



Dear friends,

On March 4th, after having finished a presentation at the Apologetics Canada Conference in Abbotsford, B.C., I walked over to the CCBR booth. An elderly gentleman slipped out of the sanctuary where the audience was listening to the next talk. As tears began streaming down his face, he told me about the four grandchildren he's lost to abortion. **"What do I do?"** he said while his voice broke.

It's a question we're often asked. Once reality sets in, people instinctively know that a response is needed. For some of us, that first means finding healing or reconciliation. For all of us, it means **doing as much as we can to show love, share truth, and save lives.**

That's what 40 volunteers and seven CCBR staffers did this past month on CCBR's annual Florida trip. For several years now we've used the Genocide Awareness Project (GAP) to compare abortion to injustices of the past. As a result, countless hearts and minds have been changed and an untold number of lives saved.

This year we brought **the Human Rights Project**. This brand-new exhibit was set up on five campuses: Florida Atlantic, Florida Gulf Coast, Florida International, Miami Dade, and Central Florida. More than 11,000 brochures were handed out and 42 pages of testimonies typed up!



▲ Volunteer Craig Van Manen (l.) by the new display

What happens when we reach out?

Kerri-Ann Brouwer: "I reached out to a woman wearing a Planned Parenthood badge. We discussed human rights. She kept saying, 'You're right. I never thought about it that way.' At the end of our conversation **she took off her Planned Parenthood badge.**"

Ewa Lasota: "A guy named Michael came up to the display stating he didn't think any circumstances justify abortion. 'If your dad is a rapist that doesn't give them a right to kill you.' He hadn't cared about abortion in the past but **saw the display in previous years which made him realize abortion is wrong—always.**"



▲ Nonstop conversations everywhere on campus

Kristian Shortridge: "I talked to a woman who believed there were some cases in which abortion is necessary. I took her through each situation and eventually she concluded that **abortion was never an option.** She then shared that she was writing a research paper on human rights, would switch her topic to abortion, and try to convince her class to become 100% pro-life!"

Janelle Oosterhoff: "A woman walked up to me and said, 'I had an abortion when I was younger. **I wish I'd seen these pictures earlier** because then I would never have done it.'"

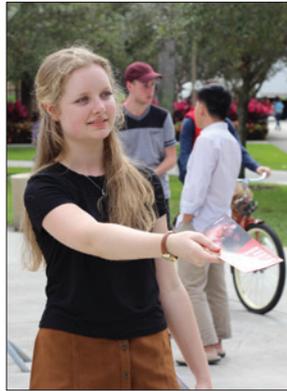
Tikvah Gilman: "A girl was intently looking at the display so I asked her what she thought. She said she was pro-choice and shared that her sister had had multiple abortions. At the end of the conversation she said, **'Seeing these pictures and talking to you has changed my perspective on abortion.'**"

When everyone serves in their own way

For the third year in a row, the team joined John Barros who stands outside the Orlando Women's Center six days a week. Those close enough to the clinic could hear the instruments being used to perform abortions. Volunteers prayed, sang, pleaded, offered help, and intervened on the sidewalk. On the day that late-term abortion procedures were started, **three of ten moms changed their minds**. The following day there were no turnarounds.

We had the privilege of being joined again by Bill Calvin, Frank Diorio, and Jim Davis, faithful Americans who drive the Truth Truck and help to build the display. Others provided host homes and meals—**people whom we're so grateful for**.

Another great example is Rich Giesman, pro-life coordinator for the Knights of Columbus from the Diocese of Palm Beach. Each year Rich brings the team delicious lunches, prepared by his wife and others, and a cheque to support CCBR's work in Florida. **We couldn't do it without each other!**



▲ Volunteer Mariah Connell: "What do you think about abortion?"

New interns joining staff

When young people ask what they can do, we often suggest the summer internship. We are thrilled to let you know that a total of 26 new interns will be working from our Calgary and Toronto offices, in addition to four previous interns who were hired to fulfill various roles from May until August. I can't wait to share in the next newsletter D.V. who these **30 dedicated pro-life youth** are and what they hope to accomplish!

More opportunities

An elderly supporter recently said to me, "I wish I could do more." I was grateful for the opportunity to explain that we're only able to buy signs, deliver postcards, hand out pamphlets, and stand on the street **thanks to donors like her!** Yet she, and many others, have asked what else they can do. As such, we'd like to introduce you to two new opportunities to help increase the number of people who hear or see the pro-life message.

Since I wrote the last newsletter, team members did activism, a presentation, or both in Abbotsford,

Barrhead, Boca Raton, Burlington, Calgary, Coquitlam, Chilliwack, Edmonton, Fort Myers, Guelph, Hamilton, Kelowna, Lacombe, Langley, Lethbridge, London, Miami, Niagara, Orlando, Ottawa, Owen Sound, Surrey, Toronto, and Vancouver.

Whenever possible, especially when multiple staffers travel, we go by car to reduce cost. With longer distances, however, flying is more cost- and time-effective, and being able to do this directly translates into having a greater impact on our culture. **One way you can make this possible is by donating rewards** such as Airmiles, Aventura, or Aeroplan points. Please contact the Calgary office if you're interested in this!

Another way of ensuring that more Canadians are reached is through what we call planned giving. By leaving a legacy gift, **your love for pre-born children will continue to save lives well into the future**. Please refer to the insert for how to incorporate CCBR into your will or estate plan.

What do I do?

The question that was asked in B.C. has stayed with me. In the face of such tragic losses, what do we do? While it is too late for the children who've already died, it is not too late to honour their lives and save others.

CCBR's work is continually blessed with tremendous results, which I'm privileged to share with you. The good news is that every one has the opportunity to do something with the time, treasure, and talents we're given. **This month, what will your contribution be?**

Warm regards,

Maaïke Rosendal

P.S. On the day that the January newsletter went to print, our little family was blessed with the birth of a precious baby girl: Amaris. She's well-loved!

