference to this one.”



Guest Speaker Kirk Walden

Speaking to a full house of 440 banquet guests, Kirk Walden, our keynote speaker, posed the following question. “What if we go beyond the starfish, to something bigger? What if there were thousands of people on the beach throwing starfish into the water? We’d save everyone!”

With passion and humor, Kirk encouraged all of us to resist giving into the negative mindset that says, “American society is just going to continue going downhill and there is nothing we

can do about it.” He called us to Repent (yes, he really did use that very politically incorrect word)—to change our thinking. We need to actually believe that we can see the end of abortion.

He went on to say that every great American revival has come at a time of emotional turmoil for the country. Today, we face economic uncertainty, wars and rumors of wars, fear of Ebola, deep concern over terrorism and a myriad of other issues. This is the exact time when awakening can take place. Believe this can be done!

Kirk has written extensively on this subject and firmly believes that if pregnancy centers, like Care Net, become the first choice for those making pregnancy decisions, within 10 years, the second choice will become obsolete. Nine out of ten times, when an individual comes to a pregnancy center first, she will choose life.

We were encouraged to tackle the impossible and believe that if we not only hope and pray—but act, God will do extraordinary things—lives will be saved and the culture will be changed. In response, banquet attendees gave financial gifts or made pledges totaling over \$100,000! This amount will go toward not only keeping our doors open—it will help us to move forward toward being the first choice for those facing an unintended pregnancy.

If you missed the banquet, visit our website www.TheFriendsOfLife.org to view the powerful client testimony that was shared.

CARE NET HONORS VOLUNTEERS

MUCH OF THE WORK at our Care Net centers is done by volunteers, and they all deserve honor and recognition. However, each year the staff selects one volunteer to receive the Ian Campbell Volunteer Award. This year, the Manchester award went to the mother-daughter team of Marlene Urban and Hollie Kraatz. Marlene and Hollie have been helping behind the scenes for over ten years—serving with a contagious joy as they tackle whatever task they are given.



Marlene, Hollie, and Braunda

The Nashua award was given to Gail Metzger, a pioneer in the pregnancy center movement. Gail began serving in 1985 and has done everything from crisis counseling and parent-mentoring to folding baby clothes and helping at fundraising events. Gail was unable to attend the banquet, so her award was presented to her at a dinner held in her honor.



Gail is at center of bottom row

In This Issue:

- Arrows in God's Quiver
- A Tea Party for Care Net
- 2014 Annual Banquet Report
- SOHL Sunday • January 18, 2015

Sanctity of Human Life Sunday
January 18, 2015

You can be . . .



YOU can celebrate
the Sanctity of Human Life!
HOW?

Encourage your pastor to talk about the sanctity of human life.

Participate in our Baby Bottle Benefit.

Have a Baby Shower to bless Care Net Pregnancy Center's clients.

Volunteer! Invite a Speaker! Give an offering!

Talk with your family, friends, and neighbors about the issues.

Pray for your local Care Net Pregnancy Center.

Take a stand for LIFE!

Call either Center for more information:

623-5534 or 883-9355