

## CAROLINA PREGNANCY CENTER STORY 1

As the Director of a crisis pregnancy center, I have many opportunities to speak before different groups. Recently I was speaking at a church and basically being interviewed by the Pastor. We ended the time, he prayed, and as I stood up to talk to people, a young woman comes up on the stage and takes the microphone out of my hand. I had no idea what she was going to say.

She began to tell her story of being at work and talking to a co-worker/friend about being pregnant. She already had one child, and she could see no way that she could raise another child as a single Mom. Her co-worker listened, and cared for her as she wept. Her friend asked her if she had considered going to the local crisis pregnancy center. She replied no because she knew what she had to do, and she didn't see any reason to make another appointment. Her friend told her that she needed to get all the information that she could so that she could make a good decision because whatever she decided would stay with her for the rest of her life.

She made the appointment and came to Carolina Pregnancy Center. She was met with great love and compassion. She shared her story with the people there, and they listened, and wiped her tears as she cried. Based on the dates she gave, the counselor told her that she had time to get an ultrasound, and see what was inside her womb. She came back a few days later and saw that baby, it's arms and legs moving. She stated that once she saw the baby, and heard the heartbeat she knew that she could not have an abortion. They began to talk about other options.

Adoption was discussed, and even though she couldn't fathom making an adoption plan, that is exactly what she did a year ago. She has since met that child on the child's one year birthday. I will quote from her own Facebook post, "Pregnancies can be unplanned and come at a time when you are not ready to be a parent! CHOOSE LIFE STILL! God has a plan and purpose for your child. There are many adoption agencies and families waiting to be blessed with a child they can love and take care of. I am a mother of an adopted child, and it was the hardest but best decision I could have ever made for my child to live life. I gave her life so that God's plan for her will be done."

## CAROLINA PREGNANCY CENTER STORY 2

We had a 30 year old woman come to our pregnancy center and a baby was not in her plan. She had worked hard in college and was pursuing her career. She was in a relationship that she didn't see going anywhere soon, and she was fine with that. She came to us to get her due date and then go to an abortion clinic and get this quickly taken care of. While at the CPC she had an instant connection with her client advocate. They talked about all of her options. She was offered an ultrasound and agreed to it because, in her words, "I like my new friend, and I am doing this for her."

In that ultrasound room as she looked at the screen she saw the baby, but it was turned on it's side and all she could see what the clearly defined spine. That was not exciting to her, and she was not moved. As the doctor moved the probe around her belly, the baby turned over and moved it's hand as if she was waving at the screen. This was the thing that moved her to tears. All she could say was WOW! Her next words were, "How can I kill somebody that waves at me?"

Her child is now 5 years old and both Mom and little girl are thriving. She has told me several times that she does not regret her decision at all!

## CAROLINA PREGNANCY CENTER STORY 3

When the Presidential candidates were campaigning in South Carolina, several stopped for a tour and visit of the Carolina Pregnancy Center. On one of these occasions, we did an ultrasound for one of the candidates because they had never seen an ultrasound. You could clearly see all the facial expressions, movement of arms and legs, and you could clearly hear the heartbeat. With the client's permission, we allowed the Press into the room. A hush fell over the room as they witnessed on a 40 inch TV screen, a real live baby. Within 30 minutes, I noticed a reporter outside our office just leaned up against the wall. I went out to check on him, and asked if he was alright. He said, "No I'm not alright. What am I supposed to do with what I just saw? That is not a clump of tissue. What I saw was a baby. If I go back and report that, I could lose my job." We talked for probably 15 minutes and agreed that what he should do was just report what he saw. We spoke by phone several times following his visit to our Center. What was so upsetting to him was that 6 months prior, he had taken his girlfriend for an abortion. He said that neither of them had any idea that this baby had a heartbeat. He said that both of them were struggling with feelings they had not expected. We arranged for both of them to go into post abortion counseling and although difficult, they worked through it. They are not together as a couple but still friends. Neither could get past the fact that they choose to abort their baby.

## CAROLINA PREGNANCY CENTER STORY 4

Fear was written all over Maria's face when she entered our center. As a high school senior Maria was facing an unplanned pregnancy, but what made her fearful was what if her mother found out. Maria's sister had been in the same situation a couple years earlier and their mother forced the sister to have an abortion. Something the sister always regretted. After discussing Maria's options, she decided to come back in to have an ultrasound with our center. When the image of her eight week old baby appeared on the screen jumping up and down Maria's mouth dropped open and she exclaimed "They told me it wasn't supposed to look like that!" She explained how she had been told it would only look like a clump of cells, but she could clearly see the baby's body, head, and arms moving and the heart beating. Because of what she saw, Maria decided right then that no matter what she would keep her baby. With the right support Maria was able to share the news with her mother and move forward with preparing for the arrival of her baby.

## CAROLINA PREGNANCY CENTER STORY 5

“I feel so unsure of what to do!” This was the comment from Sarah when she came to our center seeking help with an unplanned pregnancy. Sarah already had three children whose father was out of the picture and her current boyfriend was no longer safe to be around. Discussing Sarah’s options, she was encouraged to take time to think through her decision and offered to come back in for an ultrasound. Upon coming back for the scan Sarah saw her baby’s heartbeat on the screen and was amazed. She said “I am so glad you encouraged me to have an ultrasound and take time to decide because now I want to keep my baby.” Sarah continued, “I would have deeply regretted my decision if I had rushed off to have an abortion. Now I am actually excited about having this baby.”