Welcome and Farewell!



We are pleased to announce the hiring of our new Executive Director, Enza Rattenni. Enza has an impressive history of pro-life work and

experience, including her involvement for many years in sidewalk counseling to abortion vulnerable women. She will no doubt have many inspiring stories to share in the years ahead as she takes on this new educational role, continuing our mission to build a culture of life. Welcome Enza!

At the same time, we are grateful yet sad to announce the retirement of Marlene Tersigni as our Executive Director for the past 20+ years of leading Choose Life Niagara. Under her leadership, Choose Life has become a highly respected and extremely active organization, drawing many to join in our mission through her engaging, kind, and compassionate personality. We cannot overstate the huge impact she has had on so many people, and how much we appreciate her devotion and commitment to further the pro-life cause these many years. We thank you and wish you God's blessings in this new chapter of your life, dear sister in Christ!

Baby Shower for Life!



Choose Life Niagara is very grateful to the Star of the Sea's Catholic Women's League who organized a lovely Baby Shower Afternoon Tea in May. The mountain of diapers and essential baby items donated for pregnant women who've made the brave choice for life was incredibly generous! Twin sisters Ella and Krista were delighted to open the gifts. We were able to deliver all the donated items to local crisis pregnancy centres for those most in need.

Serving in our Community

Choose Life Niagara carries out its mission to promote respect for life through education, service and prayer. The service component involves collecting practical baby items for pregnant women facing unplanned pregnancies through activities like the Diaper Drive. We pay for ultrasounds for women contemplating abortion---92% choose life after seeing their own child on the ultrasound screen. And we are especially pleased to have a special partnership with our local crisis pregnancy care centre, Clarity Pregnancy Options in the excellent work they do. By sponsoring their satellite locations, billboards, and material goods, we are helping Clarity give pregnant women life-affirming support and save precious unborn lives.

Ultrasound is a medical technology that stands as a symbol of hope, bridging the gap between the womb and the outside world and granting us a glimpse of the infinite possibilities that lie within the tiniest of beings. It is a testament to the undeniable truth that life begins at conception and deserves our utmost love, care, and protection.

Dr. William Lile, <u>ProLifeDoc.org</u>. Several CLN board members heard Dr. Lile speak at the Alliance for Life Conference this past June in Hamilton.



Our heartfelt thanks to our supporters who contributed to our Mother's Day Diaper Drive. With the funds donated, discounts from local grocery and drugstores, and by maximizing bonus offers and points, one of our volunteers was able to buy wipes and dozens of boxes of diapers for pregnant women in need. In addition, during the summer when there was a call for larger and more expensive baby items, our pro-life community came through again with generous donations. We were able to purchase 2 cribs, 3 playpens, 2 car seats, booster seats, bassinettes, boys clothes, diaper bags, and a double stroller to bless young moms in our region.



Quebec: Euthanasia Hotspot



Quebec has the highest euthanasia rate in the world. At the current pace, more than **7%** of all deaths in the province will be by lethal injection by year-end--far higher than Canada's other provinces and even such countries as Belgium and the Netherlands, which have much older euthanasia laws. Dr Michel Bureau, who is the President of the Quebec Commission on End-of-Life Care, recently told Québec physicians to stop killing people by euthanasia for conditions "outside the law." Quebec officials have recently expanded access to assisted suicide to those with Alzheimer's and other serious diseases, and require all the region's hospices and private hospitals to offer the procedure.



46 Niagara students and their chaperones at the March for Life in Ottawa.



Watch for our new Fall Billboards circulating across Niagara.

Youth Events

For over 20 years, Choose Life Niagara has brought students to the March for Life and Youth Conference. As one student summed it up this year, "This trip was an amazing opportunity to expand my knowledge and stand firm in my beliefs." CLN's next youth event is our annual overnight <u>retreat</u> at Circle Square Ranch in November with guest speakers Mike Schouten (ARPA) and Scott Hayward (Right Now), as well as fun ranch activities including horseback riding, high ropes and archery.



During the covid lockdowns of 2020, Choose Life Niagara began a campaign to offer encouragement in our community. The project involved setting up Instagram and Facebook accounts under the name Choose Hope Niagara. We have maintained the Instagram account with posts like this one: "Life is like a camera," recognizing there is always a need to share hope that can lead to an understanding of life as valuable and meaningful, no matter the circumstances.



Sunday
October 1, 2023

Visit <u>chooselife.ca/events</u> for locations and times

