SHARING LIFE STORIES OF COMPASSION, HOP E, & HELP JUNE 2023 CARE-NET.ORG

CARE NET



Purpose or Paint?
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Fatherhood

Mark* balanced the fidget spinner between his fingers, timing how long it would take before starting over. He always did that when he was thinking things through.

Lin* was pregnant, and she was already starting to show. It was hard enough trying to feed the two of them on what little he made. How could he possibly afford everything they'd need for a baby?

The pit in Mark's stomach grew. This was a responsibility he hadn't expected, and he didn't think he had it in him to be a good dad. Little by little, he started to think that encouraging Lin to get an abortion was the only solution. He didn't like the idea, but having a kid when they weren't ready seemed worse.

Lin had been searching on her smartphone for information about abortion and found something called *Pregnancy Decision Line*. It was a hotline where they could have a discreet conversation about abortion and

all their options. <u>Mark didn't exactly like the idea</u> of sharing his problems with strangers, but he agreed they needed help.

Mark was honest with the coach when they called. He didn't really want to abort his baby, but he didn't think he was ready to be a father, either. The coach mentioned some of the local churches they partnered with and some of the ways they could help him grow in the spiritual and practical side of things. Deep down, Mark wanted to be the man he felt God was calling him to be, but he still wasn't sure what was right for his family. He told her they'd think it over.

He had a lot more to think about when he hung up, but he was glad to know there were people who could help if they decided to have the baby.

You are sharing the truth that dads matter...a lot.

Care Net did studies of 1,000 women who had abortions and 1,000 men who had participated in abortions to find out more about what went into their decisions to choose abortion instead of life. (Available at www.care-net.org/mens-survey). One of the things we found was that both the women and men

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Fatherhood Aborted

The authors discuss the aftershocks of abortion, share personal accounts of men's own experiences, and show that the path to forgiveness and healing is found in a vital relationship with Christ, the Life Giver. And check out the recently released companion resource, *Reclaiming Fatherhood* (see page 4).

Get your free digital copy online today at

resources.care-net.org/fatherhood-aborted

Purpose or Paint?

After I returned home from Care Net's Pro-Life Men's Summit at Dr. Tony Evans' church in Dallas, Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship, I had a chance to reflect. It was an amazing weekend, as we equipped hundreds of men to turn their pro-life passion into action.

As usual, I was inspired by Dr. Evans' electrifying keynote address. He shared an illustration that captured the Godordained work men have cut out for them in the pro-life movement.

He told a story of a man who drove past a barn and saw several targets painted on its side. In the middle of the bullseye of each target was a bullet hole. The man was in awe of how great a shot the owner of the barn must have been. So, one day he stopped and asked him about his perfectly accurate shooting. The owner replied, "Well, I shoot first, and then I paint targets around the bullet holes." Dr. Evans concluded, "While it may look like someone is living with purpose, it may just be that he is a good painter."

Isn't that so true of life? When we only see the outward appearance, or what others decide to show us, it can seem people have it all together... that they are always hitting life's bullseyes. But if we are living purposelessly, and then creating a phony life around the meaningless targets we are hitting, then we will miss the real target—the purpose that God has planned for us.

That is what Called and Missioned, our Pro-Life Men's Summit, is all about. We want men to think about whether or not they are living with purpose... or if they're content with the false "painted" life. We want those men to take the purpose that God's given them, and help other men in their local pregnancy center or community find their God-given purpose, too.

We hope and pray the Men's Summit bears great fruit in the years to come, as more men become engaged in the Pro Abundant Life movement in their churches, pregnancy centers, families, and communities. And, as always, I thank you for your generosity that makes events like this possible.

To learn more, visit calledandmissioned.com.

Blessings,

Rola C. Wan

Roland C. Warren Care Net President & CEO

Hear more from Roland on Twitter!

@RolandCWarren



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said the father of the baby has the greatest influence on the mother's decision to abort or choose life.

When men like Mark find out their girlfriends are pregnant, shame and fear often take hold. The abortion industry would tell them that abortion is the easy way out; but the reality is that it only leads to pain. Thanks to you, dads like Mark can discover there is another way that leads to life. And not just life for their baby, but a transformed life that helps them become more like Jesus.

Thanks to you, parents have places to turn when they face an unexpected pregnancy where they receive compassion, hope, and help; places like our pregnancy centers and the local churches we partner with for pro-life ministry. And you help us ensure there are events like the Men's Summit to equip men to become champions for abundant life while empowering them to embrace the abundant life God has for them.

Thank you for making a difference where it counts most!

Your gift today will save EVEN MORE unborn babies!

When we receive your gift before June 30



Your gift today will make an even greater impact to save unborn lives through our \$60,000 Matching Challenge!

A friend of Care Net has given \$60,000 and challenged YOU to help match it before June 30!

