



Life News



Volume 28 • No. 4

November 2009

PHON-A-THON VOLUNTEERS MEET 'FUN'-RAISING CHALLENGE



Many thanks to all of our wonderful volunteers who participated in the 25th Annual Birthright 'Phon-A-Thon'!

Hosted again this year by the McDonnell Insurance Company, our 'callers' and 'helpers' manned the phones and stuffed pledge envelopes from 6:30 'til 8:30 p.m. each night from September 21–24. In our efforts to contact over 3,500 potential donors throughout the Mid-South, our volunteers raised almost \$30,000 in financial commitments to Birthright.

The Birthright staff gratefully applauds the courage and optimism of our fantastic callers, who succeeded in encouraging

donors to be generous, in spite of the weak economy. We knew you could do it!

We also humbly thank all the very hard-working 'helpers' who provided meals, processed pledges, stuffed envelopes, kept our statistics, and did all that important data-entry work for us. We couldn't have managed without you!

If you haven't yet made your pledge, please remember that Birthright receives modest donations from churches, very few grants, and no tax dollars. **We've been helping women face**
Continued on page 6 ...

Vicki's Voice

By Vicki Hardesty, Executive Director

I am often asked the question, "How many babies do you save?" The answer is I don't know. Of course we have statistics of the women who change their mind after counseling, but there are so many others that have been touched by the love and concern shown by Birthright. I want to share with you some of their stories.

JoAnne called Birthright looking for an abortion. Her biggest reason for an abortion was so her parents wouldn't know. She was in college and couldn't stand disappointing her parents. She worried they wouldn't love her anymore. She wouldn't come in, but she stayed

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Vicki's Voice *(Continued from page 1)*

on the phone for almost an hour. At the end of the call JoAnne seemed calmer, but still wanted an abortion. She took what we said to heart. She came in after the baby was born to thank us. Her parents still loved her and they were supportive of her.

Tonya called the office for an abortion. She could not be swayed, although she did talk on the phone with the counselor for a long time. She had rationalized her decision as being in the best interest of everyone. Tonya had an abortion, but when her pregnant friend asked her the best place for an abortion, Tonya brought her to Birthright. She said these people were honest and kind, I wish I had listened to them. Another baby saved. I don't know how many girls Tonya has sent this way.

Sometimes women just need the encouragement to tell their story and ask for support. Many already have insurance, jobs, housing, etc. They are making emotional decisions based on fear or some unknown factor. To have someone at Birthright to talk with provides courage and direction. Whether on the phone or in person, Birthright makes a difference.

I enjoy speaking to groups of people about Birthright. Statistically, there are people in every group who know of someone in a crisis pregnancy. These are opportunities to educate and train others about the sanctity of life. The voice of Birthright spreads. It is a message of love and the priceless gift of life, for mom and baby. This message grows stronger and more lives are saved!

2010 Birthright Ball

Saturday, April 24, 2010

Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Catholic Church

Entertainment by: The Soul Shockers

For more information,
please call Patricia at 327-8109

The Family Holiday Tea & Auction

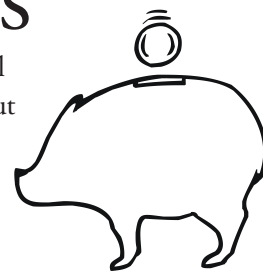


December 5, 2009
University Holiday Inn
11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

For more information, please call
Vicki at 327-8109.

SAVING MONEY, SAVING LIVES

We are in the process of acquiring email addresses for the purposes of sending out our newsletter and notifying individuals of special announcements. This will also help Birthright save money on printing and postage costs, and put more money towards our mission. **If you are interested in receiving information via email, please send an email to birthright@birthrightofmemphis.org.**



Birthright will not share your email address with anyone. If you have any questions or concerns, please call Vicki at (901) 327-8109.

DONATING ON-LINE



You may now make donations on-line through our website, birthrightofmemphis.org. Simply go to the website and click on the “**Donate**” tab to make a donation.

Please note we use Auctionpay for our on-line payments. Auctionpay will process your payment according to what you choose. It will not be applied to an auction (i.e., The Birthright Ball or The Family Holiday Tea) unless you specify it. If you have any questions or concerns, please call Patricia at (901) 327-8109.

