



## Wellspring Life Ministry

Fall 2024

Lauren\* was grieving the end of her 5-year marriage which sadly coincided with the tragic death of her best friend. Filled with anger, disappointment, and sadness, and with her family far away and unable to support her, Lauren felt her life was “a mess.”

Then she began to suspect that she might be pregnant. Unable to face yet another seemingly impossible challenge, Lauren searched online for a place to go for a pregnancy test. She found the Women’s Clinic and made a same-day appointment.

She also researched the abortion pill, and it seemed like an “easy answer” in the midst of her life in chaos.

Lauren arrived at our Bowie office that evening for an appointment for a pregnancy test and ultrasound. Initially defensive and argumentative, she told the counselor who greeted her that she was going to have an abortion and could not be “talked out of it.” The counselor assured her that no one would try to talk her out of anything, that she would be cared for and given information that she needed to make her own decision.

“What do you know about the abortion procedures?” the counselor asked Lauren. “Well, nothing really,” Lauren replied. Her counselor asked Lauren about her life and what was driving her to make the decision for an abortion.

During the counseling session, Lauren found a compassionate, comforting shoulder. She learned about fetal development and abortion procedures, and talked about her marriage and the loss of her friend. She also learned about God’s love for her, His perfect plan for life, and how He would never leave or forsake her.

After her counseling session and seeing her baby on the ultrasound, Lauren’s tough façade began to fade, but she left the clinic tearfully saying she intended to go through with her appointment for the abortion pill. Our volunteers and staff lifted her up in prayer, not knowing if we would ever hear from her or have the opportunity to minister to her again.

A few days later, the same counselor who had cared for Lauren answered a call from the Abortion Pill Reversal hotline. The Hotline nurse was calling with an urgent referral for a woman who had taken the abortion pill and now was desperate to save her baby.

It was Lauren!

“I know that abortion is not the answer. I want to save my baby’s life.”

We deployed our APR team and met with Lauren that evening to begin the APR protocol. She was shocked and overwhelmed that the same counselor who had been so kind to her when she first came to our office would now be part of the team helping to save her baby.

Although she still felt overwhelmed by her life circumstances, Lauren finally declared, “I know that abortion is not the answer. I want to save my baby’s life.”

Lauren continued with us throughout the APR regime and her pregnancy progressed normally and without complications. Last spring Lauren gave birth to a beautiful, healthy baby girl!

Lauren continues to keep in touch with her counselor, who encourages her and prays for her. She still has many challenges ahead but is facing each one with a positive mindset and her precious baby girl to build her new life around.

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.

[wellspringlife.org](http://wellspringlife.org)



# Pamela's Post

In the upcoming 2024 General Election, Question #1 on the Maryland ballot we will be asked to vote For or Against adding a "reproductive freedom" amendment to our state Constitution. Without careful review, it would be easy to assume that it is just an abortion amendment. Actual wording reveals it also creates a new and unlimited right for all individuals, regardless of age and eliminating a parent's right to participate in the healthcare and education decisions of their minor children when it pertains to their reproductive system. Abortion is the "Trojan horse" being used to trick all Marylanders into voting away their parental rights.

The Maryland Freedom of Choice Act (1991) already allows abortion through birth for any reason. A NO vote on this amendment will not change any of those laws. You are needed to inform your pro choice friends and family!

Currently minors need signed permission to take Tylenol in school, get a piercing or a tattoo. Minors cannot buy alcohol, cannabis or join the military. We protect minors from lots of behaviors that could harm them. However, if it passes, children will be able to permanently alter their bodies without their mother or father being part of the decision.

Efforts lead by Senator Simonaire to limit the amendment to abortion, exclude minors, and provide parental consent requirements were rejected. This made it clear that the amendment was meant to extend beyond women and abortion. "Reproductive freedom" is not defined in the amendment or anywhere in Maryland code or law.

There are no Maryland laws preventing adults from seeking any reproductive intervention including abortion, vasectomy, birth control, tubal ligation, or sex change surgeries. The amendment creates a new and unlimited right for all individuals, male and female, regardless of age.

When something is made a constitutional right, any opposition to that right can be deemed as obstruction of that right. This amendment could be weaponized against parents who question their child's gender confusion, pregnancy centers who offer alternatives to abortion, and healthcare practitioners who refuse participation in these procedures. If something is a constitutional right, money cannot be a barrier; therefore, all Marylanders will also be paying for these elective and/or experimental procedures through Medicaid and private health insurance.

Whether Republican, Democrat or Independent, pro-choice or pro-life, Marylanders can agree that parents must retain authority in the healthcare and education decisions for their children. Voting YES on the amendment allows children to obtain reproductive and/or gender interventions without parents ever knowing, much less consenting.

**Protect children and preserve parental rights by voting NO on Question 1.** Spread the word! Learn more at [HealthNotHarmMD.org](https://HealthNotHarmMD.org).



