

Caring TOGETHER

SHARING LIFE STORIES OF COMPASSION, HOPE, & HELP

DECEMBER 2019

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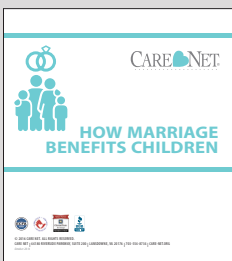
You Supported Hayley & Nathan And they chose life for their baby!



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Hayley* had always believed that abortion was wrong. It hadn't crossed her mind as an option at all when she was pregnant with her first baby. But when her daughter was four months old and her pregnancy test came up positive again, Hayley was overwhelmed beyond belief. She was still in high school and while her boyfriend was involved, being a single mom was no easy task. *"I'm way too young to have two children," she thought. "I can barely afford the one I have already."*

Nathan*, Hayley's boyfriend, tried to reassure her that he wanted her to have this new baby, but as her panic increased, his concern grew.

A few hours after taking the pregnancy test, Hayley went online to search for abortion options in her area, just to see what was available. Her insides twisted with guilt. She knew in her heart that it would be terrible to kill this baby, but the overwhelming thought of having two babies a year apart filled her with terror. She began to rationalize that a secret abortion might be okay in a desperate situation like hers.

During her search, she noticed an ad for Care Net's national hotline, *Pregnancy Decision Line (PDL)*. She knew she wouldn't be able to get an abortion referral, but perhaps a listening ear could help her sort out the churning thoughts in her head. She was so torn between her belief that abortion was wrong, and her struggle to believe that she could have another child.

When Hayley called, the hotline coach was comforting and didn't downplay her circumstances. "That's a hard place to be," she affirmed. Hayley felt herself relax when she realized the coach wasn't going to preach at her. **She felt like she was being heard for the first time in a long time.** She explained that Nathan wanted her to keep the baby, but that she was scared that her circumstances were too dire.

The *PDL* coach went through Hayley's various options, including details about abortion procedures. When she began to talk about pregnancy centers and the dozens of free services they offer, Hayley was taken aback. She'd always known that these centers existed, but figured they were just a place to get a pregnancy test.

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Praying Through Advent

Care Net's latest devotional will focus your heart and direct your prayers during this wonderful Advent season when we reflect on Christ's birth and the abundant life it brings to the world.

Download your free copy today! www.care-net.org/advent



Be A Gabriel This Christmas

I often speak about the story of Christ's birth as the most famous "unplanned" pregnancy in history.

But the thing that prevented this pregnancy, which was unplanned from Mary and Joseph's perspective, from becoming a crisis pregnancy was the message that the angel Gabriel carried from God to both Mary and Joseph.

Gabriel visited Mary and Joseph and told them that the child in Mary's womb was the very Son of God. Without Gabriel to alert them to her coming pregnancy, Mary would have been left without a reason for the miracle growing within her womb and Joseph would have assumed that Mary had violated her vows of sexual purity. We know from Scripture that being a just man, he would have broken off the engagement as quietly as possible, heartbroken by Mary's apparent betrayal.

Jesus could have been born to a single mother. He could have grown up without a father, without a community, and likely without a home. Keep in mind that being fatherless in Biblical times was just about the hardest life one could have.

But before Mary became pregnant, Gabriel arrived and told her not to fear. And when Joseph found out that she was pregnant, Gabriel arrived to give him the message of hope he needed to remain by her side: to raise Jesus as his son.

Thanks to Gabriel's timely arrival, Mary and Joseph's "unplanned" pregnancy did not become a crisis pregnancy.

Like Joseph's decision in the Christmas story, the concerns surrounding pregnancy decisions we help women and men work through every day are not certain; abortion does not have to claim these precious lives. What is needed are "Gabriels" to step into these difficult pregnancy decisions with words of hope, hearts of compassion, and gifts of help.

God is looking for willing servants to be the "Gabriels" that the women and men considering abortion need in order to choose life. 5,000 women and men are making a pregnancy decision today.

Will you be a "Gabriel" this Christmas in the life of someone who needs you?



