

Bringing life-affirming resources to teens facing unplanned pregnancies in your community

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By Elizabeth Spillman

NRLC 2016 was an energizing three days with the opportunity to be with amazing and hardworking pro-life activists from all over the country. I had the opportunity to share with them about the work StandUpGirl.com is doing to reach young women in crisis pregnancies, with life-affirming resources and support.

I wanted to take a moment and share about our outreach with those of you who were not able to make it to Virginia. I especially want to pass along how you can help bring the hope and courage StandUpGirl.com offers, to your community.

The StandUpGirl.com Foundation is an online community designed to reach out to abortion minded women in pregnancy crisis. We started 15 years ago when a small group of pro-life leaders in Oregon began asking the question: How do we reach abortion minded women using emerging internet technology?

Through the ensuing years, we have constantly evolved with technology to reach them where they are at with the media and communication modes they already use. We are now one of the top pregnancy- related websites in the world.

We are comprised of 14 dedicated women volunteers and 3 employees. We give our hearts, time, and past experiences to lead these young women in crisis to make life affirming decisions.

Our unique approach allows us to "reach across the aisle" to young men and women who would not think about going, or want to go, to a pro-life website. We cross the great divide of the issues related to abortion and provide resources, guidance, and connections to life affirming centers in the girl's immediate local area.

Perhaps the most important component of the website is the real-life stories of girls facing their own crisis pregnancies and how our StandUpGirl.com team provides personal and individual guidance and support to help young women in crisis to make a choice that both they and their baby can live with.

To reach these vulnerable women, StandUpGirl.com needs to have a presence in the world. We need to stand above the opposition to get these girls attention. Miraculously, God continues to open doors for us....we have had just under 2 million visitors in the first 6 months of 2016!

This puts us on target to reach almost 4 million visitors this year. We historically average around 300,000 visitors per month!

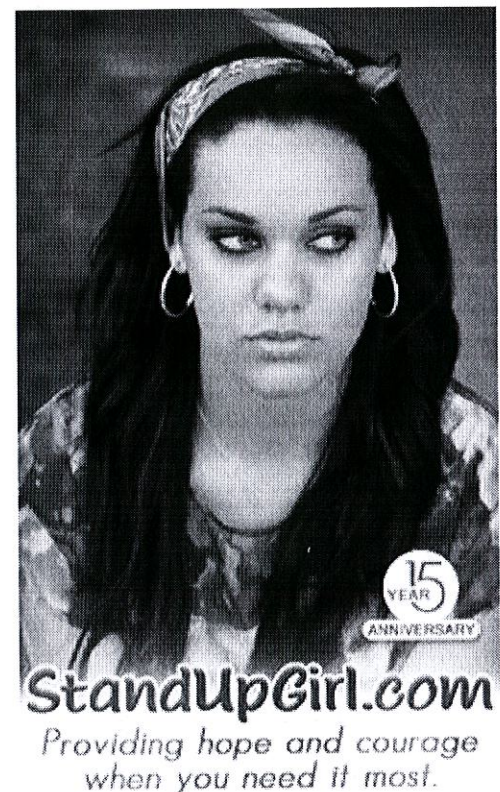
However, we know we can't do this alone. It takes all of us, shoulder to shoulder, hand in hand, doing what we each can do, to provide the life affirming resources that are needed to change a culture. It has been our goal to build a community, all striving to help these young women.

How can you help by bringing StandUpGirl.com to your community? First, make sure pro-life leaders and youth leaders in your area know about StandUpGirl.com and its online community of support and resources. Talk to your Pastor/Priest, youth leader at your church, your local Students for Life of America group, local Young Life chapter, and 40 Days for Life group about StandUpGirl.com.

We also offer a variety of beautiful and professional materials, free of charge, that direct women in crisis to our website. A few creative ways that we recommend using these materials:

- Give some cards to your local Pregnancy Resource Center to hand out to their clients
- Pass cards out to women when you are doing sidewalk counseling
- Pass them out at your county fair or local festival when your chapter/group has a booth
- Take them to your church and ask the youth minister to give them to the students
- Take them when you give a speech or presentation at a local school or church
- Put them in the bathrooms at your local college or university or ask the school health clinic or student life director to display them

We also have an exciting, brand new way you can help. With help from our donors, our first ads on public transportation went up earlier this year in Portland, Oregon. We have various ads running on Portland Tri-Met buses and Max train lines, specifically on the routes that pass Planned Parenthood



clinics and a bus shelter ad located 5 blocks from the largest Planned Parenthood abortion clinic in Portland. Our desire is to greatly expand this type of outreach to other states.

This is another fantastic way for you to reach your neighborhood. If you have an abortion facility near you that is on a major bus/train route or with a vacant billboard nearby, consider a fundraising drive with your local right to life chapter or church, to place display StandUpGirl.com ad.

We are so excited to hear the creative ways you have in mind to bring the hope and courage of StandUpGirl.com to teens in your state. Imagine the lives transformed and babies saved when this information gets into the hands of a young woman in the midst of crisis.

But, we can't reach them all alone. We invite you to join with us as we continue to bring life-affirming support and resources to young women facing unplanned pregnancies.

Visit standupgirlfoundation.org, call 503-304-1531, or e-mail ejspillman@standupgirl.com to get started or for more information.

Together we are changing hearts and saving lives.

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