

Friends for Life

Summer 2011

CARE  NET[®]
Pregnancy Center of the Hudson Valley

**Celebrating 25 Years
of Ministry**

Prayer & Praise

Praise God for bringing some of the hard cases to us.

Pray for the client advocates who minister to these women.



Assemblyman Marc Molinaro Visits Center

We were so pleased to have New York State Assemblyman Marc Molinaro visit the Center for a tour and to learn more about our work. We discussed our

mission and the various services we provide in the areas of prevention, intervention and reconciliation. He was very encouraging in his affirmation of the ministry as well as in our discussion on legislative issues. We appreciate his support on issues that are important to the Center and the sanctity of human life. *Pictured: Marc Molinaro, Deb Townsend, Bill O'Neil, Jim and Seven Wojtowicz.*

Thank you!

...to the generous family who donated 8 new Pak 'n Plays!

...to **God's Love Extended** from Fishkill Church of the Nazarene for the huge bag of office supplies and paper goods!

...to the **Good Shepherd First Communion Class**, who held their annual drive for baby clothing and layette items.

...to **The Ark and Dove Preschool of St. Denis**, who collected baby items for us.

Mini Golf Outing

Fun for the whole family!
Thursday, August 11, 6 - 9 PM at Fun Central

1630 Route 9, Wappingers Falls
Tickets are \$10 and include 18 Holes of Golf and 1 Bumper Boat Ride.
Prizes for Lowest Scores and Hole-in-One!!!

Sponsor a Tee or Green!

\$100 for Tee or Green sponsorship includes:

- 1) Name on a large sign at the registration desk.
- 2) Name, location and website on sign at the tee or green.
- 3) Name and website link on the Leader Board on the Care Net Website.
- 4) Thank you mentions 3-4 times the week following the outing on the Sound of Life Radio.
- 5) Name on the Care Net score cards.

To pay for your sponsorship online by credit card or PayPal, please go to ISupportCareNet.org.

To pay for your sponsorship by mail, please make your check payable to Care Net and mail it to: Care Net Pregnancy Center, P.O. Box 2118, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601



Friends for Life

Summer and Fall FUNdraisers

4th Annual 5K “Run for Life” & “Kids Fun Run”

9 AM, Saturday, August 6th

Sponsored by Hyde Park Baptist Church

10 Romans Road, Hyde Park, NY

All proceeds benefit Care Net!

To register, please visit www.hpbcrny.com or call the church at 845-229-9150.

Care Net’s Annual Softball Tournament

Saturday September 3rd at Spratt Park Fields

99 Wilbur Boulevard, Poughkeepsie

Double Elimination

\$150 per team. Space is limited so register today!

8 Men’s Teams and 4 Women’s Teams

Register your team(s)

- **Online** using your credit card or PayPal account, please visit ISupportCareNet.org.
- **By credit card over the phone**, please call the Center at 845-471-9284.
- **By mail**, indicate the name of the team(s), make your check payable to Care Net and send it to: Care Net, P.O. Box 2118, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

Walk for Life

Saturday, September 24th on the DC Rail Trail

Great for kids, strollers, everyone! We will meet at Chapel Falls Christian Fellowship, on Route 376 in Wappingers and will be walking from the Route 376 entrance to Diddell Road and back. Save the date and look for your post card invitation with all the details in early September!

Praisin’ in the Park

Saturday, October 8th at Bowdoin Park

It’s a wonderful family time of music, praise, fellowship, food and fun!!! All the details will be included in the post card invitation you will be receiving in September!

Women of Faith Discount Tickets

November 11-12 at the XL Center Hartford, CT

Featuring:

- **Speakers:** Sheila Walsh, Luci Swindoll, Lisa Harper, Angie Smith
- **Musical Guests:** Mary Mary, Natalie Grant
- **Drama:** Nicole Johnson
- **Special Guest:** Henry Cloud

The Women of Faith organization has given Care Net Pregnancy Center 100 tickets to sell at the special group rate of \$89 each (includes admittance to the full 2-day event and lunch both days). Care Net will receive a portion of the proceeds.

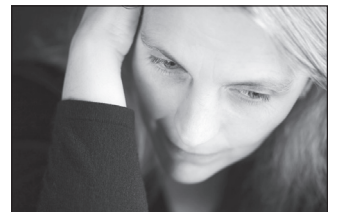
Purchase your tickets online at ISupportCareNet.org or call the Center at 845-471-9284.

When you purchase your ticket(s), you will be mailed a voucher that will be turned in for the actual tickets when Women of Faith sends them to us for distribution in September.

If you have any questions, call the Center at 845-471-9284.

