



Fall 2016

Pregnancy Resource Center

New River Valley, Inc.



Turning to the Unseen

by Nicole Campbell, Volunteer

At 21 days you can see an unborn child's heartbeat. If you've ever seen an ultrasound, you know what a truly miraculous sight it is. You're able to watch a child hiccup, wiggle, and dance around the womb. You feel the awe of unborn life – the gift, the fragility, the value.

At the Pregnancy Resource Center, we are blessed to be able to provide women with ultrasounds. For many, this is the moment that truly makes their child "real" to them because they actually see their child for the first time. What was once unknown to them becomes known.

A client, Grace*, came with her boyfriend for a pregnancy test and really wanted to know how far along she was. She was requesting information on all three of her options. While Grace and her boyfriend had spoken of their future together, she considered herself too young to be a mother and also had high professional aspirations. Ultimately, Grace knew their parents' reactions would weigh heavily on their decision.

The client advocate spoke with Grace about what to consider when telling her family about the pregnancy. She also walked her through pregnancy options, encouraging her to pull in her values and faith perspective, and to share the information with her boyfriend.

When they returned for the ultrasound, Grace shared that they were leaning toward parenting but still hadn't told their parents. Their ultrasound revealed a beautiful, active baby. The clients were shocked to see so much movement at such an early age and awed by a strong heartbeat. As the nurse continued the ultrasound, they visibly bonded with their baby. Later, the father expressed surprise at the baby's development and said, "It really changes your perspective."

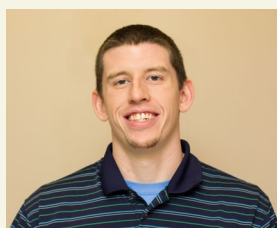
The baby was no longer a "pregnancy." He or she was now their child. The conversation no longer centered on pregnancy options but instead switched to pre-natal care and our parenting classes, including our Fatherhood program for men. They accepted prayer and Grace was all smiles as she hugged the client advocate at the door.

Often the mothers who come to us can only look to things "seen" – the impossibility of their circumstances to parent. But as they turn their eyes to the unseen, to their unborn child, we see Light come into their eyes. For the unseen is truly eternal – eternal grace, eternal truth, eternal joy, eternal Life.

*name changed to protect client confidentiality

“ So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. 2 Corinthians 4:18

It [the ultrasound] really changes your perspective.”



Every Person Matters

by Steven Reese, Board Chairman

Five or six years ago, my ears were alerted and my eyes were opened to the sanctity of human life through my local church. Although there was some stirring in my spirit, I mostly stayed indifferent on the issue, not seeing it as my fight (or my business for that matter). For me, this all got turned on its ear when I attended my first PRC Banquet in 2011. Lila Rose, a leading pro-life advocate, delivered a powerful message that opened my HEART for the unborn. From that point on, I was committed to standing up for the voiceless. PRC became an avenue to walk out the passion God had built up in me.

The PRC is a place that women and families can come to experience the love of Christ.



I've had the pleasure to play a role in the prayer and planning of PRC in recent years and seeing God's hand at work has brought me great joy. I learned quickly that PRC is a place that women and families can come to experience the love of Christ in what often feels like one of their most difficult, broken moments. Hearing a story of a parent choosing life for their child, or someone calling PRC their "family," are both amazing testimonies of the work of the ministry.

Currently, I serve as the Chairman of the Board of Directors. It's a great honor and privilege to serve alongside not only the other committed board members, but also as part of the larger volunteer base, the PRC staff, and those who faithfully give to the ministry. As you can see in this issue of the newsletter, *every person* in this ministry matters. And God ultimately uses the many people working together to impact His breath of life – the precious clients such as Grace and their unborn children. The body of Christ is evident in this ministry and everyone has a role they can play. Thank you for your support!

In 2012, I joined the Board of Directors and have been nothing but blessed to be a part of this

amazing ministry. I've had the pleasure to play a role in the prayer and planning of PRC in recent years and seeing God's hand at work has brought me great joy. I learned quickly that PRC is a place that women and families can come to experience the love of Christ in what often feels like one of their most difficult, broken moments. Hearing a story of a parent choosing life for their child, or someone calling PRC their "family," are both amazing testimonies of the work of the ministry.

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PRC Staff Update



Current PRC staff, from left to right: Debbie Christian, Lindsey Nelson, Janet Poth, LeeAnn Arnold, Donna Shelor, Courtney Johnson, Megan Turner, Amanda Everett, Susan Barry

Courtney Johnson, Interim Director of Client Services

We welcome Courtney to the PRC staff! Courtney and her husband, Spencer, attend Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church and serve with Reformed University Fellowship at Virginia Tech. In her role, Courtney will manage client services and volunteers.