*Pamela*

"I was so surprised by the ultrasound. I was shocked to see little hands and feet and hear the heart beating. There's no way I could ever have an abortion."

~Suzie, Women's Clinic Client

"Everyone in my life was telling me what I should do. You were the only ones who listened to me. I'm so thankful I came here. Thanks to you I have a beautiful son."

~Evie, Women's Clinic Client



# A Legacy of Ministry

Wellspring Life Ministry is blessed to have many partners who have blessed us with their gifts of time, talent and treasure. Many have partnered with us for years - sometimes decades - and through their passion for life and this Ministry are part of building a legacy that will impact generations to come, in their own families and in the lives of the women and babies that have been saved and changed through this Ministry.

We see this legacy of life evident in the Winger family. Dawn Winger and her young family became involved with the "new" Bowie Crisis Pregnancy Center in 1983. She vividly remembers attending her first March for Life with her father-in-law, David. Dawn and her husband Doug taught their three children to love Jesus and to value every life created in His image, born and preborn.

Dawn and her family have been involved with the Ministry in many ways, including having served on our Board of Directors during the time when the now Annapolis Women's Clinic opened, directly across the street from Planned Parenthood.

"Being involved with the Board at the Clinic was a privilege and honor," Dawn said. "And just last year I met my birth mother. This has been a highlight of my life. She told me she was even given the option to abort back then, in 1959. Thank God she chose to have me. One of my children and his wife have added to their family through the beauty of adoption."

Dawn and her family continue to be engaged with the Ministry in many ways, including the Walk and Run for Life, and serving in various ways with their church service projects. Her children are carrying the Winger legacy of LIFE to the next generation, Dawn's grandchildren, who recently volunteered at our Annapolis Clinic, helping to beautify the building and grounds.

"It's a huge blessing to me that even since my husband has passed I know all of my children are grounded in faith and the understanding of the value of life" Dawn said. "Our family was well aware of how God blessed our family and how we were blessed to share with others through Wellspring Life Ministry. We found engaging our children in the work of the Clinic to be a blessed part of our lives, both in deed and financially."



Above: Dawn and two of her kids with Dawn's birth mother. Below: Dawn with the Board of Directors at the Annapolis Ribbon Cutting.

## Gifts of Hope

### Gifts Given in Honor of:

**Billy Acklin**, by Paula Acklin; **Carrie Brown**, by Darrell & Barbara Brown; **Claudia Colvin**, by Kenneth & Michelle Boretti, by Marylou Eastin, by Larry & Susan Goshorn, and by William & Francine Hughes; **Debby Aird**, by Calvert & Elizabeth Upton; **Elwood & Nancy Dove**, by Deborah A Dove; **Gabriel Gregorek**, by Gregory & Kathleen Brunner; **Joseph Graves Jr.**, Thomas & Lureen Williams; and **Noemi Woodward**, by Kevin & Diane Bayly, by Steve & Peggy Cairns, by George & Joyce Hussion, by Yvonne D. LaParl, by Peter & Sarah Schutz, and by Katherine Wise.

### Gifts Given in Honor of:

**Donna Schell**, by John & Kimberly Iaquina; **Emma Christie**, by Thomas & Linda Palarino; **Jennifer Brinker**, by Walter & Catherine Hobart Jr.; **Jessica Helms**, by James & Jessica Helms; **Jesus and St. Stephen**, by Elizabeth Beaton; **Maria Keffer**, by Greg & Amy Keffer; **Michelle Tate**, by Kurt & Danielle Russell; **ProLife Volunteers**, by Edward & Helen Wrywas.

Looking for a special way to show you care that will make a difference in countless lives? Make a gift In Honor or In Memory. Send your gift with the details and we will send a card to the person you designate.



# Fall Volunteer Training

Begins October 2, 9:30am - 12:30pm

Do you feel a calling to help women and men who are considering abortion? Are you looking for an opportunity to share the Gospel of Hope with a hurting world? Are you ready to stand strong and be a witness for Life?

Our Fall Volunteer Training Course will begin in early October. In this 9-week *daytime* course, you will learn important communication skills, information on fetal development and abortion, as well as how to share the Gospel.

Learn more at  
[Wellspringlife.org/Volunteer](http://Wellspringlife.org/Volunteer)



934 West Street Annapolis MD 21401  
**RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED**

## Walk and Run for Life

**Saturday, September 21**

**Mid-Atlantic Community Church  
2485 Davidsonville Rd, Gambrills, MD**

Raise funds to provide life-affirming counseling, ultrasounds and support to women in our communities, empowering them to choose LIFE!

- Join your team, start a team at your church or business - or come on your own
- Become an Event Sponsor
- Family-friendly and kids activities available!

Learn More At:  
**[WalkandRun.org](http://WalkandRun.org)**