Abortion Recovery Bible Study Support Group

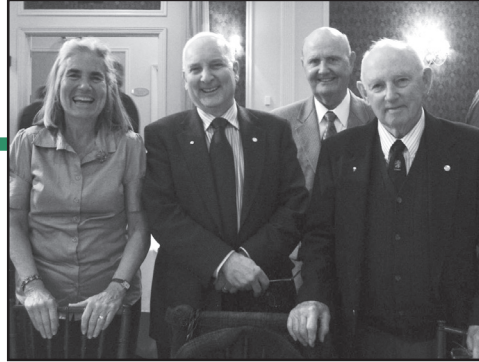
We offer our Abortion Recovery class called Forgiven and Set Free several times each year and we’re always ready to start a new class. The hardest step you will ever take is the first one...to pick up the phone and call our number and say, “I want to be set free. I want the peace and joy I see in other women.” We know. We’ve been exactly where you are now. Being forgiven is the easy part. Healing takes time and we want to help. God wants you to be healed. Your family wants to see you healed.



If you would like more information or just want to talk, please call Paula at 845-750-1898 or Donna at 845-485-3367. Everything is totally confidential. The first step is hard, but we can guarantee it will be worth it!

Celebrating 25 Years of Ministry

Beautiful Evening at the Grandview



Some of the prayer warriors who pray at Planned Parenthood every Tuesday and Thursday, rain or shine.

What a wonderful time we had at Care Net's 25th Annual Fundraising Banquet! Thank you so much for helping us raise \$43,051.42 to support the ongoing work of the Center. It was one of our highest totals ever!

We were excited to have Melinda Delahoyde, President of Care Net National, as our keynote speaker. She spoke about the valuable work of pregnancy care centers as well as some of the real challenges we face. She presented an encouraging message about the future of our ministries and was a blessing to all of us.

It was also wonderful to hear from New York State Assemblyman Marc Molinaro, who spoke about his support of the work we do at Care Net. Many thanks to all who participated and to all our fantastic volunteers who helped to make this a very special evening!

Pro-abortion New York City Law Update

A victory was won in NYC! A judge has issued a ruling granting a preliminary injunction prohibiting a new pro-abortion law from taking effect in New York City. The law places harsh restrictions on pregnancy help centers offering women alternatives to abortions.

After a recent hearing, The American Center for Law and Justice (ACLU), representing Heartbeat International and New York City pregnancy help centers, awaited Judge William Pauley's decision. The law was set to go into effect on July 14th, however, the preliminary injunction stopped the law until a permanent decision is made.

ACLU Senior Counsel, CeCe Heil: "This measure violates crisis pregnancy centers' First and Fourteenth Amendment rights, specifically protected by the constitution. We are committed to protecting the rights of our clients and are urging the federal court to halt implementation of this ordinance and declare it unconstitutional. Similar ordinances have already been struck down in federal court and we have no doubt that this ordinance will be rejected as well."

The ACLU will continue to urge the federal district court to permanently block any enforcement of the law, pointing out that the law is a violation of pregnancy help center's constitutional rights; especially the right to freedom of speech.

Complete defeat of this law is critical. If the law is enforced it will severely undermine the only alternative to abortion that nearly 5 million women living in New York City currently have! As it stands right now, 41% of all pregnancies in NYC end in abortion—making it one of the highest abortion rates in the country. Please keep this in your prayers!

Care Net Board & Staff

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**To donate online
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ISupportCareNet.
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Friends for Life

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Save the Dates:

Walk for Life

Saturday, September 24
Dutchess County Rail Trail

Praisin' in the Park

Saturday, October 8
Bowdoin Park

A Word from the Director

Lobby for Life Day

With all the attacks that have been launched on pregnancy care centers throughout our nation, Care Net National has suggested that we begin to establish relationships our legislators. They have provided us with legal guidelines so as not to jeopardize our 501(c)(3) status and invited the New York State Right to Life Committee to present a webinar for us on how to lobby for the issues that are important to the work of the Center. They have also put us in contact with an Alliance Defense Fund attorney in case we are ever in need of their services.

We studied the information presented in the webinar, created the suggested packets of information and on May 3rd Lois Meyer, Pat Velez and I attended our first Lobby for Life Day in Albany. It was sponsored by the New York State Right to Life Committee and held in The Well of the Legislative Office Building. Senator Gregg Ball, Assemblyman Marcos Crespo and Assemblywoman Annie Rabbitt spoke about the new legislation they are sponsoring to ban sex selection abortions. A Right to Life Committee representative to the United Nations spoke in detail about the issue and highlighted the growing trend in the United States. It was very encouraging to hear various state legislators speak about their commitment to promote sanctity of human life legislation, including Senator Ruben Diaz from the Bronx, who was very outspoken in his opposition to the law that was recently passed in New York City, restricting the free speech of pregnancy care centers. (See the update on page 3)



Following the rally, Lois, Pat and I visited seven Dutchess County legislators for "meet and greets" where we presented the work of Care Net and gave them packets of information about our Center and documentation of the value of centers all throughout New York State. We were well received and were pleased with the support we received from some of the legislators who are supportive of sanctity of human life issues. We will be continuing these types of visits on the local and national level and will also be inviting some of the legislators to visit the Center. Please pray us as we establish these new relationships.

All God's blessings,
Deb