

MESSAGE FROM LORI: GOING THE DISTANCE



Some of you may recall last year's banquet "Do you SEE me"? The theme was built around the concepts of how we see and provide for our clients. We **'SEE'** their need for safety, acceptance and hope. We **'SEE'** the unborn baby already known by God, waiting for his/her destiny to unfold. We **'SEE'** their significant other's roles as they try to navigate through this time of upheaval. We **'SEE'** the extended family.....

This year's banquet (Friday April 17, 2015) theme is "Going the Distance...." This is truly the mission/mandate of the London Crisis Pregnancy Centre. What does going the distance look like in actual reality? Well, I can tell you one thing, it looks different for every woman that comes through our door. Every woman that comes through our doors has her own story, and her own set of circumstances/needs which are unique to her. LCPC strives to meet those needs by equipping her with accurate information and support; we encourage the belief that the past does not have to negatively influence the potential of her future. Our mission includes a passionate, holistic conviction to meet the many challenges of an unplanned pregnancy and the ripple effect it creates in all those, whose lives are intertwined with hers, and inevitably the community....

Our services at LCPC are innovative in that we support not just the mom, but each and every person affected by the pregnancy AND continue to walk alongside them in a long term relationship. This involves a plan of intervention, prevention and reconciliation, the building blocks they need to plan for success. We relentlessly work to position our clients for that success and stand with them while the challenges of their journey uniquely unfold. We **'SEE'** every day that with compassion and hope, crisis can be transformed into opportunity.

In this edition of Life Matters: Impacting the Journey you will read about our newest program that was just launched in September, a support group for grandparents that are helping in raising their grandchildren.

LCPC cares deeply for those God allows us to walk along side. Regardless of what pivotal event may bring them through our doors, our mandate is simple----- to LOVE tangibly, being Jesus' hands and feet extended---- to LOVE effectively, meeting the person at the point of their need. We LOVE with no strings attached, but rather pray for God to bind us together as we walk out their journey.....

I want to leave you with this quote from Ravi Zacharias, "We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, a single garment of destiny. What affects one directly, affects all indirectly." It becomes clear here that "our network of mutuality," which "affects all indirectly," must lead to a shift of perspective, and a response from all of us, who claim they are part of the body of Christ, to rise up and take notice, LIFE is being deposed of like inconvenient waste, as if to remove it will nullify the fact that it never existed. Nothing could be further from the truth for we see the emotional damage done by those decisions made from fear or desperation, without opportunity for solid and constructive information.

LCPC is committed to care, however that may look, for all those whom God brings are way. We would not be able to do this effectively, without your support and partnership in this life changing/saving ministry!

CLIENT STORY:

Tracy came to us with an unplanned pregnancy. She was 19, in her first year of university, and very much afraid of where her future was heading. Her boyfriend Dave was not handling the pregnancy well, and as a result their relationship went toxic. Fear, anxiety and anger drove him to drugs, alcohol and reckless behaviour. The emotional turmoil he was in led him to become suicidal. Our agency became the safe haven for both families to express themselves. We met with each family countless times to begin healing and restoration. The LCPC was there the day Willy was born to assure a calm and peaceful treaty between two broken families. Today both families are working towards peace and have thankful hearts that Willy is healthy, safe and a beautiful baby boy that gives much joy. Tracy and Dave are parenting their son together, but not in a relationship at this time. Tracy is doing courses online and is emotionally stable and loves being a mom. Dave is working full-time, is emotionally stable and is learning that his new role as dad is more rewarding than he thought it would be. Continue to pray for Tracy and Dave as they embark on this journey of raising Willy.

BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: BILL BRUININK RETIRES

"I joined the LCPC board January 2003 after the past director Cheryl Thomas came to our church at our invitation to speak about the centre. She explained that there were different ways we could help with the ministry by prayer, donations and serving on the board. I felt



an instant tugging at my heart and applied to be on the board. I served for 11 years and felt very blessed every time Cheryl, and later Lori Bethel, shared with the board how the centre reached out to the 'girls' and saved so many lives of not just the babies but also the mothers. I in particular loved Lori's Director's reports. The payback for my time on the board was huge when I saw what a great impact the centre had on so many lives and how many came to the Lord. May God continue to bless you all..."

