



2022 Summer Newsletter

Director's Desk -

Down goes Roe! The Supreme Court not too long ago overturned Roe v. Wade, stating that abortion is no longer a constitutional right. Praise God for life! Please pray for the road ahead for us... we have seen women show up on our doors immediately and we are ready to serve the walk-ins that day. We are answering up to a 900% increase in abortion-minded calls per day from women in your and my neighborhoods. Our class sizes are growing, we are welcoming new peer counseling volunteers. We are training a second nurse to perform ultrasounds to meet the needs of our community, so this is all coming in the planned time. We are ready to serve women now, just as we always have been. Want to serve or give to specific needs? Call us!

I wanted to take a moment to thank you all for supporting such a critical organization to the fabric of Natchitoches and beyond, especially now more than ever. With this being my last "Director's Desk", (more on that inside the newsletter...), I know that there is so much to come. So much greater growth that I know Natchitoches and beyond is in need of. The Women's Resource Center will always be there through it all.

That brings me to our *Celebration of Life* Gala on September 29th. Our biggest event of the year is to gather and truly celebrate the lives that we see being saved and cherished each and every day here. We are so thankful to have the opportunity to make this a safe and enjoyable event for everyone, in person. I know that this will be a packed night, especially with Gianna Jessen as the speaker! You're not going to want to miss this. **Call the WRC today to pick up your complimentary tickets!** Your support is truly needed now more than ever.

All the best,

Jennifer Luna, Executive Director





SAVE THE DATE!

Celebration of Life Gala

September 29, 2022 | 6:30 PM

NATCHITOCES EVENT CENTER



Featuring Gianna Jessen

Born during a failed abortion attempt, her birth certificate is signed by the doctor who performed the abortion. Weighing 2.5 pounds at birth and born with Cerebral Palsy, a life that was never meant to be has been used to inspire - and even save - others.

She has testified before Congress four times and the hit movie "October Baby" is loosely based on her life story.

This is not going to be a night you will want to miss.

"God is using Gianna to remind the world that each human being is precious to Him." - Mother Teresa

Sponsorship Information is available!

Give toward this annual effort and call us today!

The Hardest Goodbye...

Friends,

I write to inform everyone of my resignation from Executive Director. My husband has taken a new coaching position in San Marcos, TX and we will be relocating in July. As coaching positions happen, they are quick and fast with the process, and this was no different.

For two years, the Women's Resource Center has been the most important undertaking. From when I first took on this position in June of 2020 (a trying time for our community with COVID-19) to today, I have been deeply committed to the cause of helping young women in mostly unplanned pregnancies. I am immensely proud of what the WRC has achieved in these past two years, and I am tremendously grateful that I have been able to play a central part in its evolution and success. There is much to celebrate. In the depth of Covid, we held the very first virtual Gala that Natchitoches has ever had. We have at least doubled our scope by every measure. We serve more than double the clients, with more than double the service hours, with double the volunteers. We have doubled our sources of financial support, too, making this growth possible. The WRC has been a force for good and has helped to make Natchitoches and beyond a more equitable and good community. God has blessed the WRC time and time again with testimonies of clients that had nowhere to turn to but here. His goodness and sovereignty has always allowed for His will to be done in the midst of chaos and heartbreak.

As the WRC faces a year of transition and change, it is more important than ever that staff, volunteers, partners, donors, friends, and supporters pull together to maintain the remarkable hope that the WRC has generated around our community. I sincerely thank all of the staff and volunteers of the WRC, for their commitment to the organization, and the women and unborn that we serve. Each and every person, volunteer and staff member, is making a direct and invaluable contribution in the lives of women. It has been such a true privilege to work with such a committed group of people.

If you have any questions or concerns about my resignation or the transition to a new Executive Director, please feel free to reach out to me (lunajennifer137@gmail.com) or to our Board President Buddy Wood.

Thank you again - and I hope to keep all the friends of incredible supporters I have made along the way.

All the best,



Jennifer Luna



Community Connections!



Our incredible Spring 2022 NSU CFS interns, Gabby and Courtany. While we wish them the best, we will deeply miss their infectious laughter, innate helpfulness, and pure love in assisting our clients each and every day.