Baby Closet Wish List

The baby closet is now **seriously short** of many items that we include in the layettes (bag of basic newborn baby clothing and care supplies) we offer to our needy clients. We’re hoping you will help us replenish our supply with any new or gently-worn items.

Please take this list with you as you shop for our babies:

Newborn size diapers
Baby bottles (large and small)
Infant towels and washcloths
Boy & Girl flannel receiving blankets
Boy & Girl 0-3 month socks
Boy & Girl 0-3 month winter outfits
Boy & Girl 0-3 month winter sleepers
Boy & Girl lightweight sleepers (9 months)
Pacifiers
Baby wash
Baby shampoo
Diaper rash cream
Baby oil/lotion

Thank you very much!

YOUR PHON-A-THON PLEDGE AT WORK

As many of you may know, Birthright helps thousands of girls and women a year choose life for their babies. As many Americans face financial hardships, the need for assistance continues to grow. Birthright provides many items and services, all of which are free to our clients. Here is a list of some of the items we provide and their value:

Layette – is a bag of baby items (clothes, diapers, bottles, blankets, and toiletries for mom and baby) valued at approximately **\$200**.

Maternity clothes are given to all of our clients who are in need of clothes. They receive three outfits valued at approximately **\$200**.

Pregnancy resource packets are given to each mother who has a positive test result. These are educational packets for mothers which include: a 12-week fetal model, information on fetal development, community resources, and prenatal care information. The cost is **\$2 each** (approximately \$3,400 a year).

PLANT classes: an educational program for pregnant women. The classes teach parenting life skills. At each class, women are given baby items such as diapers, baby monitors, first aid kits, books on parenting and pregnancy. A baby bed is given to those who attend all parenting classes. The classes cost approximately **\$500 per client**. The classes are offered two times a year and have six to twelve clients per class.

Your support makes it possible for us to meet the needs of these women and children.



**Please send
in your pledge
as soon as
you can!**

Memorials & Honoraria from August 1, 2009 through October 16, 2009

Memorials

Lawrence & Catherine Adams

Mary F. Adams

All those lost to abortion

& euthanasia

Barbara McGrath

Bill Andereck

Gloria Andereck

Pat Aurigemma

Marie Bross

Rosanna Baldi

Pill & Jim Esterman

Lynda Ann Barocco

Shirley Senko

Mr. & Mrs. Anselmo Barrasso

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Cross

Christine Barrasso

Ernie Barrasso

Loyd Wayne Berry

Marty & Debbie Petrussek

Anna Gail Birdwell

Edward & Diana Lyons

Mary Bolfig

Steve & Kathy Counts

Conlee Bonds

Linda K. Marshall

Keith Branch

Linda K. Marshall

Werner Broeker

Janice Tanner

Margaret Buchignani

Peter Keltz

Elizabeth Sdoia

Noreen & Jim Sdoia

Martha Burke

Tress Nellis

Bob Burnette

Marty & Debbie Petrussek

Clayton Cargile

The Cargile family

Frank J. Carimi

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas A. Mason

Teresa Carrier

Joe & Carol Garbuzinski

George & Mayme Castrop

Edward Castrop

Rev. Leon Cau

Janice Tanner

Donna Cox

Louise B. Grandi

Tom & Adele Crenshaw

Edward & Mary Jean

Crenshaw

Mr. & Mrs. Blondel Cross

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Cross

Bob Crowe

Patricia Crowe

Dalton family

Mike & Jane Dalton

Denegri family

Mike & Carolyn Denegri

Kennedy Grace Doyle

Brandy & Barry Doyle

Elsie M. Drummond

Mrs. James Drummond

Rose Lobianco Favazza

Eanes Lobianco

Anthony Joseph Federico

Elaine Craven & family

Wendell & Dolores Seelig

Kathy Forsdick

Shirley R. Senko

Polly York

Mary Burke Gabrielleschi

Tress Nellis

Albert Gallini

Mary Ann & Billy Griesbeck

Ann Keyes

Juan & Brenda Kindelan

Tom & Anita Nix

Marty & Debbie Petrussek

Georgia Stephens

Jesse & Loretta Szczepanski

Judge & Mrs. Buford Wells

Paul Garbuzinski

Joe & Carol Garbuzinski

Charlie Griesbeck, Jr.