Blessings to You,

Roland C. Warren
Care Net President & CEO

Hear more from Roland on Twitter! @RolandCWarren



Hayley & Nathan

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She admitted that she never realized that she could get so much real help in her own town! The coach also told her about the programs for men that were offered, which could help Nathan become the best father he could be.

Because of your support of *PDL*, young women facing tough situations are able to get the help and reassurance they need. Please pray with us that every woman who calls will go on to visit a pregnancy center and be empowered to choose life for their unborn babies and abundant life for their families.

**HELP EVEN MORE MOTHERS,
FATHERS, AND BABIES!**



Your gift can make TWICE the impact!

A friend of Care Net has challenged you to match his \$200,000 calendar year end Matching Challenge. **Right now your gift can make TWICE the impact and save TWICE as many lives!**

You can help Care Net reach TWICE as many women and men faced with pregnancy decisions and save **TWICE as many babies' lives** through your support of our national hotline, 1,100 affiliated pregnancy centers, and churches we've equipped for vibrant pro-life ministry!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

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 to become 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

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

Questions?

EMAIL US AT CARINGPARTNERS@CARE-NET.ORG



You never know when you can point someone to hope, to life, and to Christ! Pregnancy Decision Line is saving and transforming lives, and with these two cards you can connect a parent facing



God Guided Hana's Steps...

And you gave her a place to turn!

Hana* knew the joys of motherhood. She'd experienced the difficulty of labor and the ecstasy of holding a baby for the very first time. Hana had two beautiful children and would do anything for them. She was a single mother and finances were tight, but she was making it work. The last thing she wanted to see was that little blue line on her pregnancy test. But there it was. She was pregnant...again.

She first went to her partner. She already knew what he'd say before he said it. He was unemployed and had children of his own. Though he didn't get angry with her or tell her she should have an abortion, it was clear to Hana that this baby would be her responsibility alone. He wouldn't be there for them. When she told her friends, they were more encouraging. They said she should keep the baby, but none of them were in a position to help her either. As much as Hana was opposed abortion, she was beginning to think it was her only real option.

Hana called our hotline, *Pregnancy Decision Line*, to get more information about abortion procedures and their risks. As she spoke with her coach, she realized that there were resources available for her and her children. **She discovered her local Care Net-affiliated pregnancy center was equipped and ready to walk alongside her in this pregnancy decision.** When her coach asked her about her spiritual beliefs, Hana

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an unexpected or complicated pregnancy with the compassion, help, and hope they need to choose LIFE for their unborn child and ABUNDANT LIFE for their families!

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

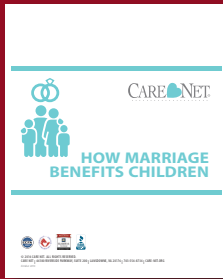
pregnancydecisionline.org

CARE NET

PREGNANCY DECISION LINE (PDL) is the nation's only hotline providing caring, confidential, and immediate support to women and men facing tough pregnancy decisions.

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

How Marriage Benefits Children



Children raised in homes with 2 parents are 279% less likely to deal drugs or illegally carry guns.

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Key Benefits:

- Learn the link between crime and father absence.
- Discover how marriage impacts infant mortality
- See how the latest research affirms the importance of marriage in building stable communities.

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<https://resources.care-net.org/how-marriage-benefits-children>

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★★★★

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Care Net, a charity you can trust!

God Guided Hana's Steps...

Continued from page 3

explained that she had been praying for God to guide her footsteps. Thanks to your generous support, a trained coach was ready to be the answer to that prayer.

Mary needed Joseph's support in raising Jesus. Hana needed her partner's. When Hana's partner failed to step up for her or his child, that baby's life became uncertain. That's why Care Net's national hotline, our affiliated pregnancy centers, and our network of life-affirming partner churches serve women *and men*, empowering them to choose life for their children and helping them find abundant life in Christ for their families.

Thank you for everything you do to help women like Hana and their babies!



CARE NET

44180 Riverside Parkway, Suite 200
Lansdowne, Virginia 20176
1.800.518.7909



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pdl pregnancy **DECISION LINE**
ANSWERS. BEFORE YOU DECIDE.

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