



Aid for Women

Empowering Women to Choose Life Since 1978

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THINGS YOU CAN DO TO PROMOTE LIFE

- Talk to your doctor and your children's doctor about abortion and life-affirming alternatives; ask them to display pregnancy center brochures (like Aid for Women's client brochure) in their waiting rooms.
- Invite a pro-life speaker to your church or school (Aid for Women's staff is experienced at speaking to all age groups).

Aid for Women Board of Directors

Patricia F. Daily, *Chairman*
Susan B. Couri, *Secretary*
Kathleen M. Berley
Kathleen G. Bindley
Mary Hallan FioRito
Mary Ann Goldberg
Ann W. Jans
Florence A. Sorensen
Deborah R. Wells

Staff

Elaine M. Kindler, *Executive Director*
Sharnina D. Starling, *Director of
Client and Volunteer Services*
Sandra C. Hildebrand, *Director
of Mentoring*
Noreen T. Kelliher, *Office Manager*

Consulting Editor

Mary Ann Reardon Dilan

Where We Start

Since 1978, Aid for Women has been quietly but consistently ministering to girls and women out of love for Jesus Christ in the truth of the Gospel of Life. All services and information are free to our clients.

Volunteer Counselors



Linda Burke



Mari Heavey

This ministry depends on volunteers to provide our clients with peer-to-peer counseling, information, mentoring and referrals to community services. And the volunteers do this with unconditional love for those they help.

Unconditional love. This is exactly the place where we start to counter nearly three decades of abortion on demand.

Volunteer counselors are essential for our future. It's not that paid counselors couldn't offer the same unconditional love. Rather, we could never afford to pay for enough people for the counseling that's needed. Each year volunteers give more than 2,300 hours of service to Aid for Women.

Clients also know that there is no hidden agenda with a volunteer. A volunteer counselor is here because she believes what she counsels. She's here because she cares about the woman. She's here because she cares about that mother's child. There is purity in her motivation.

This is exactly the place where you could start. If you are a woman, at least 18 years old, and live within commuting distance of Chicago's Loop, please come for an orientation visit.

If you find that counseling isn't for you, there are other ways you can help, and there are opportunities for men other than counseling. If you live too far away to commute to Aid for Women, please find another pregnancy center that could use your help.

As a volunteer, you can make a difference in the life of one woman—which will make a difference in the life of one family—which will make a difference in the life of one neighborhood—which will make a difference in the life of one town or city—which will make a difference in the life of one state—which will make a difference in the life of this country—which will make a difference for life in the world. Please volunteer your talents, time and unconditional love in the cause for life.

This is where we start.



Pearl Parks



*Maura
Marcotte*

Aid for Women Leadership



Teresa Hartnett Tario (left) passes leadership of the Friends of Aid for Women Auxiliary to Mary Anne Goldberg (center), who has been replaced as chairman by Pat Daily (right) since the beginning of 2002.



Kate Berley (left) and Debbie Wells (right) joined the board of directors in January 2002. Kate will continue to serve as a volunteer counselor as she helps Aid for Women recruit more volunteers. Debbie, a former counselor, will help us develop educational programs for our clients, starting with parenting classes.



Board of directors at the January 2002 meeting: Seated (from left): Kate Berley, Kathleen Bindley and Mary Hallan FioRito. Standing (from left): Pat Daily, Florence Sorensen, Debbie Wells, Ann Jans, Susan Couri and Mary Anne Goldberg.

Coming Home

Noreen T. Kelliher, Office Manager

My decision to be pro-life was not a dramatic one. From the moment I first heard the word abortion and understood what it meant, I knew with certainty that it was wrong and I was pro-life. How could anyone disagree, I wondered; but I soon learned that plenty of people disagreed. As a young adult, I became involved with our parish pro-life group and was very vocal about my views with friends and co-workers. They could not sway my feelings and beliefs on this issue.

While I was in my early twenties and working full-time, I attended night classes at a local college. In my speech class, one of our assignments was to give an informative speech (as opposed to a persuasive speech). I decided to give my speech on the various methods of abortion. As I stood in front of the class, my knees were knocking. But, although I was afraid to address this very important issue with teenagers who had been raised in a culture that had legalized abortion, my voice was strong as I clinically described the various procedures of abortion.

I watched their faces while I informed them of the procedures—there were some shocked and disturbed students! The grisly details alone (objectively presented) of the abortion procedures reached them. There was not one persuasive sentence in my speech.



Noreen Kelliher joined Aid for Women's staff in October of 2001 as office manager.

For many years afterward, as I got married and had two children, moved to New York and back to Chicago, I was passively pro-life. My convictions had never wavered, but I wasn't involved directly in the cause. I wanted to do more, but didn't know where to begin.

When the opportunity to work at Aid for Women appeared, I jumped at the chance and haven't looked back. I am thrilled to be a part of this worthwhile organization and I feel privileged to be working with the wonderful staff and volunteers at Aid for Women. Coming to work at Aid for Women is like coming home.

