



2009



# Life is Beautiful

The Valley Care Pregnancy Centre  
Christian Outreach Ministries 2009 Annual Report



Life is Beautiful

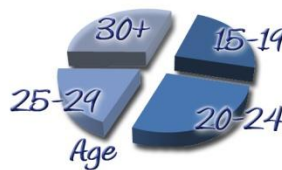
Live Strong In Christ.

## Board Members

- Cathy Berry (Secretary)
- Joyce Gould
- Peter Harrison (Chair)
- Steven Martin (Treasurer)
- Susan Amirault

## Volunteers

- Debbie Mailman
- Helen Hartenhof
- Joan Murray
- Kathy Coldwell (Moms & Babies)
- Linda Davidson
- Mary Cudmore
- Nancy Blezy (Adoption)
- Nola Brown (Parenting)
- Sylvia Kane (Client Services Director)
- Tina Smit



## The Valley Care Pregnancy Centre

PO Box 723, 12 Cornwallis Street, Kentville, NS B4N 3X9  
[asafeplaceforme.com](http://asafeplaceforme.com) [sexisnotforkids.com](http://sexisnotforkids.com) [adoptionisbeautiful.com](http://adoptionisbeautiful.com)  
 Charitable Registration No. 897478269 RR0001



## 2009 in Review:

# The Valley Care Pregnancy Centre

Christian Outreach Ministries



**Our Mission is Jesus Christ.**

**Our Mission Field is abortion and sexual brokenness.**

**Our Vision:** To uphold the Sanctity of Human Life and Promote Sexual Integrity

**Our Mission:** In accordance with our Christian worldview and in partnership with the Christian Community, we uphold the Sanctity of human life through the creation of a loving, learning, redemptive and supportive ministry environment as it pertains to pregnancy, adoption, abortion, post-abortion syndrome trauma and sexual integrity.

### Prevention / WAIT Training

WAIT Training is an abstinence curriculum that offers training in how to live well, love well and marry well. We use both the faith-based and secular formats of this curriculum in the Valley. This year we taught three grade 8 classes x 36 sessions reaching 120 students in local schools. We also used this material for a presentation at NKEC High School, for sharing with a youth retreat at Kingswood Camp, at the Maritime Christian Reformed Church's Fall Youth Conference, Charlottetown, PEI and for a Sunday School elective in a local church. We also held a WAIT Training "Training of the Trainer" Event where we trained ten people in using this material for their work with youth here in the Maritimes. Not only did we reach out to youth, but two groups of youth visited the Centre for information sessions this year.



### Intervention / Peer Options Counselling



This year we saw 84 new clients, as compared to 94 last year (which was our highest year to date). Of those visiting us we saw 30 pregnancies. However, with over 400 abortions / year in the Annapolis Valley, (80 of which are teen related) we have a long way to go to reach more people with the hope, help and healing available in Jesus Christ.

### Restoration / Post Abortion

In 2009, we held two 12-week study groups of the Bible study, "Forgiven and Set Free" with those wrestling with negative emotional / life complications to an abortion. This year, we were amazed to see God at work in the lives of those we had ministered to last year through this study. Women who had been blessed by God through this program last year actually became helpers in leading the program this year. Those who had gone through "Forgiven and Set Free" in past years were asking for more. So this year, we led two 12-week groups of the Biblical study, "Making Peace with Your Past," a study group called, "Boundaries" and "The Wounded Heart" study (for adult victims of childhood sexual abuse).



### Adoption Promotion



This year we held interviews with those touched by adoption, met an adoption lawyer who generously donated her time and knowledge with us. Our Adoption Promotion Team interviewed Rebecca D'entremont at the Home of the Guardian Angel and gleaned great insights from her and we networked with Family & Children's Services in Kentville who will now allow us to walk our clients through

FCS's adoption process. We were also granted permission to use Adoption Promotional Video here in Canada and created an Open Adoption Option PowerPoint. In November (Adoption Awareness Month) we gave Promotional Presentations in local churches and held our very first "Adoption is Beautiful" Banquet. Visit us online at [adoptionisbeautiful.com](http://adoptionisbeautiful.com)

### Parenting

This year we revisited the idea of Parenting Support in a major way. In the past, since so many other groups were doing this, we did not want to duplicate what others were doing, but God laid it on our hearts to offer something different: Parenting Support from a Christ centred perspective ... and it is taking off! We began with using the 1-2-3 Magic program. In 2010, God has led us to a comprehensive parenting program that we plan to use which many other pregnancy centres find very successful.