Mr. & Mrs. James Conley, Jr.

Tami & Andy Gurley

Irene Lopez

Quentin Hall

Ginger & Grady Hurley

Kevin Hanrahan

Bill & Barbara Hanrahan

Catherine Dugan Higgins

Mary Jane Miller

Lore Heider Hiskey

Frank & Jeanette Saino

Hix family

Mike & Jane Dalton

Vince Hodorowski

Mr. & Mrs. S. Hodorowski

John Hogan

Jackie Hogan

Ernest & Peggy Kenny

Sara Wilkinson

Bob & Mary Kiser

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Kiser

John Kurts

Jan & Don Glaser

Charles & Anne LaRose

LaRose A. Coffey

John Leary

Buford & Joy Wells

Gabriella Lee

Jea Y Lee

Marilee Fox Lee

Rosanna S. Brogan

Cathy Linxwiler

Rosanna S. Brogan

Sam J. Lobianco

Wayne & Joan Clayborne

Dorothy Locardi

Joan Buie

Minnie Lopez

Steve & Kathy Counts

Christopher Marley

Elizabeth J. Hollis

Chuck Martin

Dorothy Martin

Mark Martini

Mr. & Mrs. John King

Mary McEntegart

Anne McEntegart

James McKeegan

Mr. & Mrs. Paul E. McKeegan

The McPhillips family

Gloria Andereck

Frank Montesi

Mr. & Mrs. Donald A.

Nobert, Sr.

Bob Moore

Tony & Becki McGehee

Edward Morrissey

The Campbell family

Amiee Myers

Emma Conroy

John W. "Jack" Nellis

Tress Nellis

Robert W. Nieman

Amy Luckett

Robert M. Ogilvie, Sr.

Ann M. Qualls

Joseph Ondrey, Jr.

Mr. & Mrs. Paul E. McKeegan

Joseph Ondrey, Sr.

Mr. & Mrs. Paul E. McKeegan

Russell Ozanne, III

Mrs. Russell Ozanne, Jr.

Russell Ozanne, Jr.

Mrs. Russell Ozanne, Jr.

Seshik Park

Mr. & Mrs. Paul Penczner

Pat

Kathy Counts

Macy Peggs

Gus & Teresa Crosby

Estelle Pellegra

Paula Bologna

Irene Lopez

Mary Ann & Nick Pesce

The Chris Vescovo family

Roy C. Peterson, II

Janet Delaney

Dr. Maurice C. Pian, Jr.

Bernadette K. Pian

June Pogson

Jim & Margaret Henze

Richard Powelson

Kathleen Bryson

Ann Raines

Mary H. John

Guy Read

Carolyn Read

Monte Read

Carolyn Read

James O. Reese

Velma Reese

Emma Lee Richardson

Rosie Wedaman

Percy L. Roberts, Jr.

Marge Gaia

John J. Ronza, Jr.

Dorothy C. Ronza

John J. Ryan, Jr.

Ruth Ryan

Robert G. SchaedleJoyce & C. J. Burti
Phyllis Camacho
Jan & Don Glaser
Mr. & Mrs. John M. Hisky
Frank & Jeanette Saino**Margaret Schwar**

Teresa S. O'Hay

Charles J. Shannon, Jr.

Marie P. Shannon

Elizabeth W. Shea

Mrs. James Drummond

Terry Sheperd

Scott & Billie Brantley

Era Soefker

Loretta & Jesse Szczepanski

Michael Tanner

Janice Tanner

Francis Tanzer

Catherine Tanzer

Tate family

Mike & Carolyn Denegri

Vince & Margaret Thillen

Catherine Thillen

Betty Thron

Lacey Thron

Edna Tillison

Roy & Kathleen Patterson

George D. Vincent

Dotty B. Vincent

Linda WalkerSteve & Kathy Counts
Michael & Maureen Ostien**Martha Weisend**

Anne Bowie

Dale Welch

Kathy Counts

Jane Evans West

Beverly Mankey

Catherine & Charlie Zanone

Jean Hollahan

Dorothy & Dave Zanone

Kathleen Z. Patterson

Honoraria**Birthright Board, Staff
& Volunteers**

Mr. & Mrs. Greg Voehringer

Drew Blankenship

Ken Blankenship

David Branch, Sr.

