

New Billboard for Thanksgiving

During the lockdown, we suspended our Spring billboard campaign because most people were staying home and wouldn't see our messages. As restrictions lifted and people once again resumed their driving routines, we booked a new campaign for late summer and fall. The "Thankful for Life" board seen here was posted in time for Thanksgiving and is on digital display at a busy Niagara Falls intersection. Watch for our new signs across the region!

Finding Healing After Abortion

Victoria was married with two young daughters when her husband said he was leaving. He moved to another country, and left her to raise the girls on her own, offering no support. The divorce left her devastated, alone, and with very low self-esteem. She felt unwanted and unloved.

Desperate for love, she began dating and soon found herself facing an unplanned pregnancy. Victoria wanted to have the child, but her boyfriend suggested abortion. Filled with hopelessness and despair, she made an appointment at the abortion clinic. Once there, she clung to the words they told her, "It's just a clump of cells. Once this is over, you can move on with your life, and never think about this again." Only, it wasn't true. Victoria had the abortion, and immediately regretted it.

Research shows that 1 in 4 women will have an abortion before the age of 45. Sixty-four percent feel they were pressured into it by either a boyfriend, family member, or doctor.

For 10 years, Victoria carried deep emotional pain, and selfloathing, unable to tell anyone her secret, for fear of their condemnation, and rejection. She was unaware that help was available, and like 9 out of 10 post-abortive women, had no idea

where help could be found.

There are many programs and retreats, run by caring and nonjudgemental groups, whose purpose is to help begin the healing process. By the grace of God, Victoria heard of a retreat where she learned that abortion was a side-effect of her broken life and was given the tools she needed to heal. She learned of God's love and forgiveness, and found healing.

Fifty percent of women seeking an abortion this year have had a prior abortion. Had they found healing after the first abortion, further abortions would have been prevented. Showing compassion and love, offering hope and help after a woman has an abortion, not only helps her, but it gives us the opportunity to dramatically decrease the number of abortions.

The story in this article is a true testimonial and the information comes from the first ever <u>Support after Abortion</u> online conference held this past summer. For more information: SupportAfterAbortion.com Laura Sebert



chooselifeniagara No matter the circumstances in life, a woman should never feel pressured into having an abortion. There is no connection like that of a mother and her unborn child and even after an abortion she will never forget her child. See link in bio for pregnancy support.

Follow us on Instagram to see pro-life messages like these



President's Message



The challenges presented to us this year should remind us all that the sanctity of human life is the basis of any just society. Despite countless adversaries to the pro-life movement and continued moral decay, life issues have garnered unprecedented attention in the political and medical arenas. At Choose Life Niagara, we seek to capitalize on this momentum by spreading

messages of life and hope in our community. Our methods of outreach have included a renewed focus on social media, promotion of crisis pregnancy services through radio advertising, and a print and digital Billboard campaign this fall. We have also partnered with the national pro-life campus group, NCLN, to ensure that pro-life messages are heard at Brock University. Despite restrictions that prevent us from feasibly hosting regular events, we hope that our AGM Annual Dinner on March 6, 2020 will mark the resumption of these, our in-person gatherings. Mark your calendars! Yours in life,

Amanda Hendriks



New office sign shines brightly day and night with our Choose Life message.

Euthanasia Bill C-7 is Back

Bill C-7 that would expand euthanasia in Canada has been re-introduced in Parliament. If passed, even more vulnerable people will be at risk of death by euthanasia. Please visit the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition's website at epcc.ca/petition to sign the Reject Euthanasia Bill C-7 petition.



Life Chain participants, including these in Dunnville, spread out to comply with social distancing.

Niagara had more Life Chain locations than ever before this year with 550 people taking part, allowing more citizens to see the silent, prayerful witness to the sanctity of life. "What started out as a challenge because of Covid social gathering restrictions turned into a wonderful opportunity to reach more people in more communities," stated Daniella DeVries, organizer of Grimsby Life Chain, which went from one location in the past to 11 this year. "Life chain may have looked different this year but, by God's grace, it could proceed with 200 participants spread out over 11 locations in Grimsby, Beamsville and Vineland."

St. Catharines Life Chain organizer Jackie Messinger reported 160 participants at the busy Lake and Carleton Streets location, with those attending spread far apart to comply with social distancing requirements. "There were families, clergy, people of all ages and we got many positive reactions from passersby during our hour of prayer and witness," she said. 85 people joined the Niagara Falls Life Chain, 33 were at the Welland location and approximately 70 took part in Dunnville's three locations.

Marlene Tersigni

