



Dear friends,

There's no better way to begin the first newsletter of this year than by telling you about **the children who have recently been saved from abortion.**

Each year, CCBR staff travel to Florida to set up the Abortion Awareness Project (AAP) at various university campuses. Pro-lifers from across Canada join for one of two weeks to show the truth about abortion and engage in conversations after an extensive day of dialogue training.

During the first week, the team consisted of 26 people who did outreach at Florida Gulf Coast University (Fort Myers) and the University of Central Florida (Orlando). We were especially grateful for Angelina Steenstra and Dale Barr from Silent No More, who joined to speak about their pain and regret after having had an abortion.



▲ Dale Barr (r.) looking at the display with a student at FGCU

As in previous years, the group joined John Barros who stands outside the Orlando Women's Center six days a week to minister to those coming for abortions. We consider it an immense privilege to spend time with John, yet he said, "I look forward every year to the Canadian invasion. **Every time they come wonderful things happen and today was no exception.**"

Looking back, staffer Devorah Gilman wrote: "This morning we went to the gates of death. It's always surreal to see mothers entering a clinic, knowing that in the hours to come, they would come back out while their children's bodies, now crushed, would

remain inside. All morning long, we offered these women support and pleaded with them to leave the place that would wound them and end the life of their children. **Some women chose life.** Some women did not. Vanessa Otten spoke with one young man whose girlfriend was in the clinic. She showed him a picture of a 10 week-old aborted fetus. He called his girlfriend who was in the waiting room inside and described the aborted child. For hours Vanessa spoke with him and encouraged him to continue to reach out to his girlfriend. **At the end of the day the girlfriend decided to choose life for her baby! Praise God!**"

During the second week, the team was 36 people strong (including Dutch volunteer Bertus Bruinooge) and visited Florida International University (Miami), Florida Atlantic University (Boca Raton), and stood outside a late-term abortion clinic in Ft. Lauderdale.

AAP volunteers share their testimonies

Kimmy Roos: "I talked to a guy named Edward who didn't know what he thought about abortion. I asked if he believed in human rights, took him through the human rights argument, and showed him a picture of a 10-week abortion. I then asked him if there were any circumstances that justify abortion after seeing these images. **He said that there were none.**"

Virginia-Ann Mervar: "Pointing to abortion images, I asked a girl by the name of Catherine if she knew abortion looked like that. She said she had an idea from online but never like this. I said, 'Do you then agree that abortion is a violation of human rights because it is the killing of an innocent human being?' She said, **'Yes, I do, especially after seeing it displayed like this.'**"



◀ Amy Chartrand (r.) in conversation at FAU



▲ Week 1 (l.) and week 2 (r.) participants of the 2019 Florida Abortion Awareness Project tour

Linnette deRuiter: "I asked a guy what he thought about abortion. He said it was a woman's choice because there were so many hard circumstances. He brought up the case of sexual assault and said a woman should be allowed to abort the unwanted baby. I agree that it would be a really hard circumstance but, since we don't give a convicted rapist the death penalty, questioned why we would give that to the innocent child. **He looked at the abortion images and agreed that was indeed a child and shouldn't ever be killed.**"

Saving lives changes their own

These young people weren't only used to save lives—they were changed themselves. Every single one of them has returned to their community with training, experience, and a sense of conviction. Each of these young people will make a difference wherever they are.

Esther Hofstede writes: "I need some time to process, but I still don't think I'll ever have the words to describe the past week. The intense training, the fellowship, the real-time, hard conversations with people, the abortion clinic... I learned so much more this past week than I thought possible. I feel like a different person. One thing this week did for me: I am so sure now that I am called to this work. **I want to take an internship with CCBR this summer to receive further training and use it every day on the streets.**"

Be part of the team this summer!

We are still accepting applications for the two- and four-month internships! Any young person interested in a life-saving summer job in Calgary (AB) or Mississauga (ON) should check for more information and an online application form at www.endthekilling.ca/get-active/internships.

Can't do the internship but want to empower others to make a difference? There's a way! To hire the pro-

lifers who have shared so many amazing stories in this newsletter, CCBR needs your support. **As past years prove, it isn't just money you've given through supporting the summer internship program.**

You've given dozens of young people like Esther the opportunity to save babies from being killed. You've enabled a new generation to dedicate tremendous effort and even make career changes to act according to your (and their) convictions. You've awakened courage and tenacity in Canadian youth that is literally making our country more pro-life with each passing day. That's why your giving is crucial to continuing this thriving movement!

We need over \$150,000 to hire up to 40 young people this summer, which sounds like a lot! **It is a lot, but if every person who receives this newsletter gives just \$50, this expense would be fully covered.**

There are few things more precious than knowing that your efforts were blessed to save tiny children from an abortionist's deadly tools. Will you please partner with us to continue these efforts this upcoming summer? I look forward to sharing in the next newsletter which young people have been accepted for the internships!

Warm regards,

Maaïke Rosendal

P.S. Another reason to give thanks: staffers Alex and Meagan vande Bruinhorst were blessed with the birth of a baby girl on January 27. Mom and baby Lydia are doing well!

