# 40 YEARS/je







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PREGNANT? WORRIED? Don't face it alone. We Care! For Confidential Aid-Call 831-HELP anytime (Free Pregnancy Test)

Alternative center begins operation



Business brisk at new Life Center





SOUTH BAY Life Center, an extension of the 24-hour ight to LifeLine, was dedicated Monday, April 26. The enter is located at 1311 Crenshaw Blvd., Torrance, and is pen Monday to Friday, from noon to 6 p.m., and we tys from 6 to 8 p.m. Call 831-HELP.

### **2016 Annual Report**





#### FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & BOARD CHAIR

Dear Friend of the Center,

2016 was indeed a year of celebration for the Pregnancy Help Center — a celebration of providing free services in the South Bay and making a life-saving difference to women, babies, and families since 1976. We are proud of these life-affirming accomplishments, which were made possible only with your generous support and involvement. Together we have impacted and saved countless lives, as you'll read in Lacey and Anya's stories.

Our reasons for celebration continue to grow! In 2016, we celebrated when clients chose life in over 85% of positive pregnancy tests. We celebrated the launch of a post-abortion bible study, "Forgiven and Set Free," where women can now experience compassion and healing from their secret sorrow.

We also celebrated the increase of our ongoing services of pregnancy testing, STD testing and limited obstetric ultrasound

services with pregnancy tests increasing 14% and ultrasounds increasing 28% from 2015. We are truly blessed! God has provided us with the resources to handle the increase, as well as the individuals who work and volunteer to serve every client with compassion, understanding, and grace.

Although the Center has changed and grown over the past 40 years, from a helpline and pregnancy resource center to a licensed medical clinic now providing lifesaving ultrasounds, our commitment to the mission hasn't changed — to help women in crisis pregnancies with services and resources to eliminate the crisis and choose life for their babies.

We are thankful that your commitment has remained steadfast! However you provide assistance to the Center, whether by financial support, volunteering on a regular basis or as needs arise, providing direction as a board member or dedicated staff member, faithful church, or prayer warrior, we appreciate your sacrifice of time, talent, and treasure.

Together we are continuing to impact and save countless lives, and we are grateful that you are with us in this journey.

In His Service.

Adrienne & Brenda

Adrienne Gross, Executive Director Brenda Coe. Board Chair

#### **SERVICES WE OFFER**

All our services are free of charge:

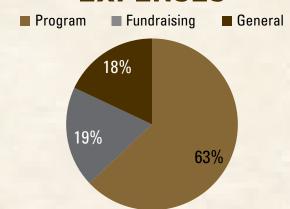
- · Pregnancy testing
- · Limited obstetric ultrasound
- STI risk assessment and treatment
- Evidence-based education about abortion procedures
- Post-abortion support
- Prenatal nutrition and breastfeeding education
- Assistance with Medi-Cal application
- Sexual integrity program for schools
- Community resource referrals including housing, professional counseling and adoption

#### **FINANCES**

January through December 2016

Total Income .								\$ 475,347
<b>Total Expenses</b>								\$373,928

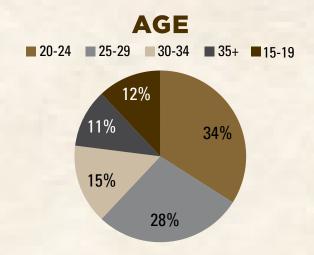
#### **EXPENSES**



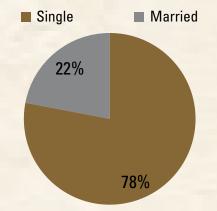


#### IN 2016...

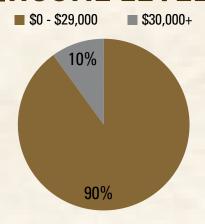
Client Visits
Unique Clients
Pregnancy Tests
Positive Tests 604
Ultrasounds
Ultrasound Clients Who Chose Life 85%



#### **MARITAL STATUS**







## A Single Decision Can Change a Life...



"I'm convinced that if God hadn't led me to the Center, I wouldn't have a baby. A single decision can change a life, and I almost made the worst decision of my life to terminate my pregnancy," says Lacey, who gave birth to her second child, baby boy Michael, in May 2016.