You can ensure even more mothers and fathers hear the transforming message of the Gospel that will help them choose not only life for their unborn child, but Abundant Life in Christ with your gift today!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTNERSHIP!

OUR CARING PARTNERS:HEROES SAVING LIVES 365 DAYS A YEAR!

Every single day, parents considering abortion find Care Net's national hotline, one of our affiliated pregnancy centers, or a church equipped for vibrant pro-life ministry through our church curriculum. You can help ensure they are able to find compassion, hope, and help 365 days a year by donating monthly and becoming a *Caring Partner*!

As a *Caring Partner*, you will also receive special benefits, including:

- A designated Care Net team member to serve you
- Updates on how your monthly support saves lives
- An exclusive monthly prayer devotional for your personal spiritual growth
- Invitations to special partner events and ministry updates

3 EASY WAYS TO ENROLL AS A CARING PARTNER:

- 1. Select "Make My Gift Monthly" on the enclosed reply device and return it with your first monthly gift.
- 2. Visit us online at: care-net.org/give-monthly
- 3. Call us at 1-800-518-7909





Nowhere to Turn?

You gave Booker and Katelyn the life support they needed to choose life for their baby!

Katelyn* was suddenly facing an unexpected, life-altering situation. She was late and the pregnancy test was positive. She felt overwhelmed and didn't know what to do.

So many thoughts flooded Katelyn's mind. Some family members and friends pressured her to have an abortion. Katelyn's mother said she would support her either way. But Katelyn really only cared what her boyfriend, Booker*, the father of their baby, thought.

Praise God, Booker was firm in his opinion that he didn't want Katelyn to have an abortion. He wanted her to keep the baby and to raise their child together. Katelyn was thankful for his support, but she just didn't see how they could make that work.

In the midst of the noisy thoughts in her head, Katelyn found herself thinking that having this baby could motivate her to better herself and her situation. She thought that maybe, just maybe, having a baby could be just the jump start she needed. But she had no idea where to start to find the help she needed. She searched online

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You can connect a parent with an unexpected or unexpectedly complicated pregnancy with the compassion, hope, and help they need to choose LIFE for the unborn child and ABUNDANT LIFE for their family!

Steps to Help Save a Life

- 1. Cut out PDL cards
- **2.** Carry with you
- 3. Share with someone facing a pregnancy decision



877-791-5475

pregnancydecisionline.org



PREGNANCY DECISION LINE (PDL) is a national hotline providing caring, confidential, and immediate support to women and men facing tough pregnancy decisions.

Are you ready to start a conversation?

We are here for you at **877-791-5475** or **pregnancydecisionline.org**.





You Can Save Lives Just by Making a Will

I love the month of June. Outside activities, vacations, and cookouts are just some of the things I love to do during summer. It's nice sometimes to "just get away from it all."

Sometimes it's easier to put off important things this time of year. But if you are out with your family and something terrible happens to you, is your family protected?

They can be in just 20 minutes. Get a totally free and totally legal will and save unborn lives at **carenet.plannedgiving.org**

Have a great and safe summer!

Bob Milton, Director of Planned Giving



Reclaiming Fatherhood

Helping men reclaim their role as Provider and Protector...and find hope after abortion

Anchored in the work *Fatherhood Aborted* by Guy Condon and David Hazard, and with the help of four men with abortions in their past, *Reclaiming Fatherhood* provides a road map to healing for men struggling with the emotional and spiritual fallout of abortion. This book can be the first step in a journey out of survival and into hope, purpose, and fulfillment.



Get your copy at

store.care-net.org/reclaiming-fatherhood



44180 Riverside Parkway, Suite 200 Lansdowne, Virginia 20176 1.800.518.7909









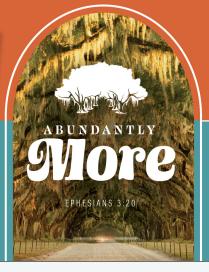


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and found Care Net's national hotline, *Pregnancy Decision Line*, and decided to see if they could give her some answers.

Katelyn nervously made the call. A comforting voice on the other end of the line welcomed her. Katelyn felt the hotline coach's compassion during their conversation and opened up about a previous abortion. She explained that she made a decision after that: that she would never have another abortion again. In a follow-up email to her coach, Katelyn shared that she had decided that she was definitely having the baby! She told her coach that her boyfriend had been the driving force behind her decision and how grateful she was to have his complete support.

Katelyn has newfound joy in starting a family, and your generous contributions to Care Net make that possible. Your generosity provides great resources like Care Net's national hotline for parents considering abortion and its curriculum to prepare churches for pro-life ministry. Your support of fathers, like Booker, ensures that women have the support they need to choose life. THANK YOU!



CARE NET.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

MOBILE, ALABAMA AUG. 29 – SEPT. 1

REGISTER TODAY!

CARENETCONFERENCE.ORG

Get exclusive updates on how your gift is saving lives!



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