Loved getting to be a part of the Community Health Fair by NRMCM as part of the Black History Month celebrations. Over 70% of women that we serve are African American. We love serving our community day in and day out and celebrating who our clients are every month of the year!



Our popular biannual Spring Baby Item Giveaway was a great hit. We had families lining up 45 minutes before we opened it up, and this photo was taken exactly at 9:01 am. We were also able to schedule 14 new pregnant women that morning for appointments!



Thankful to have been the nonprofit partner in March for the Natchitoches Young Professionals Pub Crawl! A portion of the proceeds of Pub Crawl went to training our second nurse to perform ultrasounds, meaning that any woman will rarely have to wait more than a week and a half to schedule a free ultrasound.

Run Baby Run!



Our 11th Annual Run, Baby, Run this past May was a blast... this time at the Natchitoches Farmer's Market! We doubled our registration from last year and had even wilder prizes from beloved restaurants in town. We could not be happier that the Run, Baby, Run is an integral part of the community calendar, all for the good of our moms and babies.

See you all in May 2023!

Thank you to our Sponsors:
Trinity Integrated Health & Wellness Center
Bank of Montgomery
Crazy Catholic Ladies
City Bank & Trust

Spring & Summer Testimonials



"Women's Resource Center is very respectful. They are very supportive. They helped me in so many ways, loving, caring, and very helpful. I love how we pray after counseling sessions."

"My pregnancy was a lot easier knowing that there were people I could talk to besides my family. It made it a lot more stress-free."

"Truly enjoyed the entire experience as a first time mom. All of the education provided and the prayers truly prepared me for my first time mom experience."



"From my very first pregnancy test taken here, all I have been shown was love and support. Just the fact that you can trust every nurse and volunteer there is a blessing and I will keep coming for advice and every pregnancy I will go through. I'm beyond grateful!"

New Class: Child Safety



We have partnered with the Natchitoches Parish Fire District 6 to introduce a free monthly Child Safety Class and it has already been one of our most popular classes!

This class aims in preparation to keep one's baby safe and happy. Each class will be led by trained fire personnel from Natchitoches Parish Fire District 6 who will walk participants through basic infant and child CPR, choking, basic first aid, and home safety tips for inside and out along with practicing fire safety. This is not a certification course and NPFD6 encourages everyone to take a full CPR & First Aid Course.

Donation of supplies:

1st United Methodist Church	Diapers/Equipment	Laura Solomon	Equipment
Aaliyah Seawood	Baby Clothing	Lauren Anderson	Formula/Diapers
Amanda Lee	Baby Clothing/Toys	Lee Akin	Toys/Equipment
Amy Deen	Diapers/Wipes	Lorraine Penrod	Diapers/Wipes
Ayden Jordan	Clothing/Diapers/Equipment	Markie Stewart	Baby Food/Toys
Barbara Nelson	Baby Clothing	Markita Small	Toys/Equipment
Barbara Glenn Nelson	Clothing/Diapers/Equipment	Mary Cedars	Toys
Bob Kellogg	Baby Bed	Mary Christophe	Swing, Bouncer & Clothes
Brandon Grayson	Toys/Equipment	Mary Houston	Baby Clothing
Brian Lovemore	Car Seat	Mary Salard	Baby Clothing/Shoes
Brittany Marx	Bassinet	Maryline Sanders	Clothing/Bottles/Equipment
Brittany McGaskey	Clothing/Diapers/Equipment	Natchitoches 4-H Club	Diapers/Wipes
Brooke Latham	Baby Blankets	Natchitoches Farmers Market	Clothing
Carolyn B. & Kolbe D.	Baby Clothes/Toys	Natchitoches Parish 4-H	Diapers/Bottles/Wipes
Catholic Daughters	Diapers/Wipes/Baby Items	New Life Evangelism Center	Baby Clothing/Bottles
Christal LaCour	Baby Clothing/Equipment	Nicole Hullender	Bottles/Equipment
Clay Ryder	Stroller	Peggy Portie	Formula
Cory & Jennifer Campbell	Baby Clothing	Phyllis Breedlove	Baby Items
Craig Caskey	Baby Equipment	Rachel LeBlanc	Baby Clothing/Equipment
Damon Carter	Baby Clothing/Equipment	Rachel Robertson	Baby Clothing
Danielle Cobb	Bibs/Equipment	Rebecca Molina	Diaper/Wipes
Deonika Patterson	Toys	Renee Scarbrough	Baby Clothing
Destiny Tyler	Clothing/Formula/Diapers/Toys	Rita Ferguson	Baby Bottles/Items
Dwane & Carol Steadman	Toys	Rita Kaye Breedlove	Baby Clothing/Bottles/Food
Ed Breedlove	Glider	Rosalind Parker	Baby Clothing/Equipment
Emanuel Temple 141	Baby Clothing	Rosealena Parfait	Baby Clothing/Equipment/Toys
Emma Benjamin	Clothing/Equipment	Scott Vienne	Rocking Chair
Erica Lloyd	Baby Clothing	Sean Jackson	Baby Clothing/Food/Equipment
Erika Castillo	Bottles/Clothing/Toys/Equipment	Shaedra Walker	Baby Clothing/Food/Equipment
Gail Jones	Car Seat	Shalonda Haskett	Formula
Geneva Chism	Bouncer	Stephanie LaCour	Baby Bed
Gretchen Ferguson	Baby Clothing/Equipment	Stephanie Rice	Clothing/Equipment
Heather Guillot	Clothing	Tiara Hayes	Diapers/Formula
Henry Rachal	Towel/Blankets	Tiffany Davis	Baby Clothing
Jackie Foster	Blankets/Toiletries	Traci Banes	Equipment
Jackie Hawkins	Baby Clothing/Diapers/Wipes	Veronica Johnson	Baby Clothing/Equipment
James "Nathan" Wilson	Diapers/Equipment	Virginia Belle	Baby Clothing
Jeanette Hooper	Mom Gift Items	Whitney Golden	Clothing/Formula/Equipment
Jim Kilcoyne	Matresses	Emmanuel Baptist Church	Diapers/Clothing/Equipment
Joanie Dahlem	Equipment/Toy	Erica Kijanski	Diapers/Clothing
Josie Hamilton	Baby Clothing/Blankets/Toys	Brandon & Ashlee Grayson	Formula/Equipment
Julie Strebeck	Baby Clothing	Jack & Jan McCain	Diapers
Katelyn Usleton	Baby Clothing/Diapers/Wipes	Ellis Newman	Bouncer/Swing
Kathy Ellerbe	Clothing/Equipment	Danielle Cobb	Baby Monitor/Equipment
Kay Palmer	Baby Clothing/Toys/Equipment	Maggie Matuschlea	Clothing/Toys
Kelly Airhart	Toiletries	Sean Lodrigue	Books/Toys
Kerri Bynog	Toys/Bouncer	Caitlin Lemoine	Clothing/Toys/Equipment
Kirby Peddy	Car Seat/Toys/Matress	David Dollar	Diapers
Krista Cholvitee	Formula/Equipment	Hannah Metoyer	Clothing
Kristy Jordan	Baby Clothing/Equipment		
Larry & Mary Hooper, Jr.	Clothing/Shoes		
Latoya Hayes	Formula		

Thank You!

Moving On...



"As I have prepared to retire from the Women's Resource Center after 13 years, I have found that I am faced with many emotions. Though I am excited about the prospect of leaving and relocating near our family, the greatest emotion I feel is that of great sorrow. I can honestly tell you that it is not easy to say goodbye!

Having served in ministry for over 30 years, I can without a doubt say that being a part of the WRC has been one of the greatest callings of my life. I have been truly blessed in serving with the best group of volunteers through the years, helping young ladies make life-affirming choices, and sharing my love and the love of Christ.

I believe that the hand of God hovers over this work and those that serve there. May God bless you, strengthen you and help you to work and serve until Jesus comes"

- Terri Ruck, WRC Client Services Manager, Service from 2008-2022

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