Lacey has a 2½-year-old son, Matt, with her partner Joseph.

They had separated and she dated someone else before they got back together. Once they were together again, Lacey found out she was pregnant but the paternity of the child was in question.

Joseph wouldn't consider having the baby if he weren't the father, so he told Lacey, "If you have the baby, I'm not sticking around, so you can have the baby or you can have me."

Faced with the impossible decision of choosing either her child or her partner, in 2016 Lacey sought the services of the Center, where she had been our client with her first child. Meanwhile, Joseph made an appointment for the abortion at another facility. At the Center, Lacey met with a client advocate who then invited Joseph to join them. In addition to listening to their concerns, the client advocate asked permission to pray with both of them having learned that Lacey and Joseph are Christians.

Shortly after that, Joseph attended a church event and heard a testimony from a young man whose mother was planning to abort him but changed her mind. That was the moment Joseph had a change of heart and said, "This is my child, and no matter what, I will be his father."

Lacey and Joseph moved closer to family in Ohio and were married in March. They're so grateful to the Center for the support they received. Lacey says, "You didn't just touch my life and the baby, but the father's life as well. If it weren't for you, I wouldn't be pregnant."

Lacey and Joseph want other young women to hear every aspect of their story so they can offer hope in a crisis pregnancy. Their words of encouragement are, "The biggest thing is just to pray and know that everything happens for a reason; this pregnancy is happening for a reason, and God will lead you if you ask for help."

## ...And Save a Life!

Anya was experiencing the most frightening and difficult time in her young life of 23 years when she spotted our ad at Del Amo Mall in 2016. A victim of domestic abuse in her four-year relationship with her boyfriend, a pregnant Anya and her 3-year-old daughter were desperate and needed help.

"I was so hopeless and scared and if I hadn't talked to someone at the Center, I might still be in that abusive relationship. The client advocate opened my eyes to the fact that my relationship was unhealthy and might get worse if I didn't get out."



While Anya didn't really want to terminate her pregnancy, she felt completely hopeless and was doubtful of her ability to mother another baby. Though her family had been supportive during her first pregnancy, they were uncertain that Anya should have another child with her boyfriend due to his emotional and verbal abuse.

Anya would advise anyone experiencing a crisis in her pregnancy to seek out someone who cares. "Talking with the Client Advocate and having the ultrasound exam helped me be more firm in my decision to keep the baby and get out of the abusive situation," says Anya. Seeing her baby move during the ultrasound gave her the peace of mind that she was making the right choice to carry the pregnancy and give birth.

It wasn't easy for Anya to leave her relationship but eventually she did, and after a few temporary living situations she found her current home for her and her daughter at an 18-month confidential residential program. There Anya is receiving counseling and is enrolled in an education program which will help her decide upon either a school or career path soon after the baby is born in July 2017.

Anya believes her story would have turned out very differently had she not found the Center. While her future looked uncertain at the end of 2016, today she has hope and a direction for her life. She describes her experience at the Center as kind, caring and sympathetic.

## **40 Years Celebrating LIFE**

2016 marked the 40th Anniversary of the Center opening its doors in April, 1976.

Many spirited festivities enhanced the year-long celebration.

#### **RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY**

April 8, 2016, at the Center

**ABOVE, L to R**: Jeanne McLeod, 2016 Board Chair, Adrienne Gross, Executive Director, and David Hadley, former CA Assemblyman

BELOW, Back row L to R: Victoria Koh, Mary Thompson,
Norma Grove, TerriAnn Ferren, Marianne Brooks, Dr. & Mrs. Milton
Herring, Berthe Slattery, and Torrance Chamber of Commerce member
Front row L to R: Tim Thompson, David Hadley, Mike Griffiths,
Adrienne Gross, Jeanne McLeod, Carol Shafer, Jeannine Lochtenberg,
Dr. Toks Kamson, and Geoff Rizzo





## VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

August 28, 2016, at SeaCoast Church



**L to R**: Former Center Director Olive O'Brien and Client Advocate Ann Marie Smyth



L to R: Adrienne Gross with volunteers Pat Sullivan and Pat Akins

## DONOR APPRECIATION HOLIDAY GATHERING

December 4, 2016



**L to R**: Supporters Steven Perry and Jay Perrault



**L to R**: Supporters Jeanne McLeod, John Johnson, Tim Thompson, and Rick Thompson

## **A Celebration of Gifts**

### Making a Difference - John Johnson

For more than 25 years John Johnson has been using his creative gifts to make a difference in the homes of many in the South Bay community. As President of His Life Woodworks, he and his master craftsmen have helped many families build their dreams with custom woodwork.

