

## A Shout-Out to Georgetown University's RIGHT TO LIFE GROUP

By Patti DeBuck

The Georgetown University Right to Life Group has supported HOPE for years. The names change as the students graduate but the Group's loyalty has endured. Board member Dean DeBuck and his wife, Patti, approached our Executive Director, Ama, about recognizing the current Group's efforts. After talking to the current Group President, Havens Clark, a sophomore from Richmond, and Vice-President, Melvin Thomas, a senior from New Jersey, a pizza party was planned for an October meeting on campus. It was a real hit, especially the "make-your-own-sundaes" that followed. It happened to be the middle of the students' semester, so it was a welcome diversion during a tense week on campus.

Several times a year, the Group sponsors a diaper drive at a nearby Safeway. Group members spend a Saturday afternoon outside the Safeway and ask willing shoppers to put wipes and/or diapers on their list and then donate these purchased items on their way out of the store. Several times a year, their efforts result in an SUV full of needed supplies for our clients. The Group members are also active on campus to keep the pro-life message alive, through tabling events and a website.

It was an honor to meet the Georgetown Group members. A recent blog from their President on their website speaks to their loyalty to the pro-life mission and echoes the theme of Respect for Life month: Be Not Afraid.

"Be not afraid that you [mothers facing unplanned pregnancies] are alone. There are incredible volunteers at places like HOPE and the Northwest Center to help you. Be not afraid to question the automatic suggestion of "termination" when faced with an unplanned pregnancy."

*Top: Dean and Patti DeBuck (far right) pose with Georgetown University's Right to Life Group.  
Bottom: Ama and Dean also celebrate the Sundae Station with our wonderful friends at Georgetown University.*

## This Newsletter is Dedicated to Peggy Dolan

This newsletter is dedicated to HOPE's sweetest volunteer, Peggy Dolan, who passed away on December 7, 2017. Our beautiful and beloved Peggy was a loving wife, devoted mother, proud grandmother, gracious and humble role model, faithful servant and an incredibly thoughtful and loving friend. She greatly shaped and sustained the atmosphere of love and kindness at the HOPE House.



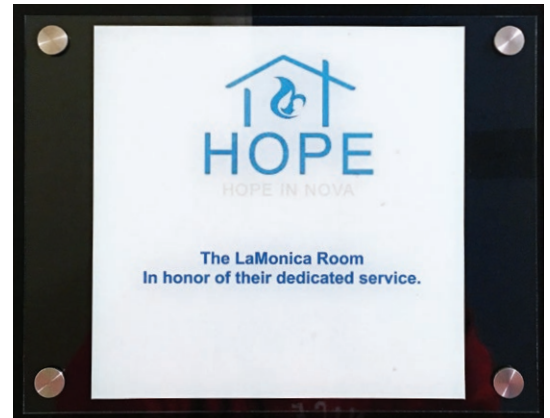
# HOPE Highlights



Lovely ladies from the National Charity League man the HOPE holiday raffle table.



Clients enjoy the holiday spread.



## A Tribute to the LaMonica Family

On behalf of the entire HOPE family of volunteers, donors and clients, we would like to extend a very big and warm thanks to the entire LaMonica family, especially Teri LaMonica and her beloved late husband, Jay. On Monday, February 26, 2018, HOPE's Board of Directors honored the decades of volunteerism and leadership provided by the LaMonicas. Specifically, the Board unveiled a naming placard on HOPE's conference room door, officially naming it "The LaMonica Room" in honor of Teri and Jay. This beautiful and service-driven family has brought countless clients, donors, Board Members and community supporters through the doors of HOPE, and HOPE in Northern Virginia would not be the organization it is today without their significant contributions.



Left: Our fabulous volunteers, Janice and Jan, stocked our volunteer refreshment station.



Middle: Our stellar volunteer, Molly, and her awesome mom, Karen, share a loving moment with one of our HOPE Babies. Right: HOPE Board Member, Leah, lovingly poses with her adorable son, Teddy.



Our awesome group of volunteers pose for a group photo.



Our fabulous & fun Kitchen Crew pause for a photo at the Christmas party.



Left: Lovely Lea is ready to return to HOPE with a car full of donations from a local consignment sale. Middle: Lea and Ama packed the car to the brim! Big thanks to the event host - Annandale United Methodist Church. Right: Consignment sale goodies!





## DEAR FRIENDS OF HOPE,

When I was growing up in Chicago, my grandparents lived directly across the street from my family. And not only did my grandparents live less than 200 steps from my front door, my mother's three younger sisters did too. My brother and I were quite fortunate. We had five women doting on us and that didn't count my grandfather. He couldn't get enough of babies and toddlers. Now what he thought about teenagers, well that's a different story.

When I came to HOPE, I immediately saw the same doting. Smiles expanding across the faces of volunteers when a returning client, further along in her pregnancy, stopped by to pick up her layette. The face of a client alighting when a donated double stroller is expanded in the living room of the house, relieving her of a major obstacle in having a second child. The gentle smile of a volunteer and the liveliness of their eyes as they hold a newborn, while the mother describes what she needs. This is referred to as the "fix," that is, the "baby fix" so many of our volunteers have a need to experience on a reoccurring basis.

Whether you volunteer at HOPE, provide items that our clients desperately need, or contribute financially, you dote on our clients. And they need it and appreciate your devotion to them. On behalf of our families and volunteers, thank you! Thank you for your generosity. You continually make the difference in the lives of mothers and their babies.

Have a Blessed and Joyful Spring,

Michael Bergeron  
*HOPE Board President*

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## GIVE HOPE

Donations can be made online to support HOPE. Contributions directly support service to our clients, including free counseling, adoption support, material needs (i.e. cribs and diapers), housing references, and parenting classes.

Give HOPE online at:  
[hopehousenova.org](http://hopehousenova.org)

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