

THE BRIDGE





OUR 30 YEAR MISSION OF HELPING WOMEN MAKE LIFE-AFFIRMING CHOICES HAS FOUND A

BRIDGE TO LIFE

NEW HOME

COMPREHENSIVE, ALL INCLUSIVE, EXPANSION OF SERVICES

Our new, much larger facility, has allowed us to even further expand our Material Assistance Program-One of NYC's largest distributor of clothing and baby supplies to mothers and children in need.

OUR SPACE AND SERVICES



This larger space enables us to purchase, receive, collect and distribute more items for our families. It will allow us to expand our programs and services to include training seminars, post-abortive healing, and other services that support our goals and mission.

All our services are free to our clients and confidential. Our moms can come to us every three months for continued









~Baby Clothes~ Diapers ~ Wipes ~ Formula ~ Baby Food ~ Cribs ~ Strollers ~ Car Seats ~ High Chairs- Books ~ Toys~
~Maternity & Regular Clothes ~ Coats ~ Shoes ~ Purses ~ Cosmetics ~ and lots of items for mom too!~



Worthy Knight Andy Colon holding the letter from our founder, Eleanor, that he received 21 years ago.

Eleanor's Dream Becomes a Reality

"Despite the mass murders and the massive destruction here, despite the war enveloping us; despite the fear we sometimes feel; we are witnessing the arrival of a new era, compassion will reign, and hope will be fulfilled." -Eleanor Ruder, November 21, 2001.

This quote is from our founder, Eleanor Ruder, written 21 years ago, right after September 11, 2001. I begin with this quote because it is chillingly similar to what so many today, 21 years later, are experiencing; yet the same hopeful anticipation of good things to come is in our hearts today, as it was then, so eloquently expressed by our founder.

We at Bridge are embarking on a new journey! We have a new home in the former convent of St Fidelis Church in College Point, which has given us 8,000 square feet of space. Plenty of room to accommodate everything possible to continue our life affirming mission to provide for those in crisis, the affirmation of God's Love for them and their children, recognizing the dignity and potential of every human life, regardless of the circumstances in which they were conceived.



The generosity of our benefactors is what enables us to thrive and grow. With the additional space, we will be able to offer and expand our services to those in need; going beyond the material benefits, to the life changing benefits of a loving and supportive family.

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In accordance with Eleanor's dream, we've been working with students from St John's University, Queens College, Xavarian HS, Cathedral Prep and others. The relationships being formed with these student volunteers have been such a gift. Their time with us has grown into beautiful and fulfilling relationships. Bridge is blessed to have a flourishing community of students, who come in to volunteer each day, and with that, learn and grow to become the next Pro-Life generation!



Kathleen Mullally Foundation Scholarship award



Xaverian HS Day of Service



The President's Volunteer Service Award

Celebrating New Beginnings



On Saturday April 30th, 2022, The Bridge to Life was honored to celebrate the grand opening of our new location in College Point. Through the generosity and care of Father John Francis, a special mass was held at St Fidelis Church. Most Reverend Bishop Robert Brennan celebrated Mass along with Father Francis and other clergy from the Brooklyn-Queens Diocese, as well as Rockville Center Diocese.



We look forward to welcoming you and serving our clients in our new home. Feel free to stop in for a visit and tour our new facility.

BRIDGE The Bridge to Life 30th Anniversary Gala

Sunday, September 25, 2022 Leonard's Palazzo 555 Northern Boulevard, Great Neck, NY 11021 Cocktail Hour 11:30am - 12:30pm Dinner 12:30 - 4:30pm

> Tickets \$100 per person Music - Dancing - Raffles - 50/50

Please consider supporting us through a Sponsorship :

Platinum	\$ 5,000
Gold	\$ 3,000
Silver	\$ 1,500

Full Page, Outside Back Cover	\$ 750
Full Page, Inside Back Cover	\$ 600
Full Page, Inside Front Cover	\$ 600
Full Page (8.5 x 11)	\$ 225
Half Page (4.25 x 5.5)	\$ 175
Quarter Page (2.12 x 2.75)	\$ 125
One Line Support Sponsor	\$ 35

Table (Seats 10)\$ 1,000Individual Tickets\$ 100

Please RSVP by September 9, 2022

You may also register at: www.thebridgetolife.org

Celebration of Hope

We are living in truly historic and hope-filled times. "We are witnessing a new era. Compassion will reign and hope will be fulfilled."