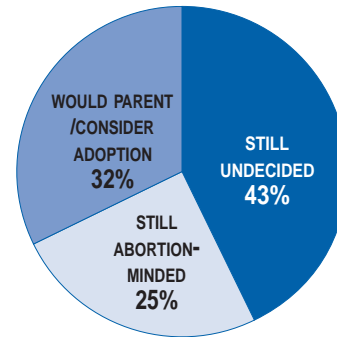
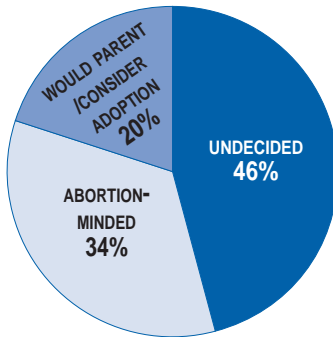
Aid for Women 2001 Annual Report

CLIENTS SERVED

Intent Before Counseling

543 Pregnant Clients

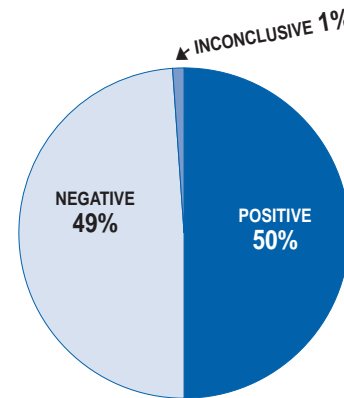
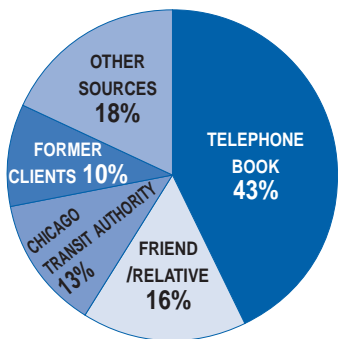
Intent After Counseling



Results were even more positive for clients who agreed to an ultrasound exam and follow-up counseling. From these figures, we can conclude that at least 67 children were born, rather than aborted, because of the work of Aid for Women.

1,800 Clients Appointments
1,000 Abortion-Seeker Calls

1,073 Pregnancy Tests Completed



32 Volunteers Donated 2,370 Counselor Hours

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

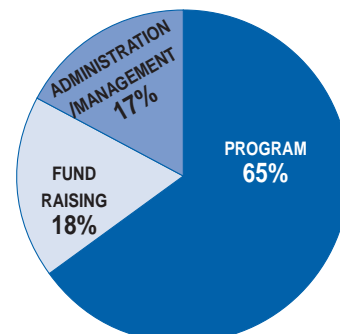
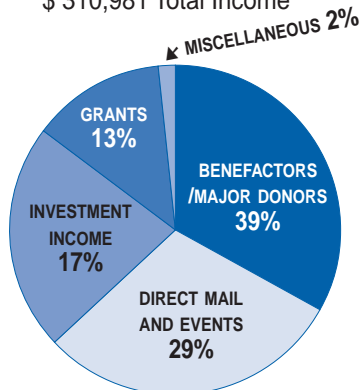
150 Abortion-Procedure Videos Distributed
24,000 Aid for Women Newsletters Distributed
Presentations Made to 142 High School Students, 880 Adults and 1690 Families at 17 Locations

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Financial stewardship to our ministry partners is a high priority. The following charts give an overview of our fiscal year ending December 31, 2001, prior to the annual audit. We welcome requests for our independently audited financial statements.

\$ 310,981 Total Income

\$319,287 Total Expenditure



Women Who Make A Difference for Life



Each of these volunteers makes a difference for life. Jeanne McParland was recognized at this year's December Brunch for her 23 years of service as a volunteer counselor. Others pictured represent volunteer counselors, Friends of Aid for Women, and prayer partners. Together, they make it possible for Aid for Women to empower women to choose life by supporting them in accessing personal and community resources.

Perspective

Elaine M. Kindler, Executive Director

This year we mark the 29th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court decisions in *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton*. We have suffered through 29 years of legal abortion on demand, at any age for virtually any reason.

Yet the majority of Americans still look at you in disbelief when you spell out for them what the law actually allows. A numbness or blindness clouds most people's minds, partly, I believe, because they don't want to know.

Yet even as abortion advocates become more vocal and more strident, we must continue to counter the death choice with life choices. Too much is at stake.

We must continue to lovingly educate and enlighten people in our various spheres of influence at every opportunity. We must continue to uncondi-

tionally love a woman through her options so that she cannot say, "I didn't know it was a baby." We must continue to graciously spell out what the law allows so that no one can say, "I didn't know this was going on." We must continue to gently encourage those who have had abortion experiences to speak out so that no one can say, "Abortion is a non-event."

We must change a culture that allows 4,000 of its members to be executed without a trial every day as pregnancy after pregnancy is terminated. We mourn for the lives lost. We work to save the lives yet to be. We cannot give up. We cannot quit. We cannot be discouraged.

Life will be victorious over death. God has promised us it will be so. This gives me hope now and confidence for our future.

