# **THE GABRIEL PROJECT** of the Crossroads

P.O. BOX 345 VICTORIA, TX 77902 | 866.627.9243 | WWW.VICTORIAGABRIELPROJECT.ORG

Protecting the unborn by providing emotional, material, and spiritual support for pregnant women and their families in need.

#### A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

As we look forward to what 2019 has in store for our ministry, we want to thank God for blessing us with a successful 2018! Our Helpline received a total of 344 calls, which was a 41% increase from 2017. We served a total of 160 women and their babies, which was an 11% increase from 2017! Our wonderful Angel volunteers have many beautiful stories about the moms that were helped and the babies that were brought into the world!

You probably have noticed that we have a new name, "The Gabriel Project of the Crossroads". When our Ministry was started in 2002 it was limited to Victoria. Over the last 16 years, however, we have expanded into 7 additional Counties in the Victoria Dioceses. The Board of Directors wanted to recognize

Victoria Dioceses. The Board of D March 16 | Ministry Fair | 9:00 am-1:00 pm Our Lady of Sorrows Church A March 30 | Angel Brunch | 10:00-12:00 noon Contact Gilda: gilda.miller@gmail.com April 9 | General Meeting | 6:30-8:00 pm April 25 | Volunteer Appreciation Dinner 6:30-8:00 pm at Holy Family Church 704 Mallete Drive, Victoria Contact Barbara: barbaramwilliams85@gmail.com April 30 | Volunteer Training 6:00-9:00 Contact Lisa:lisa\_heysquierdo@yahoo.com

All meetings, unless noted, are located at 101 W Convent Street, Victoria.

that our Ministry serves a much larger area than Victoria and decided on a name change that reflects that. This large geographical area is commonly referred to as the Crossroads and therefore our new name!

You also may have heard that the Board of Directors has authorized moving forward with developing a Maternity Home for our pregnant women with housing needs. Our research indicated that approximately 25% of the women we serve have tenuous housing situations and 10% of our Helpline calls our regarding housing. {Continues on Page 4}

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#### "We want to thank God for blessing us with a successful 2018!"



### MARCH FOR LIFE

Victoria held their 32nd Annual March for Life on January 24, 2019 at DeLeon Plaza. There was a great turn out with over 400 people in attendance, rallying for the Right to Life of the preborn.

Gabriel Project volunteer, Joan Pfister, and her husband, Kevin, are shown holding lit candles and "LOVE LIFE, CHOOSE LIFE" signs.



From left to right: Emily Yeary, co-founder of The Gabriel Project, Corinne Dum, former volunteer, Stefani Spears, Director of Communications. Missing from photo: Barbara McCain Williams, co-founder of The Gabriel Project



A WALK DOWN MEMORY LANE Helpline Addition

On a recent sunny afternoon, four friends and volunteers, both past and present met, to reminisce about the early days of The Gabriel Project which started in 2002. Corinne Dum, one of the early volunteers, spoke about operating the 24- hour help line out of her spare bedroom where she had a second phone line. Emily Yeary emphasized how important it was for a person to answer and not an answering machine because a mother in a crisis pregnancy may make choices that she would regret later. {Continues on page 4}

## PLEASE D\*NATE

"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." - 2 Corinthians 9;7 OUR CURRENT NEED:

Newborn Summer Clothes O-3 Month Summer Clothes Hooded Towels for Girls Contact Michelle Babb (210) 251-1282

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### PRAYER TO END ABORTION

Lord God, I thank you today for the gift of my life, and for the lives of all my brothers and sisters.

I know that there is nothing that destroys more life than abortion, yet I rejoice that you have conquered death by the Resurrection of Your

Son.

I am ready to do my part in ending abortion. Today I commit myself

Never to be silent, Never to be passive,

#### Never to be forgetful of the unborn.

I commit myself to be active in the pro-life movement, and never to stop defending life until all my brothers and sisters are protected, and our nation once again becomes a nation with liberty and justice, not just for some,

but for all. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen!



#### PLEASE LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/THEGABRIELPROJECTOFTHECROSSROADS

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Thank you to all for coming together for the annual March for Life in Victoria. Thanks to all of you at the Gabriel Project for preparing and providing the candles for the March, it was so inspiring to see all the candles lit during the evening March as the Rosary was recited and led by our Priests.

We had our best turn out ever with close to 400 people attending.

Bishop Cahill was with us here again and brought his usual enthusiasm to us all. Thank you to Father Jasper for finding our guest speaker for this year's March, the video was very inspiring and brought home the message of adoption rather than abortion.

May God bless and lead us as we defend the unborn.

Bernie and Robert Seale St. Gianna Pro Life Ministry



"It is great to know we can refer our moms to you; and they will be followed up and taken care of." -Connie Strauss



The Gabriel Project volunteer, Stefani Spears, and her husband, John, recite the rosary at the candelight March For Life.

Dear Editor,

We are happy to be working together with the Gabriel Project; and refer as many moms as possible to get the help and support that is offered by The Gabriel Project. It is great to know we can refer our moms to you; and they will be followed up and taken care of. Thank you for all that you do!

Connie Strauss Director

Crisis Pregnancy Center of Victoria, Texas

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#### A Message From The Board President {continued}

With this significant need in our Community, the Board feels that it is important to provide a safe and healthy living environment for the pregnant women we serve. The Maternity Home Steering Committee has developed plans for the home with an annual operating budget of \$160,000! The committee is now actively engaged in planning a fundraising campaign. We will be reaching out to our friends and supporters and the general community as we go forward with opening a maternity home. The name of the home was unanimously approved to be the "Bethlehem Maternity Home" in honor of the birthplace of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

Please Pray for our Ministry and the women and babies that we serve and an end to abortion!

AWilliams

Fred Williams Board President

A Walk Down Memory Lane, Helpline Addition {continued}

The phone operators were trained to answer in a loving and nonjudgmental manner in order to put the caller at ease. They were the first contact a person had with the Gabriel Project and they set the tone for future encounters.

Stefani Spears, our current Director of Communications, told Corinne that she trains the new volunteers in the same way that she was trained many years ago. Each operator still submits a monthly report that is tallied by the number and type of calls received. Stefani stated that the only difference is that we are trying to record everything on the computer. Much laughter and shaking of heads ensued!

# Thank You To Our Board Members

FRED WILLIAMS

DONALD JIRKOVSKY VICE PRESIDENT

BARBARA MCCAIN WILLIAMS SECRETARY

#### STACEY ONTAI EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

SR. AMATA HOLLIS PAT KROMKA ROBBIE LAUGER SANDRA NWEKE DEBBIE RAMIREZ WAYNE SMITH STEFANI SPEARS CHERYL THOMPSON-DRAPER ELENA TORRES GLENN VILLAFRANCA

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	E-mail:	0319 PAGE 4