Susan Barry, Nurse Manager

Susan is our new Nurse Manager, in charge of the nursing care for our clients and supervising nurse volunteers. She and her husband have lived in the NRV for over 30 years and have two grown children. In her free time, Susan enjoys biking.

Donna Shelor, Clinic Nurse, Radford

We welcome Donna as our new Radford clinic nurse. Donna attends Blacksburg Christian Fellowship and enjoys being involved in Bible Study Fellowship. She and her husband, Bob, live in Pembroke. They have five children, ranging in age from 15-24.

Karen Barnes

After being on the PRC staff as a nurse since 2009, we say goodbye to Karen later this year. She and her husband, Bob, are heading to the mission field in Tanzania. Thank you, Karen, for your compassionate service to so many of the PRC's clients!

Volunteer spotlight: Stefani VanGilder

Stefani is one of our volunteer client advocates at our Blacksburg clinic. Originally from Indiana, Stefani and her family moved to Blacksburg 8 years ago, and she joined our volunteer staff in 2012.

Stefani and her husband, Jim, have three children - Eli, a freshman at VT, Josh, a junior at Blacksburg High School, and Avery, a 6th grader at Blacksburg Middle School. They attend GraceLife Baptist Church.

"Being a part of a ministry that helps so many women choose life for their baby is such a blessing! My favorite part about volunteering at the PRC is watching a mom see her baby's heartbeat for the very first time during an ultrasound!"



2016 Annual Benefit Banquet

The Pregnancy Resource Center's
Annual Benefit Banquet

Breath of Life

"The Spirit of God has made me,
the *Breath* of the Almighty
gives me *Life*."

Job 33:4



THE INN AT VIRGINIA TECH
AND
Star Parker, keynote speaker

Thank You... to everyone who helped make it a success!

Attendees enjoyed two blessed evenings of conversation, challenge, and inspiration. The event included a meal catered by the Inn at Virginia Tech, a ministry update, client testimonies, a LifeSponsor testimony, and an inspiring message from our keynote speaker, Star Parker. Between the two nights, we had 536 guests, and raised more than **\$244,000** for the PRC ministry! The event was truly a celebration of how God uses the PRC ministry to support and preserve His *breath of life*.



After sharing her testimony, a former PRC client shows her newborn daughter to the audience



Table hosts gather for prayer before the event



LifeSponsor Bryan Pruett shares his testimony and welcomes his son to the stage

Thanks to the following underwriters of our 2016 Benefit Banquet!

Anonymous* (4)
Jason Christian*
Joe and Heidi Brunk*
Michael and Marnie Slayton*
Jim and Stefani VanGilder*

Anonymous (6)
Bryant Altizer Photography
Thomas DeBusk
Ty and Joi Hopkins
Jimmy John's Sandwiches

Jubilee Christian Center
Lee Hartman & Sons
Jason and Heather Nipper
Cliff and Phyllis Randall
Reece's Building Supply

Rome Mechanical
Sundown Electric
Timberland Mulch & Farms
TKA Architects
Trinity Baptist Church

*outreach & challenge level

banquet photos by Bryant Altizer Photography, bryantaltizer.com

Business Partnerships & Blessings

As part of their annual "Lighthouse" service project to donate time and materials to a local non-profit, the Blacksburg and Radford branches of BB&T chose to partner with the PRC. They sent representatives to our clinics to work on mailings and sort donations. They also donated brand new strollers, curriculum, cribs, pack-and-plays, and other items. Thank you for your partnership, which allows us to bless our clients!

Would your business like to partner with the PRC? Visit PRCsupport.com/businesses or contact Debbie at 540-552-5556 for more information.



The Blacksburg BB&T branch members that volunteered in the clinic.

Representatives of the Radford BB&T branch deliver donations.

PRC News & Notes

2016 BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

Fill a bottle.
Change a life.



THANK YOU!

Goal: **\$55,000** ▪ Raised so far: **\$48,269**

Thank you to all the churches that have participated in our Baby Bottle Campaign so far, including several churches currently doing a fall campaign! We look forward to the final 2016 total of everyone who has partnered with us to make an impact for LIFE! If your church would like to get involved in the Baby Bottle Campaign this fall or winter, please contact the Blacksburg office or visit PRCsupport.com.



Volunteer needs

The PRC is seeking compassionate volunteers to facilitate our education classes at both of our clinics. All training is provided. Ideal candidates would serve 3-4 hours per week. For more information or to apply, visit PRCsupport.com/getting-involved.

Christmas Shopping is right around the corner...

Remember that the PRC is part
of the AmazonSmile Program!



Your Christmas (or any time of the year) shopping on Amazon can support the PRC! To enroll, start your shopping at smile.amazon.com and choose "Pregnancy Resource Center of the New River Valley" from the list of charitable organizations. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the PRC.