



A pregnancy was the furthest thing from Grace's mind.\* With a husband and three sons at home, a busy career and having recently celebrated her 40th birthday, a little extra weight gain wasn't a surprise. But when she realized she had missed a few periods, she began to wonder.

"I was really in denial. I hadn't had any [pregnancy] symptoms at all. So I figured no way, it had to be something else. I was determined NOT to be pregnant."

A few weeks went by and Grace decided she couldn't put it off any longer-she needed to know if she was pregnant. An online search led her to the Bowie Crofton Women's Clinic. She figured she would go get a test, it would be negative, and she would see her doctor in a few weeks to see why she hadn't gotten her period.

Grace was impressed by the friendly staff at the Clinic, and she felt completely welcomed and cared for. But she was not prepared to hear the results of her test: she was most definitely pregnant.

"I just busted out crying-and probably still deep in denial. I thought 'NO! I just can't be pregnant'." Even when her ultrasound showed a lively 24-week baby, Grace said it just didn't seem real. "I kept thinking this can't be true! I was a mess, so confused and needing to figure out what to do."

Grace says that as a Christian, she knew in her heart that abortion is wrong. But her concerns about her age, how another child would impact her family, and the cost of raising a 4th child were simply overwhelming. Her mind reeling, she says the loving, encouraging support she received at the Clinic was like a lifeline, giving her the strength she needed to move from denial to acceptance, to even finding joy in her unexpected circumstances.

"I told my husband first, and he was as shocked as I was. A few days later we had a family meeting and told our sons. They were surprised of course, and I heard a lot of 'No way!' and 'Are you serious, Mom?' and then they got

excited, and my youngest said he hoped for a baby sister."

Grace's family was there for her during what became a difficult pregnancy. After delivering a healthy baby boy, Grace was hospitalized for 2 weeks with effects of pre-eclampsia. Her family rallied around her and everyone stepped up to help.

Baby Isaac is now four months old and the center of the family's attention. His brothers, even the one who had wanted a sister, are totally in love with their new brother. Grace is now back to work and her mother watches the baby, wanting to spend every minute she can with her baby grandson.

Grace said that the love and support she found at the Women's Clinic still means so much to her.

"I appreciate so much what they did for me. My counselor, Miss Karen, was so encouraging and checked on me to see how I was doing and if I needed anything. And now this baby is here and surrounded by so much love. He is definitely my miracle child."

“ This baby is here and surrounded by so much love. He is definitely my miracle child.” ~ Grace

\*Name changed for privacy.

Wellspring Life Ministry is a faith-based, medical non-profit, serving those facing pregnancy-related and sexual health issues by offering physical, emotional, and spiritual support, and empowering them to make healthy and life-affirming decisions.

# Pamela's Post

We will remember 2023 well, for the challenges, as well as victories. From the challenges caused by Google shutting down our online advertising, to the victories of women choosing life over death for their preborn babies. From the challenges of staffing for what seemed far too long, to the victories of bringing on our two wonderful new staff, Erica as Office Manager and Lianna, our Nurse Practitioner!

Through it all, your unwavering support and prayers have been a source of strength and inspiration. You share in the victory in 2023 of every women choosing life over death, and the hundreds of opportunities we had to share Jesus.

Yes, those 2023 challenges pale in the face of the state wide referendum that will be on all of our ballots this coming November 2024, by pro abort forces trying to enshrine abortion in our state constitution. Maryland women have had a state wide, unlimited right to abortion through birth since 1991. However, this extreme 'Reproductive Freedom' ballot referendum question would impose new rights for taxpayer funded abortions, crush the rights of parents, citizens, medical providers, and churches and threaten the very existence of Pregnancy Clinics across the state.

If this passes, Wellspring Life Ministry could be forced to refer for abortion, or be shut down by the state. If this passes, parents may have parental rights on medical

decisions for the minor children, stripped away. If this passes, it will have the ability to restrict free speech and impact what Pastors say from their pulpits.



This past December, I celebrated 41 years as CEO of this amazing life and soul saving ministry of God's. I can honestly say we have never faced such a deadly threat before.

In the midst of this insanity, we ask you join us in prayer and action as we join in support of Health Not Harm, a committee formed to oppose this 'Reproductive Freedom' bill. We must alert and educate every citizen of Maryland to vote NO against this extremism. Preborn babies and children across the state depend on us to protect them. We draw strength from our shared belief that God is with us every step of the way.

In Christ,

**When you go to war against your enemies and see horses and chariots and an army greater than yours, do not be afraid of them, because the Lord your God, who brought you up out of Egypt, will be with you.**  
**Deuteronomy 20:1**

## Take Action Now!

Your help is needed in this battle!

### **healthnotharmmd.org**

Health Not Harm MD is a coalition of Maryland parents, experts, nonprofits, and faith leaders specific only to the abortion amendment referendum. Become more informed about what's at stake if it passes and why your involvement is crucial now.

### **Marylandfamily.org**

The recently-established Maryland Family Institute has a simple goal: "protect life, promote marriage, preserve religious liberty, and protect parental rights." Visit their website for legislation summaries and action steps.