This is a bitter/sweet moment of letting you know that Bill recently resigned his position on the Board. Bill's service and heart for the ministry will be greatly missed. Bill and his wife Jane are forever dropping items off at LCPC to help out our moms and their little ones. They attend every fundraiser rolling up their sleeves doing whatever needs to be done. We love you Bill and wish you and Jane God's richest blessings as you pursue new and different adventures!!!

Thank you Bill and (Jane) for always giving your best in moving God's kingdom forward....

"Well done good and faithful servant" Matthew 25:23

TRIBUTE TO: DOCTOR GERALD BIGHAM



There are some individuals in our life's path that exemplify the unflinching devotion of service that changes lives. Dr. Bigham is that person for LCPC. As far as the administration can remember (at least 20 plus+) this amazing physician has made himself available to our clients for care during and after pregnancy. We cannot imagine our agency without his expertise, but as he has announced his much-deserved retirement, we gratefully acknowledge his relentless compassion and care while at the same time aching in the knowledge that replacing him will require nothing short of a miracle. And yet, here at LCPC, we are experienced in witnessing the miracles of God, so we look ahead with hope and expectation.

Dr. Bigham has been our mainstay physician.... accessible, highly competent, and always reliable to provide help at every turn, He has never denied our request for help, never becoming unavailable to suit his own convenience, and has always provided our clients with amazing care.

We received several calls upon his announcement of retirement from some very sad clients, all wondering, what they will ever do without him....

Thank you so much for all you have given to the LCPC, you have been an incredible blessing!

LIFTED UP

This is our newest program that was launched this past September. This program meets monthly and is a support group for grandparents that are instrumental in having a hand in helping raise their grandchildren. The group focuses on issues such as financial stresses, identifying roles/boundaries, learning coping strategies, attachment issues and other pertinent issues related to their unique situation. With three meetings in those attending are quite thrilled to have this support in place. This program was the direct result of an unmet need in our community, and designed to offer encouragement, support, and creative strategies in navigating through some uncharted territory for the families of our clients.



PARTICIPANT'S COMMENT: "This program is an outlet where we can share feelings and challenges with others who can truly understand our unique realities. The sessions are informative and relevant."

PARTICIPANT'S COMMENT: 'I can't wait until we meet each month, it is great material and very, very helpful.'

STEP/GRIP/STEP-UP:



STEP which is our expectant/new moms program offers pre-natal educational classes. We have professionals from the community presenting and we are thrilled with the teaching our clients are receiving. This past session we have had some father's take part, so that has been very encouraging to them, in getting some practical knowledge, with a 'hands on' approach.



GRIP is our support group for moms, continues to be a safe haven, for many of our girls. We've been challenging the ladies with taking a deeper look at the heart, and what it means to 'agape' love themselves and their children as the Father 'agape' loves them! Together we do crafts, cooking, play games, hear some amazing life-changing testimonies, and learn about God's grace and unfailing love. Grip is where we genuinely experience the love of Jesus.



STEP-UP is a program for our dads, to learn some life skills, caring for themselves (this takes into account addiction, pornography, abuse) co-parenting, making healthy choices, bonding/attachment issues, how to communicate and work effectively with other agencies, raising their child, not their voice/hand (proper discipline). This group meets as needed, and often times ends up more a one-on-one with team members then the group setting. We have made some good progress by offering this program, but it requires a commitment from the dads, and we are learning moms have way more to share, and love hanging out together, whereas the dads not

so much.... That is why some dads joined our Step program, and some of the other dads prefer the one-on-one approach. Step-up is a continued work in progress!!

BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

Thank you to the churches that have once again partnered with the LCPC Baby Bottle Campaign for 2014. By participating in this campaign, North Park Community Church, Byron Community Church, Community Christian Centre, West Park Church, Impact Church, Stoney Creek Baptist Church, Bethel Baptist Church, West View Baptist Church, and Hillside Church have been able to raise \$18,289.56 so far this year! We still have bottles coming in, so we are pleased to be adding to this amount.



RIDE FOR REFUGE

On October 4th, friends of the LCPC participated in a cycling fundraiser in support of those who are displaced, vulnerable and exploited. The riders were able to complete the ride in sunny (but chilly) weather! In total approx. \$2568.00 was raised for the LCPC!!



PARKING LOT FUNDRAISER



From September 5th-14th, volunteers of the LCPC were able to host our annual parking lot fundraiser. This year we were able to raise \$2,300.00 for the LCPC. Thank you to all of those that manned the parking lot, we couldn't do it without you!

MEMORIES OF DAYS GONE BY

We would like to extend a special thank you to our very dedicated committee for all of their hard work in putting this show together.

On Saturday November 1st Marion Kernighan's production came to life to an audience full of laughs and memories of yesteryear! LCPC received \$1,200 in proceeds. Thank you everyone for coming out to enjoy the show!

SANCTITY OF LIFE

On SUNDAY JANUARY 18TH, 2015 churches all over the world will gather together to celebrate Sanctity of Human Life Sunday. The London Crisis Pregnancy Centre would love to partner with you and your church!



Please contact the LCPC to receive bulletin inserts and more information. Call 519.432.7098 or email megan@loncpc.ca.

SAVE THE DATE: GOING THE DISTANCE

Mark **FRIDAY APRIL 17, 2015** on your calendar because you do not want to miss out on the LCPC's 24th annual banquet and auction fundraiser.

Items, Items, Items... Have you received a gift that you have no use for? Do not throw it away because we have a new home for it. Consider donating to the LCPC's silent/live auction. It could be an item OR a service (a restaurant manager could donate a dinner for two, a spa could donate a 30 minute massage, a gym could donate a 1 year membership...the choice is yours). The LCPC could really use your help in making this year's banquet a success. Remember 100% of proceeds from the auction go directly to the centre in helping moms make choices for life!

F.Y.I.'S

The LCPC is very excited to announce that we are finalists for the Donner Canadian Foundation Awards in the Counselling Services/Crisis Intervention category. Please pray for favour in being recipients of this award as it brings recognition and financial remuneration to the centre. The LCPC team has poured themselves into submitting a precise and strong application. Pray for favour in receiving this award.



PURSES WITH PURPOSE: SO WHAT DOES THAT MEAN??? GLAD YOU ASKED...

In June, the LCPC will be hosting its first PURSES with PURPOSE event!! From now until May we will be collecting new and very gently used purses... and this is where we need your help! We need PURSES and LOTS of them, so when you're doing your fall/spring clean out, or you get that new one you had on your Christmas list, or that purse that still is sitting in your closet and hasn't been used in months, or that purse you see on a 'super sale'.... Let's face it girls, We ALL have too many purses, and giving up one for a great cause can make a significant difference in the life of a woman facing an unplanned pregnancy and the life of her unborn child. We need you to donate it to the LCPC!!! All proceeds go directly towards helping moms see that 'her past does not have to influence the POTENTIAL of her future'. Details will be in the Spring/Summer Newsletter in April/May. You can drop your purse off at 261 Piccadilly Street, or call us at 519-432-7098, and we will make arrangements to pick it up if you cannot get it to us....



New to Libro Credit Union? Open an account, start banking with them and they will give \$50 to the London Crisis Pregnancy Centre. All you have to do is state that you would like the London Crisis Pregnancy Centre to receive the "\$50 2 Give" in their "Share the Future" Campaign.

