

Director's Corner

Vera Marelli, Executive Director

A common buzz phrase is, "Our strength is in our diversity." The thinking is that when we bring varying backgrounds and cultures together, multiple perspectives help us solve problems and build a better society, a better "us." But when I look at TryLife Center I wonder if there isn't a better word which is our strength.

We're a diverse group of people here...we bring different faith backgrounds and denominations, socio-economic circumstances, educational backgrounds, life experiences, etc. But, we focus not on our diversity, but on what brings us together. In one word, Unity.

We choose to unite behind the simple belief that God creates life and values each person He creates. We believe the woman who comes through our doors is a life, precious to God. So too, is the child she carries.

We choose to unite behind Jesus Christ. He is our master, leader, good shepherd, savior and friend. We may not all worship Him in the same places or in the same ways, but He is the One we follow. Third, we choose to unite under the banner of love. Jesus commands us to love God and love our neighbor. Those who come through our doors—no matter their circumstances or the decisions they've made—are welcomed. As you will read in this newsletter, we love them, without preconditions.

So, yes, our team is diverse. Our strength, however, comes from our unity. United through core values, we reach out to the wounded, the questioning and the frightened. And it works. As we are lifted out of the restrictions of the pandemic, we desire to get back to doing business as usual. If you'd like to join us, we will have volunteer opportunities available at various levels of responsibility. There's always room for one more person to join our family. May you experience the wonder of His Resurrection.

TryLife Craft and Vendor Fair Fundraiser



TryLife Center will have its first Craft and Vendor Fair Fundraiser on Saturday, May 29, 2021. This fair will be held at the Quality Inn, 300 Tarentum Bridge Road, New Kensington.

10:00am – 3:00pm. Merchants cost: \$35. per space.

There will be a \$2. fee at the door, children, 5 and younger are free.

There will also be a 50/50 raffle and basket raffles.

Anyone wishing to help in any way or anyone who may have general questions may reach Marcie at assistant@trylife.center or call 724.339.9399 x105.

With 50 or so different merchants, there is sure to be something for everyone. See you there!



What the COVID Bill Means for Pro-Life

On Mar. 11, Joe Biden signed the so-called COVID Relief Bill that is the greatest expansion of abortion in a decade. The COVID relief bill that spends a mere 9% on COVID relief for Americans and will spend tens of millions, perhaps over \$100 million on funding abortions and the Planned Parenthood abortion corporation.

In the Senate, Democrats defeated a pro-life amendment that would have stopped the bill. Democrat Senators Joe Manchin and Bob Casey, who both claim to be pro-life, voted for the abortion-funding legislation after the amendment was defeated. The following day, the nation's Catholic bishops slammed Democrats for passing the bill without any protections against abortion funding.

"It is unconscionable that Congress passed the bill without critical protections needed to ensure that billions of taxpayer dollars are used for life-affirming health care and not for abortion," wrote the bishops in a statement.

"Unlike previous COVID Relief Bills, sponsors of the American Rescue Plan Act refused to include the longstanding, bi-partisan consensus policy to prohibit taxpayer dollars from funding abortions domestically and internationally," the bishops declared. "The many important, life-saving provisions in the American Rescue Plan Act have been undermined because it facilitates and funds the destruction of life, which is antithetical to its aim of protecting the most vulnerable Americans in a time of crisis," they stated.

Information provided by Pregnancy Help News

SAVE THE DATES

Craft and Vendor Fair Walking for Babies

Saturday,
May 29

June 5 - 12

Lights, Camera, Action

Our Parent & Baby Program started down the exciting path of streaming educational videos in the Center. Parents now have access to over 200 new and up-to-date videos through an on-demand service, much like you may have in your home, focusing on all stages of pregnancy, parenting, life skills, and relationships. This investment has already proven to be constructive by influencing many lives in a short time.

Near Valentine's Day our moms and dads had the opportunity to watch a specific video on relationships. Carefully chosen for the love month of February, we offered an educational video on healthy vs. unhealthy relationships. It centered on recognizing how our relationships impact us on all levels - physically, mentally and emotionally. Never did we think that we would get the reaction we did from our parents. We heard comments like, "That hit too close to home," and "That's making me think!" This gave us the chance to openly discuss a different approach in their relationships which lead to lives being impacted and changed.