### **Mdrtl.org**

Maryland Right to Life works in the legislative arena to promote and protect all innocent human life from birth to natural death. Visit their website for robust summaries and action items for all upcoming legislation happening NOW that session has begun.

### **WellspringLife.org**

Our "Educate Yourself" page is full of articles, videos, and commentaries to help you learn more about abortion and how to talk to your peers about this amendment.



# Where Are They Now?

We recently checked in on Tia, who came to us nearly 12 years ago when she discovered she was unexpectedly pregnant. A young mom with a daughter to care for, Tia needed the help and hope she found within our doors. Feeling heard and empowered, Tia chose life for her son.

Now a busy mom and business woman, we are so proud of Tia and blessed to have cared for her when she needed us.

Tia is the Founder and Executive Director of Fresh Start Project, which focuses on personal and professional development for underserved communities. She will soon be transitioning out of her role with FSP and will focus on real estate and consulting.

"My son Dominic is 11 and my daughter Journi is in her last year of high school. Dom loves basketball, video games, writing and drawing and Journi enjoys spending time with her friends and preparing for all the senior festivities like prom and senior beach week!

"[Wellspring Life Ministry] continues to do good work. It's needed and so necessary. You gave me the confidence I needed to have my son and I am forever grateful. He's such a joy and one of the most talented, compassionate, and funniest little dudes I know."

We are so proud of Tia and know that great things are in store for her sweet little family. We will check back soon!



*"You gave me the confidence I needed to have my son and I am forever grateful."*



## Winter Volunteer Training

**Starting February 8, 9:30am-12:30pm**

Are you ready to help women considering abortion? Curious about volunteering? It's not too late to join the Winter Volunteer Training Course. Our 10-week Volunteer Training Course begins February 8. Join us and see how God would use you to minister to women and families in our community.

Learn more at [Wellspringlife.org/Volunteer](http://Wellspringlife.org/Volunteer) or email [angela@wellspringlife.org](mailto:angela@wellspringlife.org)

## Gifts of Hope

*Honor or remember someone special in your life and make a life-saving difference with a gift to Wellspring Life Ministry. Send your gift with the details and we will send a card to the person you designate.*

### Gifts Giving In Honor of:

Alane Struss, by Bryan & Kelly Ann Doktor, in celebration of Christmas; Beth Baur, by Gregory & Beth Baur; Catherine Lang, by Ed & Cathy Reilly and their daughters, Cathy, Rose, Lori, and Jeanne, in celebration of Christmas; Dr. Cliff McClain & Pam Palumbo, by Gregory & Beth Baur; Cole McGratt, by Kathleen McGrath; Courtney Della, by Robert & Alecia Scott; Jennifer Brinker, by Walter & Catherine Hobart Jr.; Joe & Ellen Goldschmidt, by Robert Goldschmidt in celebration of Christmas; Marguerite and Tom Rowe by Robert Goldschmidt in celebration of Christmas; Pastor Lew Schrumm, by Janet Oren; Rich & Catherine Gobao, by Robert Goldschmidt in celebration of Christmas.

### Gifts Given In Memory of:

Jack & Marge Dallas, by Gregory & Kathleen Brunner; Jim and Pat Brookshire, by Jim & Olivia Brookshire; Joseph Graves Jr., by Don & Krista Sweeney, James & Terri Blackwell Jr., Scott & Sharon Greenip, Michael & Margaret O'Brien, and Joseph West; June Ryan Matzen, by Fran Ayres; Karl J. Lensler, by Linda Holiman; Marilyn Renick, by Gregory & Kathleen Brunner; Mary Rouland, by Terry Bowling, Walter & Nancy Crooks, Thomas & Maria Greshko, Kenneth & Patricia High, Thomas & Cathleen Jones, Francis & Judith Kulesza, Richard & Martha Macdonald, Carolyn McInnes, Susan McVae, Martha Oherlihy, Mike & Sandra Pike, Lauren Richardson, Vivian Rouland, Ronald & June Ruffo, Wesley & Susan Sharp, Swen & Theresa Thompson, Calvert & Elizabeth Upton, and Betty Jo Van Brunt Hobgood; by Edra Richardson; and by Cheryl Neidig, in Memory of the Grandchildren she's lost.





*Save the Date!*

## Walk and Run for Life

September 21, 2024  
Registration Opens June 1

### **Head's Up, Church Captains!**

Interested in leading your church team at this year's Walk and Run for Life? It's not too early to get started! For more information, contact Sharon at [patten.s@wellspringlife.org](mailto:patten.s@wellspringlife.org).

 **Wellspring Life**  
*Ministry*

934 West Street Annapolis MD 21401  
RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED



**Coming this spring!**

# Laugh for Life

**Don't miss this  
free, family-friendly event!**

**A free-will offering  
will be taken.**

**Watch your email  
for details!**

**Want to join our email list?  
Use this QR code or visit:  
[Wellspringlife.org/about-us/keep-up-to-date/](https://wellspringlife.org/about-us/keep-up-to-date/)**