John has also been a supporter of the Pregnancy Help Center for over 10 years in so many ways. In addition to being a Circle of Hope monthly pledge donor, he supports both the Walk for Life South Bay and annual Fundraising Banquet. He's also generous with his time and was instrumental in helping with the Center's remodel in 2008, volunteering his truck, employees and expertise for cabinet construction. "It's all for a good cause," he says.

John used to stand up for the pro-life movement at protests both here in the South Bay and in Washington D.C. but felt he wasn't truly making change or an impact. He was first introduced to the Center when a friend asked him to help build some cabinets for us. "I was hooked," says Johnson about his experience of being at the Center. "This is where I can make a difference," he adds.

When he first observed the care and compassion given to each and every woman who walks through the door, John was moved. "The



John Johnson (far left) and family

Pregnancy Help Center is the voice of truth and lives are being changed every day."

## **Living and Giving**

This year, so many supporters chose to celebrate life through their giving. You'll find many ways to contribute to the work of the Center at **supportphctorrance.org/contribute**:



Make a one-time donation to the Center and join us in helping more women eliminate the crisis in an unexpected pregnancy.



Pledge monthly — You can help protect the lives of the preborn by joining the Circle of Hope and pledging to support the Center with a monthly donation.



Planned Giving — Create a legacy that will live on in celebration of life by including the Center in your estate planning.



Looking for a meaningful, eternal gift? Give the gift of life in honor or memory of a loved one.

All gifts may be eligible for employer matching donations. Check at supportphctorrance.org/contribute.

## **Clients Said...**

"PHC has given me information that could change my options with my pregnancy."

"The center is very helpful and understanding of my needs."

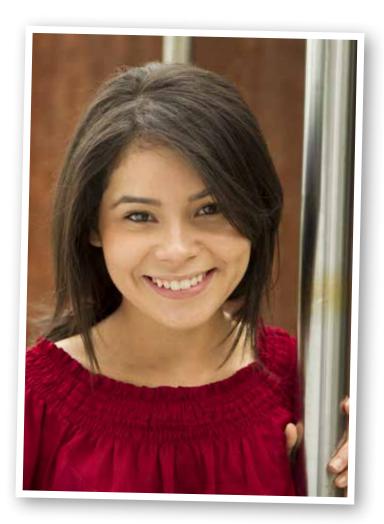
"They are trying (to help) and are not willing to give up.
That's a lot more than I could ask for."

"Now I have someone I can talk to and open up to about my concerns."

"It made me 100% more comfortable and sure of my decision to follow through and go full term."

"The staff at PHC is very kind, comforting, and thoughtful. I want to volunteer here."

"You made me feel supported and comfortable with my decision to keep my baby."



#### **OUR MISSION**

To provide a safe, caring environment where every woman facing a crisis pregnancy can receive counseling, education, and practical assistance in order to eliminate the crisis and choose life for her baby; and to inspire others to embrace sexual health and integrity.

#### STAFF

Adrienne Gross, Executive Director
Dr. David Lu, Medical Director
Norma D. Grove
Victoria Koh
Donna Lee
Susan Lofy
Gloria Macri
Cleo Martin
Mary Thompson

Stephanie Turner

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Brenda Coe, Chair Jeannine Lochtenberg, Vice Chair Heidi Cunningham, Secretary Annette Leroux, Treasurer

Members-at-Large:
Dr. Toks Kamson
Jeanne McLeod
Carol Shafer
Bill Van Leuven



1311 Crenshaw Boulevard, Suite A • Torrance, CA 90501 supportphctorrance.org • info@phctorrance.org Clinic: 310-320-8976 • Administrative Offices: 424-263-4855