



The Guardian Angel



Published Quarterly By Cross Road Foundation

Summer, 2010

From the Executive Director

These are the times that try men's soul. This famous quotation, written by Thomas Paine on Dec 19, 1776, followed several months of defeats and strategic retreats by Gen. Washington's army that left his soldiers encamped along the Delaware River, freezing, starving, and without pay. It was a moment that would either break each man's will or join them to the birth of a free nation.

Such moments of truth come, in greater or lesser degrees, to all of us, as we try to live authentically, according to the life-affirming principles we have inherited. How we respond in such adverse situations will greatly determine our character and affect as well the future lives of those we love.

At our center we work with a number of mothers who face extreme adversity. One heartbreaking scenario is that of "Leticia", a mother of three, who came in two weeks ago, looking for information about abortion. Having helped her three years earlier with her last child, I was startled by this request. As she told her story, I shuttered to think how this decent woman had been reduced by her misfortune. As she and her husband were waiting for their last child, they decided to take in a female boarder who had been recommended by a friend. This was to help pay for the added expenses of the new child. Yet, shortly after the child was born, the husband announced that he had taken up with this other woman and forced Leticia and the three children out of the apartment at 2 A.M. Staying for a short while with friends and without any income, she then moved in with another man in order to have a home for her three children. Now that she is pregnant again, her new partner does not want the child and she is worried about having this fourth child and losing his support.

Without condoning Leticia's questionable moral judgments, one can empathize with her predicament. Both her ex-husband and her current partner have proven the weakness of their own characters and Leticia is now tempted as well to abort her pregnancy and give up on that hope for a genuinely better life. For a number of reasons, an adoption plan might be in the best interest of both mother and child. It is a "strategic retreat" that allows Leticia to conserve her financial resources and hopefully recover her personal integrity. But she does not yet see this as a viable option.

Just as our nation's initial path to independence was neither even nor inevitable, neither is it so in our own personal lives. The gift of freedom, bequeathed by our founders, can only be sustained when we accept our adult responsibilities and make the sacrifices necessary for future generations. Within a week after Thomas Paine penned his remarks, General Washington roused his dispirited troops to cross the Delaware, attack the Hessian mercenaries in Trenton, and gain momentum against the British forces. This was the turning point of the war. It proved the mettle of the patriots and set the pattern of individual integrity and national prosperity for the next 200 years.

I ask that you keep Leticia in your prayers. Also, please pray that, as a nation, we not abort the life-affirming principles enshrined in our Constitution. May we learn, from the example of our nation's founders, to shoulder our burdens and make the requisite sacrifices so that coming generations may live justly and freely and enjoy genuine prosperity and peace. (taken from the HOPE

Letter – July, 2010) *Bill Harder*

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Our Mission

The purpose of our organization is to assist women and families who are facing unplanned pregnancies by providing them with accurate information about their options and by offering them ongoing support. Our goal is to empower women to make healthy choices for themselves and their families

Calendar Of Events

August

26-Finance Meeting
7:30 PM to 9 PM
Center Meeting Room
For Finance Committee

September

21-Registration &
Orientation-11:00AM
Center Meeting Room
*For English speaking
Mothers*

22- Registration &
Orientation-11:00AM
Center Meeting Room
*For Spanish speaking
Mothers*

October

7-Fall Fashion Show
7:00PM-11:00PM
Hilton Garden Inn
\$60.00 per person
For Supporters & Friends

12-Parenting Courses begin
11:00AM Center Meeting
Room
For Cross Road Mothers

12-Board Meeting-7:00PM
Center Meeting Room
For Board Members

November

18-Mothers Care Raffle
7:00PM- Center
Meeting Room
For Supporters & Friends

Birth Announcements

3/3/10-Leonel
3/5/10-Ruby
3/9/10-Jarden
3/9/10-Leonidas
4/30/10-Michael Lewis
5/13/10-Yahel
5/22/10-Felix
6/4/10-Nicole
6/8/10-Maria
6/18/10-Bonito
6/29/10-Nicole
8/3/10-Christian

Welcome to our world!!

What's Happening At The Center!



We are currently on summer break at the center. This means that we offer monthly workshops instead of our weekly classes. Fifty-three mothers received certificates for completing their courses in May. In June, we offered a workshop on nutrition and in August we had another one on “Money Management.” We do get good attendance at these workshops, due to our incentive system that rewards the mothers with “Mommy Money” for their active participation. Our Mommy Store continues to be very busy throughout the summer as mothers redeem their “Mommy Money” for needed baby items. Thanks to donations our shelves remain well stocked. Laura Conliffe and the Teen Action Team at IS 51 were particularly helpful; raising funds through cake sales, they donated 13 boxes of pampers which supplied our new mothers for three months. We do have a waiting list for cribs, so if you

WWW.CROSSROADFOUNDATION.ORG

know someone who has one they no longer need, please ask them to call us

Under the direction of our Board president, Joann Gilmartin, our mothers, along with board members and friends participated again in the 4th of July parade in Travis. We also have our new website up and running thanks to Bill Venturini. You can check it out at www.crossroadfoundation.org . For those of you who are concerned about the rising price of postage stamps, we now take donations online. As happens during the summer months, there has been a lull in donations, though we did receive two large donations to help us as we weather this recession. We are now getting ready for our Fall Fashion Show on October 7th and our Thanksgiving Raffle on Nov. 18th. We will also be starting up our new baby bottle campaign in September so hold onto your coins.

We are also getting involved in other fund raising strategies such as TD Bank's Affinity Program which we encourage you to join. TD Bank will make an annual donation to Cross Road based on the average balance of member's personal or business accounts. Eligible accounts include checking, savings, money markets, certificates of deposit and retirement accounts. Enrollment is easy - when opening a new account, just indicate that you wish to be a member of the ***Cross-Road Foundation Affinity Program***. Existing accounts are eligible too! Just call or visit your local TD Bank or call 1-888-751-9000. It should also be noted that no one will have access to any individual's account balance information.

We thank you for your continued prayers and support.



Recently, Executive Director Bill Harder congratulated some of the mothers who received certificates for completing various courses.

Spotlight



Gloria Gadzinski

As a young girl, I always believed that the Holy Spirit leads you to where you need to be, and where you are most needed. Of course, this is contingent, on your willingness, to listen to his prompts. Well, I am grateful that I listened to the Holy Spirit who led me to the doors of the Cross Road Foundation.

I began as a volunteer and later became the Office Manager. Currently, I am the Director of Volunteers. It was a perfect place for me to be, never having had children, and being a strong advocate for LIFE. Suddenly I was surrounded by the children at Cross Road. I was able to offer young mothers hope, guidance, and the assurance that Cross Road would be there for them before, during, and after the birth of their babies.

When a mother decides to keep her baby we celebrate. When they decide not to have their child, we pray for them and always keep our doors open

October 7th
**RESERVE FOR THE
FASHION SHOW
Full Dinner**
entertainment by *Memories*
\$60.00 per person-
Hilton Garden Inn
Call 718-556-3474 and tell
Jeanette or Claire how
many will be attending or
go to our web site:

www.crossroadfoundation.org



Members of Cross Road attend High Tea
Fund Raiser this summer



To promote awareness of Cross Road,
members attended a Staten Island Yankee
game in their Cross Road tee shirts.