



Durango Pregnancy Center

Loving, educating, helping and giving hope.

May/June 2022

*Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the WHOLE truth. He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering."
Mark 5:33-34*

For Intentional Prayer Focus Click Below

[Focused Prayer](#)

From the Executive Director



At 6:20 a.m. the phone pinged. . *can we talk?* The message came from a woman who I first met, as a DPC client, ten years ago and have had the privilege of keeping in touch with. I have learned much from her. Knowing that she now lived in California I knew she was up early. It was Saturday; the day after the overturning of Roe v. Wade.

I will not go into the details of our conversation except that she wanted to talk about how upset she was over the decision and explain the reasons surrounding her own abortions. There were lots of tears from both of us.

I remembered how Jesus listened to the hemorrhaging woman in Mark 5. I listened to my dear friend's story, some of which I knew while other parts were new. It was painful to hear. Nothing is simple. Life is multi-layered and very, very complicated. If I have learned anything in this work (including the SCOTUS decision) it is that one decision has a rippling affect and outcomes are not always considered or reflected upon.

If you have never sat with and *personally* listened to a woman considering abortion or has had an abortion I would encourage you to do so. And, I am not talking about listening with the purpose of giving answers, advice, platitudes. *Listen without speaking.* Genuine listening requires silence. Genuine listening often produces pain in one's body. Genuine listening can create a feeling of helplessness. Genuine listening is uncomfortable. Genuine listening can challenge your opinions. Genuine listening requires total engagement.

Genuine listening is the only way we will come to a genuine understanding of the WHOLE of life and the people who make up that life.

The decision of June 24, 2022, does not change the mission of Durango Pregnancy Center. We have known that we needed to do **much** more than simply try to talk a woman out of an abortion. We needed to come alongside her for however long she wanted us to walk with her. We needed to sit and genuinely listen. We needed to hold her fears. We needed to understand. We needed to be open. We needed to provide financial assistance, housing, education, emotional support and much more if we wanted to see the woman in front of us thrive with her baby. We believe that showing her the love of Jesus has a greater impact than telling her.

Towards the end of our early Saturday conversation there was complete and total silence.

Into the silence she spoke, *Thank you, Valerie, for showing me the love of Jesus.*

Thank you to Vallecito Baptist Church for welcoming me (Valerie) on a Sunday morning, allowing plenty of time to share DPC's mission and passion. Thank you for responding with donations for car seats and housing for a DPC client. These are intentional, genuine actions that support the **WHOLE** life and bring hope. May God richly bless your ministry.

Thank you Animas Valley Community Church for listening to the stories of DPC's women and their babies. A special thanks to the ten-year-old who ran after me to hand me her offering for the day. This ministry was blessed beyond measure by her gift.



*I want to support the **WHOLE** life.*

