

THE FUND UPDATE

Central Florida Women's Emergency Fund Newsletter
P.O. Box 536522, Orlando Florida 32853

We Begin 2015...

We begin the year 2015 watching as the expanded House Republican majority marked the 42nd anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's *Roe v. Wade* decision by failing to pass a 20-week abortion ban contained in the so-called "Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act." And on January 22, Jeffrey Duncan of S. Carolina introduced a bill, H.R. 492, in the House of Representatives, which would require every woman in the United States to undergo a forced ultrasound and then to view it before being permitted to terminate a pregnancy. Florida Representative Jeff Miller, is one of ten all male co-sponsors of this bill. The most recent and in depth research, published in the Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology, analyzed 15,575 medical records from an urban abortion provider in Los Angeles. The results showed that 98.4% of the patients who underwent sonograms as part of the procedure, and viewed the images, still terminated their pregnancy. Those women who did not terminate, were women with a low or medium decision certainty, or other salient factors, such as the gestation age. One can only conclude that forcing women who have clearly made up their mind to undergo an additional unnecessary procedure is not going to make them change it. It is just another attempt to punish women who have decided to take control of their bodies. The study can be seen at http://journals.lww.com/greenjournal/Abstract/2014/01000/Relationship_Between_Ultrasound_Viewing_and.13.aspx

CFWEF

The last six months of 2014 showed a slight decline in the number of procedures we funded. In addition, many patients are able to come up with more money than before, on average, \$300, for the procedure, no doubt a result of the improving economy. Many are working, but either part time or at low paying jobs. However, the cost for an abortion has been increasing and it appears that while some are able to afford birth control, the majority are not.

The breakdown is as follows:

11 to 14 years	0
15 to 17 years	7
18 to 20 years	17
21 to 25 years	30
26 to 30 years	18
31 to 35 years	8
36 to 45 years	7

CFWEF Website

www.cflwef.org

We continue to have visitors to our web site and have been receiving some donations from out of state. Please take a minute to visit our website, www.cflwef.org, as well as our Facebook.com/AbortionFund where you can "LIKE" us.

Profiles of Women Helped

In the last six months of 2014 CFWEF was able to provide funding in a number of horrific instances involving incest and rape. These are some of their stories.

Tabitha, a 16-year old with four younger siblings all living with their divorced mother thought she might want to have the baby and tried to keep the pregnancy a secret. Over time she began feeling very ill and finally confessed to her mother. When they went to the doctor the ultra sound revealed severe fetal anomalies; anencephaly and spina bifida. Due to the late gestational period and seriousness of the procedure, the medical cost was close to \$7,000. An anonymous donor contributed \$5,000, and with collaborative funding from NAF, WRRAP and CFWEF the costs were able to be covered.

Grace, 19, lives and works on a horse farm. Unable to afford birth control, she found herself pregnant by another trainer and didn't want to lose her job. She was able to come up with \$300 for her first trimester abortion, and both NAF and CFWEF paid \$125 each.

Monica, aged 35, married mother of two, was pregnant with twins. Tests showed fetal anomalies in both and she decided to terminate the pregnancy. She was able to provide \$800 and CFWEF and NAF each contributed \$100.

Tiffany, 17 years old and in the 11th grade had sex with her step-father who is the father of her three younger siblings, ages 9, 10 and 12. The police were called and her step-father was charged. The most poignant aspect to me, is, when Tiffany signed her name to the release of liability, she dotted the "i" with a heart. She's still just a little girl. Her mother was able to provide \$500, NAF \$300 and CFWEF \$200.

Kathleen, aged 25, was a victim of rape and got pregnant as a result. She wrote us this letter: "Thank you for the funding to help me with this struggle. I do not want to wake up every day with this memory. This is extremely hard for me to reach a decision. Under better circumstances it would be different. I did not ask for this to happen to me nor could I ever afford for it right now. I am very grateful a place like you exists to help people like me." NAF and CFWEF split the cost on her first trimester abortion.

How You Can Help

Donations to the Fund are tax deductible. Our address is CFWEF P.O. Box 536522, Orlando, Florida 32853. We are now able to receive credit card donations on-line www.cflwef.org. When a donation is made, we are notified by email so that the standard tax donation letter can be sent out. Because our staff is all volunteer, almost every dollar you contribute is used to assist desperate women throughout Central Florida. Your support over the years has helped hundreds of cases like those listed above. Thank you so much.