Shirley M. Branch

Church of the Holy Spirit Staff

Louise Cayo

Gabrielle Ditto

Becky & Wesley Fears

Marguerite Douglas

Ann Kavanagh

Marguerite Douglas' birthday

Elena Lunt

**Catherine & Tom Dunavant's
50th anniversary**

Sheila & Buddy Dietz

Barbara Fili

Lacey Thron

Sally Fillion

Mark Fillion

**Our grandchildren – Grififi,
Owen, Lauren & Ashley**

Dave & Ann Wieties

Msgr. Val HandwerkerWilliam E. Lloyd
Nina & Mike Pietrangelo**Margie Hayden**

Kate Marconi

Marg HendersonMichael & Charlotte
Henderson**Her family**

Pat Curtis

Dylan Holzemer

Mary Holzemer

Patty Kilp

Kathy Counts

Msgr. Al Kirk

Nina & Mike Pietrangelo

Millie Kueter

Daniel & Jennifer Kueter

**Sharon Masterson & St. Ben's
Teens for Life at DC march**Kathleen & Heymoore
Schettler**Mr. & Mrs. Michael Matson's
wedding**

Their Guests

**Caroline & Kent Mautner's
birthdays**

Katie & Jim Steinbrecher

Msgr. John McArthurPaula Bologna
Pill & Jim Esterman
Pat Kissell
William E. Lloyd
Irene Lopez
Albert & Mary Maduska
Tress Nellis
Lou Sampson
Bea & Bob Wilson**Fran McBride's birthday**John, Katie, Ben &
Will McBride**Cathy McNamara**

Mr. & Mrs. John Holman

Birth of Lainie Newsom

Mr. & Mrs. Mike Dolan

Patricia Nieman

Amy Luckett

Our children

Mr & Mrs. Mariano Lara

Our grandchildren

W. G. & Carolyn Powers

Baby Papachristou

Mandy Scherer

Paul J. Penczner

Mr. & Mrs. Paul Penczner

John & Shally Pender

Mr. & Mrs. Greg Voehringer

Janese Ponder

Kate Miller

**Stanley Charles Revelle's
1st birthday**

Tony & Becki McGehee

**Jack & Sarah Richey's
50th anniversary**

Joan & Tom Webb

Margaret Sampietro

Frank Sampietro

**Our granddaughters – Sarah,
Mary, Emma & Chloe**

David & Barbara McNally

**Angela & Bill Segui's
50th anniversary**

John & Mickey Metz

Gus Smith's birth

Mr. & Mrs. Mike Dolan

**Zachary Solomon's
6th birthday**

Rosemary Wainright

Bishop Terry Steib

Lawrence Cervetti & family

Logan Vescovo's birth

Mr. & Mrs. Mike Dolan

Mr. & Mrs. George Voehringer

Mr. & Mrs. Greg Voehringer

Jane Welch

Kathy Counts



President's Message

October is a special month for all of those involved with Birthright and its great ministry to protect the most innocent of all – the unborn. I want to personally express my appreciation to all of the staff, volunteers, donors, and supporters that have come forward during our annual Phon-A-Thon. We certainly realize the enormous pressures we are all under in this economic climate, so it is so heartwarming to continue to see the support and efforts our community has for pregnant women who are struggling and in need of guidance and help.

During this time of the year, I reflect on parts of a prayer that are certainly fitting to all of us who have Birthright in our hearts:

Help us to realize the sacredness of human life and to respect it from the moment of conception. Give us courage to speak with truth and conviction in defense of life. Help us to extend the gentle hand of mercy and forgiveness to those who do not have reverence for the gift of life. Grant pardon for the times we have failed to be grateful for your precious gift of life or to respect it in others. – Amen

Tom Lopez, President
Birthright Board of Directors

Phon-A-Thon Volunteers Meet 'Fun'-Raising Challenge *(continued from p. 1)*

crisis pregnancies for 37 years because our individual donors have supported our mission.

Giving to Birthright **on-line** is easy! Just go to our website at www.BirthrightOfMemphis.org and click on **donation**.

