



Sanctity of Life Ministries

August/September 2007

Ministry in Russia

Kelley Wesley, Executive Director

In July, while traveling on a mission trip to Moscow with my church, I had the opportunity to meet with Russian pregnancy resource ministry leaders. Through our involvement overseas, Sanctity of Life has developed relationships with various ministries who are involved in Russia. Currently there are no known working pregnancy help centers in all of Moscow, a city of 10+ million people. Statistics say that in Russia 20,000 abortions are performed daily.

The purpose of the meeting was to pray, brainstorm, and strategize with one another how a center could be raised up in Moscow. How gratifying to see the kindred hearts of Christians meeting for the first time - from Russia, the Ukraine, Holland, and the United States. All would like to see not just one pregnancy center, but many Christ-centered pregnancy centers open up in Moscow. Please pray for this endeavor. There is actually a church in the United States that is willing to fund a center for at least 3 years, but there have been many difficulties in opening a center in Russia and God's intervention is needed. By divine hand God has brought these different relationships together and we look forward to seeing what God is going to do.

Beyond sharing ideas and resources, there was another result of the meeting - Kay Gardner and I have been invited to speak at the Love for Life Conference in Moscow to be held September 29 - October 3rd. Life International and Heartbeat International are two American organizations who have teamed up with a Russian Pro-life Ministry to sponsor this event. Please

pray for us! They have asked me to serve as a keynote speaker for one of the main sessions on the topic of *Why is Life Precious?* In addition, I will be doing a workshop on *Working with Your Board*, and participating in a panel discussion on *Envisioning a Community*. Kay Gardner will be conducting a workshop on *Envisioning and Training Volunteers*.



Jenneke & Alex of Holland, Pastors Alexander and Pyotr of Russia, Kelley, and Larysa of the Ukraine met together to pray and discuss opening a pregnancy center in Moscow.

We praise God for this opportunity to encourage and invest in the lives of our Russian brothers and sisters. Please pray for us-may we effectively glorify God in our speech and in the ways we lovingly serve others. Our heart is not only to help equip Russian pregnancy resource leaders, but even more so, to inspire them to pursue Jesus Christ with their whole heart so they can effectively reach others for Him.

MISSION STATEMENT

Sanctity of Life Ministries exists to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ by compassionately offering biblical, life-affirming alternatives to people facing unplanned pregnancies and other sexual crises/decisions.

Sanctity of Life Ministries

10875 Main Street, Suite 109, Fairfax, VA 22030

www.slmgetinvolved.org • slm@maranatha.net

P 703-278-5433 F 703-278-8645



Alexandria Pregnancy Help Center



Fairfax Pregnancy Help Center

News from Foundation Estera, Timisoara, Romania

Kay Gardner, Director of FPHC



Maria, Director of Counseling, with precious children who have been served by Foundation Estera. Many lives have been saved and helped since opening in 1996.

Age and resources were the determining factors in her decision to abort. With the absence of a secure income and stable residence and the responsibility of 5 children, an abortion seemed justified; at least, this was what the anxious mother reasoned. That was before Foundation Estera divinely intervened to save the life of this baby by transforming anxiety into new hope.

Other stories abound such as the mother and father who were raised in orphanages, met at 18 years of age and married despite inadequate income and education. A pregnancy soon followed and a baby girl was born into the struggle. Her birth was followed by a second pregnancy and birth but when the 3rd pregnancy occurred, an abortion was scheduled. Again, Foundation Estera was able to intervene and after intense counseling both parents decided to pursue the pregnancy. Estera—along with a 2nd organization—is attempting to provide ongoing support to this family—both spiritually and financially. These reflect only some of the families which God has placed in our care to make a difference—We invite you to join us as our effort continues.



Welcome Renee!

SLM is pleased to announce that Renee Cole has joined the staff as Director of Administration. We have been well aware of Renee's many capabilities since 2004 when she began working with us as a volunteer counselor—first at Fairfax Pregnancy Help Center then at LifeChoices Resource Center.

Born 'the first time' in Detroit, Michigan, and born again when she was 20 years old, Renee attends Centreville Presbyterian Church and participates in Community Bible Study. She and her husband Ron are the parents of two children - Rachel who is thirteen years old and Ross, who is eight.

Renee's background includes a Bachelor's degree in Finance which launched 10 years in the investment industry. She has also volunteered with several organizations including mentoring with a children's grief camp ("Big Buddy"), mentoring high school students at Westfield High and working as a suicide prevention advocate.