### Volunteer Training / Leadership Development

At the heart of all these ministries is the Volunteer Counsellor. One of our major goals is to build up, encourage and equip our volunteers (which, in turn, builds up our local churches). This year we have studied Dr. Larry Crabb's video series, "Connecting," we have attended The "Leadership Summit" conference in Lr. Sackville, held a Child Abuse Prevention Training seminar and worked with Shannon McLeod in from Family & Children's Services on Adoption Support.

## Men

Men? What do men have to do with pregnancy? We are convinced that the answer to that is "far too little!" God has laid it on our hearts to find ways to include ministry to men if we are to offer a balanced, strong approach to the issue of abortion and sexual brokenness, for they play huge roles in these areas. In 2009, we made steps forward in this goal and the results are spilling over in amazing ways in 2010. In November, we held a "Porn & Pancakes" breakfast at Coldbrook Baptist Church. The response was overwhelmingly positive. Men revealed a huge need for help. In January, we invited men to a 12 week, Bible based, Christ centred study called, "Making Peace with Your Past" which saw 11 men in attendance regularly saying things like, "When I think of coming to this group, I'm filled with joy!" and "Is there a pregnancy centre in Windsor? There's going to be!!"

## Promotion/Networking/Regional Work

We seek to network with other pregnancy centres and pro-life efforts in support of their work. We were invited to be the guest speaker at PEI's new pregnancy Centre (Island Pregnancy Centre) for their First Annual Meeting and Nova Scotians United for Life as a conference speaker

## Fundraising Events

Four events were held in 2009 as fund raising events. Bowling for Babies, Life Is Beautiful Concert at Aylesford Baptist Church, Adoption is Beautiful Banquet at Middleton Baptist Church and the Atlantic Baptist Women held their own Walk for Life in Moncton, NB.

## Marketing

In 2009 we fully redesigned our website. We had 2,068 hits on our websites in 2009. We also created new signs inside the door and in the hallway (tri-fold sign) at the Centre and added new Credit Card & monthly online giving option through Canada Helps.org.

## Reputation

How do people feel about their experience when they visit us? That's a question we want to know the answer to. We try to have every visitor fill out an anonymous exit survey about how they felt we served them. Here are some findings:

### Did the volunteers seem interested in you and your needs?

**97% said "Very Interested"**

Was the volunteer sensitive and respectful of your beliefs?

100% said "Very Sensitive"

### Words used by clients to describe our volunteer counsellors: "friendly, lovely, helpful, supportive, welcoming."

Comments included things like, "She really listened to what I had to say," "Thank you for the prayers," "I didn't feel pressured." No negative or even neutral words were used to describe our volunteers.

### Would you recommend this Centre to a friend who was facing a problem pregnancy? 100% said "Strongly Recommend It"

Comments included, "Most helpful," "This Centre is the first one that has not been biased, which is a bonus," "Very helpful," "Great volunteers and they make you feel so welcome." Again, in 2009, no negative comments were used to describe the Centre.

## We thank God for business, foundation and organization partners with whose help we were able to meet our needs in 2009:

Canadian Forces Personnel Support  
F.K. Morrow Foundation  
George F. Wade Foundation  
Atlantic Radiator Limited  
Eye Care Optical Ltd.  
KRS Capital Management LTD  
New Life Developments  
Saputo Dairy Products Canada G.P.

## One of our major goals is to network with local churches. We thank God for these churches & church organizations we worked with in 2009:

Aylesford Baptist Church  
Avonport Baptist Church  
Canning Catholic Council  
Canning United Baptist Church  
Coldbrook Baptist Church  
Kentville Christian Reformed Church  
Lockhartville Baptist Churches  
Margaretsville Baptist Church  
Middleton Baptist Church  
New Covenant Community Church  
New Hope Wesleyan Church  
New Minas Baptist Church  
The Living Word Fellowship  
Third Horton United Baptist Church  
Valley Gate Vineyard

Atlantic Baptist Women  
Centreville Baptist Evening Workers  
Island Pregnancy Centre  
Knights of Columbus Bishop Gallagher  
Nova Scotians United For Life  
Port Lorne Missionary Society  
Sisters of Naomi Women's Missionary Society  
Sonlight Ministries  
St. Joseph's Catholic Women's League

We thank God for the gift of you! Together we are being the salt and light for Jesus in the Annapolis Valley.

***"Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in Heaven."***