



Contact Information

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Office Hours

Monday	10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Tuesday	10:00 AM to 4:00 PM 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM
Wednesday	10:00 AM to 4:00 PM 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM
Thursday	10:00 AM to 4:00 PM 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM
Friday	10:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Saturday	10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

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Elyse Colao, *Admin. Assistant*

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Educate, Assist, and Support

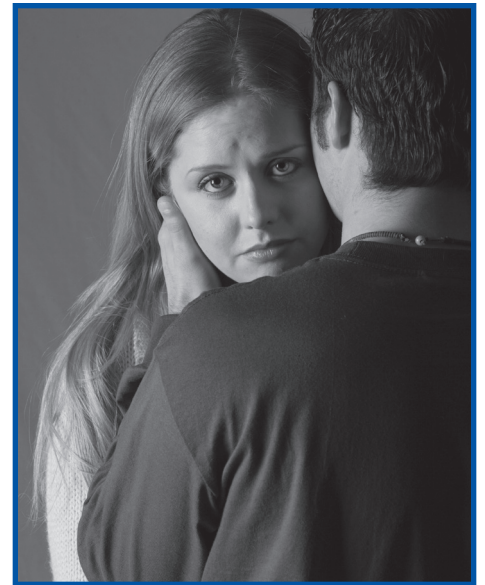
A mother contacted Birthright about her daughter who was pregnant. The daughter and boyfriend were leaning towards abortion and the mother wanted to bring them in to talk. I had the pleasure of meeting the young couple later that day. They stated that they understood the situation, they knew their options, and felt comfortable with an abortion. They felt sure they had a handle on the situation. The young woman even indicated that she knew she could have problems after the abortion but she would, "just go to counseling a couple of times and be fine".

We spoke about many different things but when we started to talk about the development of the baby, I noticed a subtle change in the girl. I told them the heart begins to beat at 21 days and brain waves can be detected at 40 days. I had pictures to show and fetal models of a baby at 7, 8, 9, and 10 weeks old in utero for them to hold. I told them that they were already parents, whether they would parent this child or not. When I told the young man that he was a father right now, I saw a visible change in him as well. Their hearts were softening. I assured them that their decision wasn't to have a baby or not – they have a baby. The decision they needed to make was whether they were going to carry the baby to term or abort.

A little while later as the couple was leaving they were speaking of the pregnancy as "the baby". They still have many obstacles ahead of them but they are at least looking at all their options and not just abortion.

What I've learned from this couple, and others like them, is that when someone is making a crisis decision, they tend to distance themselves from the baby. They refer to the baby as a "pregnancy" or "fetus". If they don't allow the reality of the child into their thinking, they have an easier time aborting it. If they can't see it or feel it, it must not be real, right? Wrong. The problem with this thinking is that they can't deny it forever. At some point they will have to admit that they had a child and the child was aborted. Sometimes this happens right away but many times it doesn't happen for years. By making the pregnancy real, the baby real, they can make a realistic and educated decision.

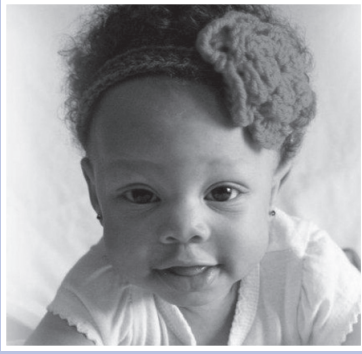
There are two reasons why the majority of people have an abortion. The first is they don't know all the facts and the second is they believe their circumstances are too overwhelming. In both cases Birthright is here to educate, assist, and support. It does make a difference.



From A Client

When I think about what I was doing back then I cringe. I was in a terrible place and you never judged me-you always loved me. I can't believe how much Birthright helped me. I love you guys.





OUR NEEDS

*Newborn items for little girls.
(This includes sleepers,
outfits, and socks.)*

Baby Wipes

New Pacifiers

New Bottles

*Diapers, especially
size 3, 4, and 5*

*Prayers for our volunteers
and clients*

Similac Advanced Formula

We are unable to give out baby furniture from our office. St. Mark's church in Fallston will store baby furniture and pass them on to Birthright clients free of charge. If you have baby furniture to donate, please contact St. Mark's at 410-879-9110.



New Insights

I wanted to write you a short note to tell you about a wonderful experience I had recently. I was working with some confirmation students that signed up to help at Birthright. I wanted to educate them about what we did and ask them to brainstorm ways they could be ambassadors for us. I had a group of six students, age 15, that came for an initial session in the office. As they sat in our "lobby", the first thing I asked them was to give me their feedback about what our office looked and felt like. Here are some of the words they used: homey, warm, inviting, comfortable, cozy. I had prepared a treat for them and offered them a drink as we sat around the table. One of the first points I talked with them about was how important hospitality is in our ministry. When our office space is homey, warm, inviting, comfortable and cozy and we offer refreshment, then our clients are going to feel cared for right from the beginning! The students were great and were open to what we do and how they could help us. I look forward to working with them again!

Catherine Collins, *Birthright Volunteer*

This is a new project that Catherine has taken on and we are already seeing some good results. Groups of students that want to do service hours with Birthright are being asked to learn about the ministry and be a focus group for us. The feedback we got from this very first group was awesome. These four girls and two guys gave us some insights that we hadn't expected. Insight that I plan to use to make Birthrights ministry even more effective. We hope they will take what they learned back to their schools, clubs, sports, and churches to be ambassadors for us. We're excited about it and will keep you updated. In the meantime, if you have a student group at church or school that might be interested in being a focus group, let us know. At this time we are only looking for high school and college age students.

Carol Maglov, *Director*

While mothers are a main focus at Birthright we are available to anyone involved in the pregnancy. This is often the father of the baby. The importance of a father in a child's life cannot be measured. We need to raise them up and strengthen them to be the father their child needs. Birthright is working towards enhancing our current ministry to men.