At SLM, Renee is always willing to take on and follow through with 'the extra task.' Her foresight and competence coupled with a friendly manner and 'can-do' attitude make her a wonderful asset to our office.



AN IMPORTANT DINNER MEETING

for current & potential
**Spanish-speaking
Volunteer Counselors**

**Monday, September 10, 7:00pm at
Harvester Presbyterian Church**
7800 Rolling Road, Springfield, VA 22153

RSVP: by 9/06/07 to 703-278-5433 or
peggy.slm@maranatha.net

SLM Praises & Prayer Requests

We Thank God

- ♥ For almost 30% increase in number of clients seen at SLM
- ♥ Abortion-minded clients have chosen life for their babies
- ♥ Provision materially, physically, and spiritually for SLM's clients
- ♥ The Lord's provision of faithful staff, board, volunteers, financial supporters and intercessors for SLM

Please Pray

- ♥ More clients would come to all three centers
- ♥ The Lord will provide jobs for clients who need them
- ♥ More Spanish speaking people will volunteer at the APHC & FPHC
- ♥ Staff and volunteers will be drawn closer to the Lord
- ♥ God's grace for Rebecca Lewis and Maryalice Gaskell as they lead the Post-Abortion Bible study starting October 6th
- ♥ The Counselor Training Workshop October 20th & 27th will be well attended
- ♥ God's blessing on Kelley and Kay as they visit Russia Sep. 29th - Oct. 6th
- ♥ Incoming finances would meet the needs of the ministry



FPHC client's baby



FPHC client & baby



FPHC client & baby



Dear SLM Family,
 I am sad to be stepping down from my position as Director of LifeChoices, effective August 16th. My decision for leaving is primarily because of my need to minister to my family. I have been involved with SLM since 2000, when I started as a volunteer counselor at FPHC, and then became Director of APHC in 2001. Coming to LifeChoices in 2006 was just icing on the cake and I consider it such a privilege to have served at all 3 centers! As I move on, please know that each board member, staff member, volunteer and donor will remain in my prayers. God has touched this ministry like none other that I know, and I can't wait to see the amazing harvest He is yet to bring. Please continue to pray, love and support the unborn, and their parents.

Love, in Christ,
Melissa Jansen

Farewell Melissa

SLM bids farewell to a sister-in-Christ, fellow staffer and good friend. We each sustain a high regard for Melissa's contributions to the ministry over the past 7 years. Melissa has impacted many women and their babies. And with her passion for reaching youth with the message of abstinence - she has remained undaunted and ever resourceful. It comes as no surprise that one of her favorite scriptures is, "I can do all things through Christ who has strengthened me." (Philippians 4:13)

Melissa's dedication has been reflected by many hours that included speaking engagements on SLM's behalf, going the extra mile for co-workers and clients by arranging baby showers and ethnic dinners for clients, and writing the script for our Banquet videos.

Yet, "to everything there is a season..." and, for Melissa, this coming season is a new chapter in her life that allows more time to spend with her family—her ailing mother, two teen-aged daughters and husband, Paul.

We will miss her.

Staff, Board, and Volunteers

SLM Wish List

- Baby wipes & Diapers sizes 3, 4, 5, 6
- New or gently used baby clothes sizes 12 to 2T especially 12 months (fall/winter)
- Similac baby formula (blue label)
- Grocery store gift cards
- Power Point projector (portable preferred)



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Alexandria Pregnancy Help Center



Fairfax Pregnancy Help Center

LifeChoices
resource center

August/September 2007 Newsletter



Two
Day

Counselor Training Workshop

Saturdays, October 20th & 27th, 2007
8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Light breakfast & drinks provided. Please bring a bag lunch.

LOCATION Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

8304 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield, VA 22152

RSVP: 703-278-5433 or peggy.slm@maranatha.net

Mark Your Calendars!

Wednesday, August 1:
Prayer Summit

Thursday, August 16:
Open House for Melissa

Saturday, August 18:
Board Meeting

Wednesday, August 22:
Quarterly Staff Meeting/Lunch

Monday, September 3:
Closed for Labor Day

Monday, September 10:
Hispanic Volunteer Dinner Meeting

Tuesday, September 11:
Banquet Team Meeting

September 19-22:
Care Net Conference

September 29 - October 8:
Kelley & Kay in Russia

Starting Saturday, October 6:
Post-Abortion Bible Study (6 weeks)

Monday, October 8:
Closed for Columbus Day

Tuesday, October 9:
Banquet Team Meeting

Monday, October 15:
Annual Board Meeting

Saturdays, October 20 & 27:
Counselor Training Workshop Part 1 & 2