After almost 50 years of steadfast prayers, work and sacrifices, we have witnessed the U.S. Supreme Court overturned the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision. In the Dobbs v. Jackson decision, the high court returned the power to the states, allowing each state to make their own laws on abortion regulations. This ruling brings tremendous hope throughout the pro-life community. Many states have already put in place measures for preserving and protecting the sanctity of life.

However, our work here in New York, is far from over. Our challenges have only been intensified. Our services are needed now more than ever before.

Despite the "challenging" times, the high cost of inflation, and life's uncertainties, Bridge is ready to do what it takes. In fact, it is in these challenging times that true character is built. Together we have shown how we can all rise to the occasion and do our part to help. These times have shown how even the smallest kindness can make a significant difference, one that's not easily forgotten.

We at The Bridge to Life, are fervently striving to expand life affirming alternatives, by providing, informed choices and unconditional support for the women who come to us for help. We will fiercely carry on our mission and outreach, in addition to the tremendous material assistance and support we already offer. For it is in these everyday encounters that we inspire to recognize the intrinsic worth of each precious life. May we all continue to strive for the day when no woman will ever feel that there is no hope!

Please consider supporting our ministry. Our work is all made possible through the generosity and care of our benefactors. Your continued support has been the foundation we've built our mission upon. Thank you for your dedication, prayers and belief in us. Thank you for all your unconditional support in helping us empower women to choose life for themselves and their precious babies.





The Most Important Person on Earth

"The Most Important Person on earth is a mother. She cannot claim the honor of having built Notre Dame Cathedral. She need not. She has built something more magnificent than any cathedral -a dwelling for an immortal soul, the tiny perfection of her baby's body. . . The angels have not been blessed with such a grace. They cannot share in God's creative miracle to bring new saints to Heaven. Only a human mother can. Mothers are closer to God the Creator than any other creature; God joins forces with mothers in performing this act of creation... What on God's good earth is more glorious than this: to be a mother?" ~ Venerable Jozsef Cardinal Mindszenty





Hope and Healing After Abortion



One of the many facets of walking with women is to accompany them at every step of their journey. Whether it's supporting a woman who is confronted with an unplanned pregnancy, or helping provide for the daily necessities that arise when raising young children, we are here for them. Sometimes we are presented with women whose past experiences need extra attention. Occasionally it's these past decisions that require compassion and understanding to help rebuild and redeem hearts that are broken.

One new initiative we are exploring is hope and healing for women who are suffering from the after-effects of abortion. To give a personal perspective on this issue, we share this letter from a person that experienced a post abortion healing retreat. The author gave permission to reprint the letter and desired to remain anonymous.

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat

You're never as close to another as when you suffer together. Sharing a burden with someone is often a blessing in disguise. We don't realize the gift we are given until after the sorrowful moment has passed. Saint Simon of Cyrene was entrusted with helping Jesus carry a burden too heavy for us. In a similar way I was blessed to be trusted to walk with people who still suffer the horrible effects of abortion on their lives and to see the damage abortion has caused to individuals, marriages and families.

About a month and a half ago I went on a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat. It was a three day weekend retreat for women and men who have been wounded by abortion. A number of the participants were women who have had an abortion, but there were other men and women who were there because a family member experienced the effects of abortion. As with many new experiences and when meeting new people, there was a sense of caution at the beginning of the retreat. As the weekend progressed, through the well-thought-out dialogue and shared experiences, we began to develop a deeper and deeper respect for one another. This opened the way for us to feel safe telling our stories. Knowing we were with friends we could trust that were also looking to have their pains, sufferings and wounds, caused by abortion, attended to by others who respected each other and understood the priceless value of each person present helped us nurture close nonjudgmental relationships.