**WAYS TO BLESS:
MOMS/BABIES/FAMILIES OF LCPC**

- Host a baby shower! Our care closet is getting low and we can accept baby clothing from 0-2 years old. This would be a fun way to gather some friends, family or get your church involved. Who does not like going to a baby shower???
- We are in desperate need of diapers: new-born, 3, 4, 5 & 6, Good Start Formula, baby wipes, baby lotion, wash, and bum cream!!
- New journals. We give these out to our moms as it's a great way for them to write down thoughts, frustrations, and prayer requests, then go back and see what God is up to in their lives, and write their PRAISE note!!
- A meal prepared for our mom's program GRIP, on Thursday evenings. We have about 45 attending (moms, children and volunteers). An allowance of up to \$100.00 is provided. This could be something your family or small group takes on as a community project!!
- The LCPC's kitchen is in need of a refrigerator.... It would need to be in pretty good shape and not too large, as our space is limited!!

THANK YOU

The LCPC would like to take this opportunity to extend a heartfelt thank you to those at **North Park Church** for the spontaneous, yet very generous bucket drive during worship services this summer. LCPC was blessed with \$2334.88.

We cannot express how grateful we are for our partnership with **Open Door Christian Fellowship**, who graciously allows us the use of their building and property. The LCPC is blessed with this beautiful facility to run our programs in, and it is because of this partnership that we are able to serve and grow!

The LCPC is very blessed to have 2 doulas that

volunteer their services to our clients free of charge. Thank you to Liz Fast and Alyce Aukema for their generous hearts in walking through a birth plan and being there to coach while baby arrives.

We would also like to thank all those who have played a part, no matter how small in supporting the LCPC. We have so much to be thankful for, and you have helped us so that we can help others.

Meg and Brad, plus family, wish to thank the Byron Optimists for generously donating to LCPC on the occasion of their August 2014 wedding. Special thanks to Jim Easton for making this donation possible.

EMAIL PERMISSION

On July 1, 2014 Canada implemented new laws that regulate how we can communicate electronically with our donors. This legislation is intended to deter spamming and unsolicited emails. We are asking that you complete the 'fill-in' section below and return it to the LCPC or email megan@loncpc.ca if you would like to receive our newsletters online. This will help the LCPC save on postage and printing costs.



ASK This world operates on an economic system of cycles, and we all share the 'once-a-month' blues. Bills must be paid... cheques written. Frankly, it's not much fun and can downright cause stress. Here at **LCPC**, we can offer you **GOOD NEWS!!** Beat those monthly blahs and counteract stressful debt! How, you ask? By **GIVING!!** Commit to monthly support to this vital and life-saving ministry and look at the money monster in the face with a smile!

Every day we at **LCPC** see **MIRACLES**...bona fide life changing **MIRACLES**. So it is with boldness

that we extend our hands in joyful expectation, offering you an opportunity to dare to commit to gifts and monthly support, and then rejoice together as we witness God pour out His blessings!

Luke 6:38 "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

WE NEED TO RAISE \$10,000 in the next few months to address the water issues in our basement. We dealt with the North West side a few years ago and now the South East side is in need of major reconstruction. This has to be taken care of early spring!

We ask and pray that you would consider giving a special gift knowing that it will be used to bless the lives of those who walk in the door of the London Crisis Pregnancy Centre.

PLEASE FILL OUT THE FORM BELOW WITH THE MANNER IN WHICH YOU DESIRE TO HELP. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR PARTNERSHIP!

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ POSTAL CODE: _____

PHONE: _____ CELL: _____

EMAIL: _____

- I would like to become a supporting partner, contributing \$ _____ each month from my chequing account. (Please include/attach a VOID cheque)
- I would like to give a one-time donation at this time of \$ _____.
- I would like to help underwrite the ANNUAL BANQUET by donating \$ _____.
- I will host a table at the ANNUAL BANQUET.
- I would like to sponsor a table at the annual banquet.
- I would like to contribute to the BASEMENT RECONSTRUCTION FUND

I give permission to LCPC to email me the Newsletter in the future.

WHEN CONSIDERING YEAR-END DONATIONS, PLEASE CONSIDER THE LCPC SERVING ON THE FRONT LINES FOR LIFE!

All donations for 2014 must be received to LCPC by December 31, 2014 in order to be receipted for the 2014 tax year.