

# It's Hard On The Holidays

Carrie buried her head and cried silently as the topic of our group discussion hit a broken spot in her heart. Kelley moved to sit by her and gently comfort her as we talked. Carrie is a bright, gentle and caring 14 year old who has experienced more loss and trauma in her short life than most seasoned adults. She is spending her days in a juvenile detention center awaiting a safe placement after multiple suicide attempts, school truancy, running away and theft. Her life shifted under her feet as her family dissolved after her mothers death.

Kim sits beside her sharing words of comfort. She is 16 and her ability to push forward and show such concern for others is a beautiful miracle. She writes songs to try to process her pain. She shared the one about her mother with us. It was heart wrenching. The depth of abuse and neglect of a child at the hands of a careless adult is astounding. Scars all over her arms are a witness to her pain. They are small picture of how her heart and mind must look.

Each week we spend time with these young women, one of our new outreach opportunities. We share the hope and healing that God has for them as well as tools to help them deal with "life" stuff. They love learning how God created them, how their brains and bodies work. Healthy relationship tools and how to make LIFE choices. We also have the privilege of meeting with families in a recovery home and homeless shelter. We are in awe of the doors that God has opened and how He is moving this little ministry into new territory. Keep posted in the months to come to hear more about the expansion of services and...the expansion of a new larger location. Also, please join in the New Baby Bottles & Beyond. The Bear Hugs (prayer bears) have been a much larger blessing than we anticipated. They are going with clients into places we cannot go.

Carrie is working hard on her education and getting healthy while she waits for the next step in her life. She is always looking out for others and asked us is we could bring the Bear Hugs for the other girls, She shared how much hers meant to her. She left hers with her sister when she was on a home visit. Kim shared with us that they have found her placement in a foster home. She was very sad because it is far from her siblings and no where near her childhood home. They both have asked us to have the people who prayed over their bears, continue to pray for them.

We can hardly fathom how these precious children can even function in life. We are so thankful that God opened these doors for us to meet them, speak into their lives and pray for them. Please keep them all in your prayers. God is passionately pursuing them.

Thank you for your support!  
This makes it possible for this work to be done. We are blessed and thankful for our LIFE Team and look forward to 2023. *Catherine Johnson*



# Spreading The Word

## Baby Bottles & Beyond



The Baby Bottle Campaign is a great way to introduce the ministry of LIFEBRIDGE to your Small Groups, Sunday School Classes and Church Congregation. It also gives individuals the opportunity to see how they can get involved as a volunteer, prayer partner and donor. In 2023 we are rolling out the NEW Baby Bottles & Beyond with our paper baby bottles and the Bear Hugs. Dates to consider for your BBB Campaign are: January 22nd Sanctity of Human Life Month, Mother's Day or Father's Day - You can choose any dates that would fit into your calendar. Contact Us

## Small Groups & Speaking

One of the most impactful experiences that we have had in sharing about the Ministry of LIFEBRIDGE has been in a small group setting. This gives individuals the opportunity to ask the questions they have about who we are and what we do. We love this time to really connect and hear your questions.

Did you know that we also do speaking engagements, for free? Not only can we share about LB and Pro-Life topics but we love inspiring people to make life choices and have a number of fantastic topics to choose from. Let's set up a time to talk!

## After

If you have been keeping the secret of abortion, it's time for you to find healing. A small private group will be meeting in January to go through the healing ministry of Surrendering the Secret. Private contact via email.

Catherine@lifebridgesouthcarolina.org



## *Carolina Mommas*

This fall women nervously gathered at LIFEBRIDGE to prepare for their first visit to Newberry College as the Carolina Mommas. With 12 dozen cookies, smiles and a sign they were off to love on the students. It was a success! Weekly visits to the College with homemade cookies (over 1000) and lots of love has made an impact on the students, faculty and the moms. If you are interested in seeing what this is all about call Kelley at 803.276.4173

*Do you like to bake? We need additional bakers.*

*Contact us today.*

## *Diaper Sponsors*

We are in need of some regular diaper sponsors. Would you commit to donate one case of diapers a month? Call Ashley at 803.276.4173 for needed sizes each month. Sizes 4 & 5 are the most needed. You can drop off any time during the month. Thank You

# *Getting Involved*



## *Early Childhood Development*

Did you know that brain development in the first year of life establishes the way we process everything for the rest of our lives? Yes, culture, family of origin and trauma impact our lives as well, but science is clear, it's how we process these influences that really matters. This way of processing was established in the first years of our lives. At LIFEBRIDGE we believe in supporting individuals in making LIFE choices. One of the ways we do this is through the discipleship and education of young parents. If you have a heart for parents, education and early childhood development, we need your help. Please contact us for details on how you can get involved.

# Life Ministry Training

LIFE Ministry Training is provided by LIFEBRIDGE as an ongoing training option for individuals who have a heart to help others and for personal development. LMT consists of video training sessions, group discussion and opportunities to put your training into practice. Each month, there will be a focus such as mental health, recovery services and discipleship. Some topics will include a special all day trainings such as the Mental Health First Aid, Family Recovery Training, and Bridges Out Of Poverty.

Enrolled participants can participate at three levels, finding what will fit best with their lifestyle and availability. LMT is Free and participants can enter or leave the training throughout the year. We recommend staying with it all year.

- LEVEL I - Participants will receive the Video Assignments & Schedule to complete each month.
- LEVEL II - Participants will receive the Video Assignments & Schedule to complete each month. They will also attend at least one Group Discussion each month at LIFEBRIDGE.
- LEVEL III - Participants will receive the Video Assignments & Schedule to complete each month. They will also attend at least one Group Discussion each month at LIFEBRIDGE. LEVEL III participants will also have the opportunity to practice hands on training and work with an Advisor for Personal Development.

LMT Starts January 2023 - Register online at our Events Page or by calling Catherine 803.276.4173