In March, a special video was offered on the power of words on our children. It encouraged three simple things to do daily with children: 1. praise something they do well; 2. praise something about them; 3. show them love without a reason. While this may seem quite natural to do, those not raised hearing positive remarks from parents do not know how to speak positively to their children. It gave parents the chance to think and voice some of the kind things they could say to their little ones.

Opportunities abound with the new videos included with our streaming service. The ability to have access to current and relevant education allows TryLife Center to make an even greater impact in the lives of the mothers and fathers we serve.

This is just one example of how your gifts to the ministry are impacting present and future generations.





TryLife
CENTER

HELPING
FAMILIES
SUCCEED



The Power of Love!

In the new year, we wanted to show our families a little extra love, COVID-style. When moms walk through our doors they know that they are a part of the TryLife Center family, however many moms and babies are still homebound. Too often single moms are alone for holidays.

The easiest holiday to show our moms that they are loved is Valentine's Day.

In 2020, we were able to serve a chef-prepared dinner at the Center but with the current restrictions, we couldn't duplicate that again this year.

Partnering with Westmoreland County Food Bank, we received enough spaghetti and meatball dinners with all the fixings for 30 families. Adding chocolates and some little gifts to the Valentine Day packages showed these often-overlooked moms that they were loved, worthy and special just for being themselves, no strings attached.

With Easter approaching, what better way to show our clients love than with Mommy Easter Baskets. Partnering with you, our faithful friends, and trying Amazon Charity List for the first time, we put together a list of basic necessity items - toilet paper, soap, toothpaste, shampoo, deodorant, etc. - all items not purchased when household funds are limited. We sent an email to our donors late Thursday night, crossed our fingers and prayed that someone would support this project. The next morning the most humbling and heartwarming thing happened: all of the items on our short list were purchased! We should have known...God would provide.

We quickly listed additional items, the big items - laundry detergent, clothes baskets, cleaning supplies, etc. - and again, you, our supporters, rallied and purchased products needed to keep homes healthy and clean. We/You are able to bless moms with more than 24 Mommy Easter Baskets. You helped us realize that there is an entire community supporting the mission of TryLife Center which is to change the lives of these lovely young women. While you may never meet these mothers and their little ones, if we all do a small part, together we can make a big impact in the lives of those who seek. It truly does take a village to change lives.

Thank you for being with us on this journey.

The Passing of a Friend

On Saturday, March 20, a former employee and dear friend of TLC, passed into the arms of Jesus. For many years Debbie Feroce successfully headed up our Sexual Integrity Program (a sexual risk avoidance program) that informed and encouraged area middle and high school students they were "Worth Waiting For."

Debbie fought long and hard in the battle against breast cancer 3 times.

Our deepest sympathy to her high school sweetheart and husband Gary, daughters Brittany and Niki and grandsons, mother Gloria Guerrieri and other members of her immediate family.

**Currently accepting
donations
Mon. & Wed. 9am-4pm
Tues. & Thurs. Noon - 7pm**

Needed items:
diapers, wipes, formula, baby food,
baby/child clothing up to size 4T
and gift cards to stock pantry items.

For insurance purposes we can no longer
accept any used car seats or cribs.



Our Mission

TryLife Center is a faith-based, life-affirming pregnancy and family resource center dedicated to promoting physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being through confidential counseling, education, and material support.

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TryLife Center respects your right to privacy. We will not share or sell our donor or mailing list. If you wish to have your name and address removed from our mailing or donor list, please call us at 724.339.9399 x106.



HONORARIUMS

MELODY AVERSA
from David Ray

DONNA DUCATO
from Jeannie Irvine

LEE & MARGIE FAY
from William & Margaret Staniszewski

JOE & ANNE FUNAI
from William & Margaret Staniszewski

JOYCE A. HOPKINS
from Dale Hopkins

JESSE & LEAH SIMENDINGER
from Dolores & Robert Aiken

LOIS WEIDNER
from George & Shirley Bowser



United Way Partner
Donor Designation
#223440



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The official registration and financial information of TryLife Center may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement. TryLife Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization - contributions are tax deductible to the fullest extent permitted by law.

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from Anita Traini

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To have a name listed in our newsletter and/or an acknowledgment sent, we request a minimum donation of \$25 per individual or couple's name. To have an individual or a couple's name placed on a permanent plaque, we request a minimum donation of \$50 per name/couple.