Or simply write a check made payable to Birthright of Memphis and send it to: Birthright of Memphis, Inc., 'Phon-A-Thon' 2009, 115 Alexander Street, Memphis, TN 38111

You make the difference. Bless you for helping us to help young women Choose Life!

54 BABIES' LIVES SAVED IN 2009

(JANUARY – SEPTEMBER 2009)



Please pray for all of God's children, especially for every expectant mother who is dealing with some difficult issues surrounding her pregnancy.

Want to make a difference this Christmas?

Consider sponsoring a Birthright family for Christmas! Your efforts will bring special joy to the hearts of mothers and children who would not otherwise have a "Christmas" this year. All recipient families are very appreciative of your generosity.

If you are so moved, please call Birthright volunteers Diane Spengler (755-3154) or Elizabeth Bardos (755-4552) for more information on our families, large and small.

Pregnant? Need Help?

Call Birthright

(901) 327-8109 *(Memphis)*
or (800) 550-4900 *(Hotline)*

Available 24 hours a day
7 days a week



Birthright Staff News

We are very happy to introduce the newest member of our Birthright family, **Natalie Flores**. Natalie will be serving our English and Spanish-speaking clients as a professional counselor. A graduate of the University of Memphis, Natalie holds a bachelor's degree in Psychology with a minor in Criminal Justice. She is currently working toward the completion of her master's degree in Community Agency Counseling.

When asked why she chose to work at Birthright, Natalie said, "I believe in life and helping women choose life. I also love to work with women and help them (through Birthright) in any way I can. Helping women to be informed and helping them to make better decisions is very valuable. Basically, I want to continue to grow as a counselor, continue to help save lives, and help mothers who are having a hard time."

The year 2010 will be a busy one for Natalie, since she will be getting married in March and is hoping to finish her second year of graduate school. She plans to obtain her license in counseling and become an LPC/MHSP (Licensed Professional Counselor/Mental Health Service Provider.)

When she has the chance, Natalie loves to read, watch 'feel good' movies, and spend time with family, friends, and her fiancée.



Volunteer Corner

New Volunteers

In the office

Janice Sowder

New callers and helpers at the 2009 'Phon-a-Thon'

Adrien Alsobrook	Pam Koch
Bryan Duffel	Kathy Morgan
Sonya Fleck	Connie Norris-Williams
Natalie Flores	Dale Pollet
Trish Gurney	Lisa Raghianti
Robert Hayes	Brian Raghianti
Chesley Henderson	Katie Redeker
Dick Herrmann	Joseph Seago
Carlene Inzer	Randy Weghorst

Volunteer's View

'Love that Baby Laundry'

By Noreen Sdoia, Birthright Volunteer

I'm one of the volunteers who wash baby clothes for Birthright. It's the most enjoyable part of my volunteering.

Each week, Shirley Senko, another Birthright volunteer, puts a shopping bag of baby things aside for me to take home.

I love everything about this task. The clothes are cute and soft. The buttons and snaps are tiny, and the house smells of Dreft.

Most of all, I'm reminded of my babies. We used real diapers 'back in the day.' It took hours to wash and double rinse them in a machine that took quarters. We had stacks of bubble-gum pink clothes for our baby girls and were on 'cloud nine' when we had to buy baby blues and corduroy. We had Superman and Mickey Mouse sheets and 'ducky' towels.

The clothes hamper was the best place to be during a game of 'Hide and Seek'. Kids played 'boat' when they sat in the laundry baskets and 'tent' when they put the baskets over their heads.

Washing baby clothes for Birthright is a pleasure. It brings my four 'little ones' home to 'Mommy'.

Board of Directors

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Ginger Jordan, Vice President
Maureen Conley, Secretary
Martin Petrusek, Treasurer
Vicki Hardesty, Executive Director

Adrien Alsobrook
Lisa David
Cheryl Dehaan
Peggy Dempsey
Frances Gonda
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Joyce Schuh
Dan Shea
Dr. Vincent Smith
Connie Williams
Mike Yarbrough

Giving Through United Way

If you would like to designate your pledge to Birthright of Memphis through **United Way**, please contact your **United Way** representative or call the **United Way** office at 433-4300. **Thank you!**

BIRTHRIGHT'S MISSION STATEMENT

"It is the right of every pregnant woman to give birth, and the right of every child to be born."

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