As we traveled together from one moment to the next I was inspired by the beauty and courage of each soul there. When someone trusts you with what is important to them they are giving you a piece of their heart, which is God's treasure. I felt a humble gratefulness to be trusted with what lies deep in another's heart. When a parent gives you their priceless child they are trusting you with their most valuable gift. We are God, our Father's treasure, and it is of utmost importance to care for each other with tender hearts for healing to begin.

Healing is the act or process of making or becoming whole, sound or well. Our Father gives us this ability as His children to help each other heal by sharing our lives together in a tender loving way. To love is to will the good of the other. The Rachel's vineyard retreat is the beginning of relationships meant to love and help each other heal from the wounds caused by abortion. I am blessed to now have such friends that show me a greater depth of love because of the heavy crosses we help each other carry.



"One person caring about another represents life's greatest value." - Jim Rohn

Reflections of our Work *

Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around. - Leo Buscaglia





It is in these intimate moments that relationships are built and lives are transformed.

"Thank you for everything today! The therapy sessions, the warm hugs, embracing me like I'm your own, spreading your love and genuineness. You're appreciated beyond words."

" I am so grateful for my little baby because she was everyone's shiny star during a dark time. She has impacted everyone's life for the better" "Thank you so much to The Bridge to Life, and all those who are part of this organization."

"I truly love the people here. I am so thankful. They work so hard and I truly love their work"

"I have so much gratitude and I ask God to continue to bless them." "Thanks my dear, ever so much for making a 17 year old girl so happy. And caring for her unborn baby, when her family disowned her. Jesus bless you now and always."

"I am so glad to have met you. You have really made an impact on our family. We are so grateful to have you as an extension to our family"

> "I am so grateful for everything. You helped bring my best friend to life. I can never forget this experience."

"Honestly, we had no idea what we were going to lose if we had aborted our daughter. We weren't thinking at that moment. The truth is, I thank God everyday that we met you! "



Each person that comes through our doors has the potential, by their individual experiences of love, recognition, generosity and support, to have their hearts and minds changed, knowing that they are surrounded by so many people who truly care.

*All anonymous quotes are from people Bridge has served.





Join our Team

The Bridge to Life is looking for an Administrative Assistant to join our College Point location. Come join our team. Please send your resume to: execdir@bwscny.org



firm Like



Be a part of saving lives, empowering women, and transforming families in New York City

The Bridge to Life, also known as Bridge Women's Support Center, provides vital help to over 4000 women and children annually. Much needed clothing, baby supplies and equipment, formula, diapers, self administered pregnancy tests, referrals for sonograms and resources, support groups, are among the many services offered. The staff and volunteers at Bridge fully understand that we are here to be a network of resources for moms throughout our city, and we strive each day to embody that mission with love, hope and charity!

Be a part of the Bridge that provides care to our moms and babies. Come share your time, talent and treasure with us. We are always looking for volunteers to help with the daily care in our College Point location. If interested in hosting a Baby Shower, Baby Bottle Campaign, Diaper Driver or any other type of fundraiser, please let us know. These services are of tremendous help and go a long way in helping us in our daily mission in caring for the most vulnerable around us.

Those interested in supporting Bridge's Life Affirming mission either as a donor or as a volunteer, can contact us via our website www.thebridgetolife.org. Those in need of Bridges confidential services (at no cost) could visit www.bwscny.org or call 718-463-1810.

Thank You For Your Support with gratitude from the board of directors

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Jree of Life Sponsorship Opportunities

To celebrate our new home and 30 year history, please consider supporting our mission of helping women make life-affirming choices. Sponsorships can honor the legacy of a loved one, recognize the impact of a leader, or carry the name of an individual, company, or group. A sponsorship will serve as a lasting reminder to all who visit our center of your generosity and support, which makes our mission a reality.



As Bridge grows, we need your support to continue expanding our services, reaching out to those in need, and saving lives.

Please consider running a Baby Bottle Campaign, host a Baby Shower or do a gift card collection for us. Perhaps run a Toy Drive or Diaper Drive, or simply consider a monthly donation to support our life affirming work. Thank you in advance for sharing your time, talent and treasure with us.



Thank you to all Essential Workers!

BRIDGE





In memory of those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001.



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