NEWS LETTER

Issue 009 October 2026 / Vol. 009

Every Life Has a Story

October is Respect Life Month



This October, we celebrate life, not simply as an idea, but through the beautiful, complicated, and courageous stories of the people around us.

Here at Women's Life Center, we're reminded every day that no two stories are alike. Some women come to us excited about a new pregnancy, while others are facing questions they never expected to have. Some are working through difficult circumstances, carrying the weight of past experiences, or trying to find a fresh start. Each woman has her own story, and we consider it a privilege when someone trusts us enough to share even a small part of it.

We don't always know what someone has been through before they walk through our doors. We may not know the challenges they've faced or how much courage it took to reach out. But we do know that everyone deserves to be welcomed with kindness, treated with respect, and given the opportunity to talk about what they're facing without judgment.

At Women's Life Center, that care looks different for each person. Sometimes it begins with a pregnancy test and a conversation. Other times, it's parenting education, counseling, material assistance, or connecting someone with helpful community resources. We also support women who have experienced human trafficking and those working to rebuild their lives after incarceration. Our hope is that every woman who comes to us feels heard, valued, and supported.

During Respect Life Month, we're reminded that caring for life means caring for people through every season, including the difficult ones. It's about encouraging a mother who feels overwhelmed, offering practical help when it's needed, and remembering that even a simple conversation can make a difference in someone's day.
We're also incredibly thankful for the people who make this work possible. Our volunteers, donors, churches, and community partners give so generously of their time, resources, and prayers. Because of their kindness, we're able to continue offering free services to women and families throughout Brunswick County. We truly couldn't do this without them.

We may only get to be a small part of someone's story, and we don't always know what happens after they leave our center. But we hope each woman walks away knowing that someone cared, someone listened, and she doesn't have to face everything on her own.

As we recognize Respect Life Month, our prayer is that we'll all continue looking for opportunities to show compassion to the people around us. You never know what someone may be walking through or how much a little kindness might mean.

Thank you for being part of our mission and for helping us care for the women and families in our community. We're grateful for every opportunity to serve.

Every life has a story. Every story deserves hope.

Volunteers Spotlight

Meet Kaylin O'Dell: A Heart for Faith, Family, and Serving Others

"My goal is just to be a helping hand when need be and a listening ear always." - Kaylin O'Dell



We're so happy to welcome Kaylin O'Dell to our Women's Life Center volunteer family!

Born and raised in the Wilmington area, Kaylin is a wife, mother of six, and a woman with a heart for serving others. Before becoming a stay-at-home mom, she worked in healthcare, beginning as a Certified Nursing Assistant and eventually becoming a Resident Care Coordinator at an assisted living facility.

Her faith and family have played a big part in her desire to help others. As a mother of two children with autism spectrum disorder, Kaylin has a special place in her heart for children with disabilities. She currently serves as a teacher in the Champions Club at 828 Church, where she helps children learn about Jesus in a loving environment.

Through her church community, Kaylin connected with Angela and learned about Women's Life Center. After visiting our office, she felt God was leading her to become involved.

We're especially excited to have Kaylin helping with our Baby Boutique and upcoming Learn, Earn and Celebrate Program. These programs will give parents opportunities to participate in educational activities and earn essential baby items, with the new program also offering the opportunity to earn a baby shower.

What we appreciate most about Kaylin is her simple desire to be there for others. She's happy to lend a hand, offer encouragement, or just listen when someone needs it.

Kaylin, we're so grateful God brought you to Women's Life Center! Thank you for sharing your time, your faith, and your caring heart with the families we serve.

Welcome to the WLC family, Kaylin!

Would You Like to Volunteer?

Inquire here:
https://womenslifecenter.org/volunteer/
or via email: info@womenslifecenter.org

A JOURNEY OF HOPE AND NEW BEGINNINGS

Client Story



Sometimes God's plans unfold in ways we never expect, and we're reminded of that through the women who share their stories with us at Women's Life Center.

One of our clients, already a mother of two, recently found herself facing an unexpected pregnancy. With so much uncertainty in her life, she felt overwhelmed and believed abortion might be her only option. She even traveled to an abortion clinic, prepared to end her pregnancy.

While there, a disagreement with the baby's father led her to leave before the procedure took place. What began as a difficult moment gave her time to pause and reconsider her decision. Ultimately, she chose to continue her pregnancy.

This wasn't her first experience with Women's Life Center. Two years earlier, when her son was born, she received assistance through our programs.

When she found herself facing another unexpected pregnancy, she knew she could return to a place where people would listen, encourage her, and offer practical support.

Over the past two years, she's worked hard to build a stable life for herself and her children. She's maintained employment, managed her finances, and established an independent home. She also has hopes of furthering her career by earning her esthetician license, something that could create even more opportunities for her family's future.

One of the most meaningful parts of her journey has been her growing faith. She's developed a closer relationship with God and become involved in a local church, where she's found a community of people who care about her, pray with her, and encourage her through life's challenges.

Today, as she prepares to welcome another baby, she has the support of her church family and Women's Life Center. Her circumstances haven't always been easy, but she's continued working toward the life she wants for herself and her children.

We're grateful that she trusted us enough to return and allow us to be part of her journey. Stories like hers remind us why it's so important to offer women a welcoming place where they can find compassion, encouragement, and practical help during difficult moments.

We're also thankful for the donors, volunteers, and community partners whose generosity allows us to continue providing these services at no cost.

Her story is still unfolding, and we're praying for her and her growing family as they begin this next chapter.

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight.” - Proverbs 3:5–6

Name withheld to protect client confidentiality.

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Southeastern NC Human Trafficking Coalition Update

TThe Southeastern NC Human Trafficking Coalition continues bringing together individuals and organizations who share a commitment to human trafficking awareness, prevention, and community education.

The Coalition meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 4:00 PM at Women's Life Center, located at 4741 Main Street in Shallotte.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 7, 2026, and we welcome those interested in learning more or becoming involved.

For meeting information or questions about participating, please contact Allysa McKenzie at allysa@statusa.org.

Your Support Becomes Part of Her Story

As we come to the end of this month's newsletter, we want to return to the message we began with: Every life has a story.

The women who come through our doors each bring their own experiences, challenges, and hopes for the future. We're grateful for every opportunity to listen, offer encouragement, and provide a little help along the way. And we couldn't do that without the people who support Women's Life Center.

It's the volunteer who gives her time to listen. The donor who provides diapers or baby supplies. The church that keeps our center in its prayers. The community partner who helps connect someone with a resource she needs.

These may seem like small acts of kindness, but they can mean so much to the women and families receiving them.

As we continue growing our programs and finding new ways to serve, we're especially thankful for everyone who helps make this work possible. We may never know how every story unfolds, but we're grateful to be part of them, and we're grateful you're part of them, too.

Every life has a story. Through your kindness, you become part of hers.

Training Opportunities

STATUSA offers training to help professionals and community members identify and respond to trafficking.
For more information, contact Allysa McKenzie at allysa@statusa.org.

Free Ultrasound Services Now Available:

Women's Life Center now offers free pregnancy testing and limited ultrasound services by appointment.

Thanks to a generous grant from Life Link of North Carolina, women can receive compassionate care and pregnancy support close to home.



Our Services

- Pregnancy Testing
- Training and Education
- Pregnancy Options
- Resources & Referrals



Your financial support helps provide free pregnancy services, client advocacy, material assistance, and prevention education across southeastern North Carolina.

Give securely at:
womenslifecenter.org/donate