



Contact Information

38 East Gordon Street
Bel Air, Maryland 21014

410-838-0443

1-800-550-4900

Fax: 410-838-0446

www.birthrightharfordcounty.org

info@birthrightharfordcounty.org

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

Directors

Carol Maglov, *Executive Director*

Elyse Colao, *Admin. Assistant*

Board of Directors

James R. DeCapite, C.P.A.
President

Jon J. Bellantoni, MD
Vice President

Carol M. Murrow,
Treasurer

Laura L. Henninger, Esq.
Secretary

Carol A. Maglov
Executive Director

Bernadette M. Wendel
Member

Christopher J. Yeung, PhD
Member

One Woman's Journey From Brokenness To A Grace Filled Life

Kathy, a typical American teenager during the 1960's, found herself leaving home at 18 due to conflicts with her parents. Within months of leaving home she met a man and she became pregnant. When she told the young man that she was pregnant with his child, he never again spoke to her. Finding herself quite alone and scared, she did not dare turn to her parents for help. Her friends were advising her to do what they had done, which was to end the pregnancy by performing a 'do it yourself' abortion. While her thoughts were leading her to abort the baby, she found she was too far along in the pregnancy and so she wound up going to an agency and making an adoption plan for her son as she knew in her heart that she could not raise this baby on her own.

After making the adoption plan, her self-esteem and self-worth plummeted but she continued her self-destructive behavior and hung out with a rough crowd. She attached herself to a man who was 15 years her senior, who did not want children and who was both mentally and physically abusive to her. Kathy became pregnant by this male in 1971 and this time she decided to have an abortion as she could not see raising a child within this abusive relationship. She knew it was wrong, but "this was 1971 and there were not any crisis pregnancy centers for her to turn to in her hour of need". A doctor offered to perform the abortion for \$300 and for 6 months following the abortion Kathy had multiple complications along with heavy bleeding. Seeing no way out she continued in the abusive relationship for another year following the abortion. By the spring of 1972 she found the inner strength to move out and move on with her life.

At the end of 1972, God put in her life's journey a wonderful, loving, hardworking man that would, by September 1973, become her husband for the next 34 years, until his passing in 2007. Their marriage was not without its struggles, but their years together were happy and fulfilling and produced two healthy sons. As Kathy reflects on the way she mothered her sons, she feels that the earlier decisions she made impacted the way she raised them and only now can she see that she was an 'extremely overprotective' mother and that her overprotectiveness resulted in her sons being very 'inhibited' as children.

Is this where her story ends? Quite the contrary. Although her life - their lives - were moving along raising their teenage sons, Kathy still could not shake off the guilt from her past nor could she reconcile the disconnect that she 'felt' about her abortion. And right about here - early 1990's - God steps in again. While attending Mass at St. Margaret's Church, Kathy came upon literature that struck a chord deep inside her soul as it described a way to heal from abortion. The brochure was from 'Project Rachel', which at that time was a fairly new ministry open to women and men of all faiths that were dealing with the pain and guilt suffered through abortion. Since she was still 'in hiding' about her abortion, she stuck the brochure into her purse and kept it in the back of her mind, doing nothing about it for the next 20 years.



Clients need to know and they need to believe that we all may go through tough times, but that it does get better and that it is through the tough times that God bestows on us bounties of grace... we just need to be open to those graces!

I ask them to accept our help as a 'thank you' to all of those people who have helped us through the years. One day, when things are better for them, they will in turn reach out to help another who is in need. This is how it ALL works - this is how God provides. There are times when I can actually see the relief come over a client's face when they realize the power from the understanding that we are all in this together.

As we help our client by giving what we have, I remind our volunteers that we can never out give God. No matter how much we give, God always gives more!

- Carol Maglov, *Executive Director*

Capri & Gina



Capri is an adventurous, stay at home mom to 3 'fantastic kids' and an 'amazingly wonderful' husband. They enjoy spending time outdoors as a family and love meeting new people and hearing their stories. The tragic death of their son in 2006 gave rise to their ministry in which they minister to those families and individuals who have experienced the traumatic death of a loved one. Capri 'stumbled' upon Birthright in 2003 while at the Harford County Country Fair where she felt she was immediately drawn to their booth. She has learned so much over the years and has seen beauty arise out of crisis. In her own words, 'I have been blessed to witness accounts of love and compassion to many individuals who come through the door, and have also seen it given back by clients'. Capri believes that God has an amazing ministry at Birthright and has been a witness to that herself.



Gina lives with her husband and three boys in Jarrettsville and has been a volunteer at Birthright for about 5 years. When asked what made her want to volunteer at BR she said, "I stopped in the office one day when I was walking the babies around town. I saw the sign and felt like the Lord led me here." Five years later she still "feels like God led me here", but now sees that it has been such a blessing to HER as well, as she enjoys "working with the women that God sends us to 'love on'" in addition to having formed new friendships with the volunteers at Birthright. While both working and running a busy household can be challenging, to say the least, Gina has also been able to make the time to be part of the 'Birthright Social Committee'. The goal of the committee is to bring this very diverse group of 40+ volunteers together for informal social gatherings, at least twice per year. Gina and her committee feel that it is very important to give the volunteers at Birthright some 'down time' where we can laugh, 'play', connect and get to know each other outside of the walls of the office setting. Through these efforts and others provided by the 'Prayer Team' etc., the volunteers grow in their love and support of each other and in turn, pass that on to our clients. Thank you, Gina, we are blessed to have you at Birthright.

Love & Hope Support

Newsletter Team

Patti Cardieri, Writer

Carol Maglov, Editor

Full House Marketing
& Print, Design & Print

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.



If you would like to receive our quarterly newsletter by email, visit our website www.birthrightofbelair.org and sign up. Please call or drop us a note if you want to be removed from our paper mailing list. This is not done automatically when you sign up for the email.

Thanks

