

FEATURE STORY: A FIGHT FOR TRUE LOVE

Dr. Mildred Jefferson, MD (1927 - 2010)
A pioneer in the pro-life movement



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A FIGHT FOR TRUE LOVE

HOW DR. JEFFERSON'S FIGHTING SPIRIT REFLECTS CHRIST'S LOVE

"I am not willing to stand aside and allow the concept of expendable human lives to turn this great land of ours into just another exclusive reservation where only the perfect, the privileged, and the planned have the right to live."

We all carry on Dr. Mildred Fay Jefferson's fighting spirit by protecting and helping to open nationwide pregnancy centers that offer life and love to the at-risk baby, the scared mom, and the unsure dad. Each needs the True Love of Christ. Mildred Jefferson believed in the sacredness of each human life, within the womb and without, and devoted her life to fighting for them as a physician *and* a pro-life activist. She was the first Black woman to graduate from Harvard Medical School, and, early in her career, she argued that the preborn child is a living human being.



"From conception, the complex, dynamic, developing organism-child is separate and distinct from its mother."

Dr. Jefferson was fearless in addressing the sociological aspects of abortion. Arguing that abortion plays a key role in the racial eugenics movement, she could see that the abortion industry was targeting the Black community. "Blacks suffer more from abortion because what looks like help is actually striking against them." The lie that getting an abortion will heal or help only leads to more suffering within these communities and beyond. As Mildred put it, "When church groups demand government funding of abortion for poor women, they are updating an old fascist model of social planning: keeping down social costs by getting rid of those who would run up the costs."



Mildred was a personal friend of NIFLA President Tom Glessner and served on NIFLA's National Advisory Council for 17 years. In addition to numerous other personal achievements, Dr. Jefferson has been credited for altering former President Ronald Reagan's stance on abortion. In a letter to Dr. Jefferson, he wrote:

"No other issue since I have been in office has caused me to do so much studying and soul searching. You made it irrefutably clear that abortion is the taking of human life. I am so grateful to you."

But why did Mildred Jefferson put such a high value on this issue? Why should we carry on this fight for human life? The motivation comes from God Himself. He showed us the value of human life by creating us and a world in which He could love us, and we could love Him. Then, provided a way for that relationship to be repaired and made whole. *He* loves us and values us, so we take Mildred's example and fight to show that True Love to all, within the womb and without.

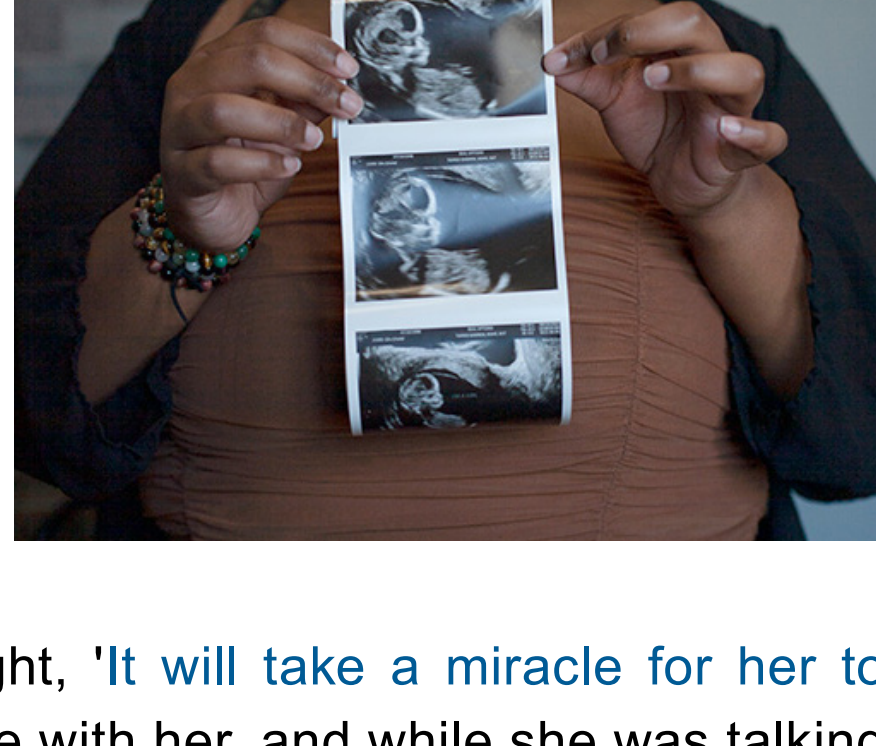


SEEING 277% MORE FATHERS AND WITNESSING MIRACLES!

MEET OUR MEMBERS

SARA - REAL OPTIONS, DALLAS, TX

"It is evident that a supportive partner makes a huge difference in a woman choosing life. So, in 2023, Real Options started the *Men and Family Outreach* program, and the number of men we have seen has increased by 277 percent! This story showcases how impactful this addition has been for our ministry.



"Jazmin* came into our clinic determined to have an abortion. So much so that when she left, her patient advocate thought, **'It will take a miracle for her to change her mind.'** Her boyfriend, Kai*, came with her, and while she was talking to her patient advocate, he spoke with our *Men and Family Outreach* Director, Rich Shelton.

"During their conversation, the patient advocate asked Jazmin, 'What does Kai want you to do?' Jazmin answered, **'He says he will support me in whatever I decide.'** Her patient advocate responded gently, **'I understand what he says, but what does he want?'** 'I guess I don't really know what he wants,' Jazmin responded thoughtfully. Her patient advocate urged her to have that conversation with Kai. At that same time, Rich was talking with Kai down the hall. 'What do you want to happen?' Rich asked. Kai responded, **'I want us to get married and be a family.'** When the couple left, they did have that conversation. Not only did they talk, but Jazmin also told her father. He cried, and with tears in his eyes, he said, **'This is my grandchild! We will make this work.'** Kai and Jazmin got married, and their beautiful baby is about five months old! This story has a happy ending because Kai was given a voice."

*names, places, and/or dates may have been changed to protect privacy

MEET OUR STAFF

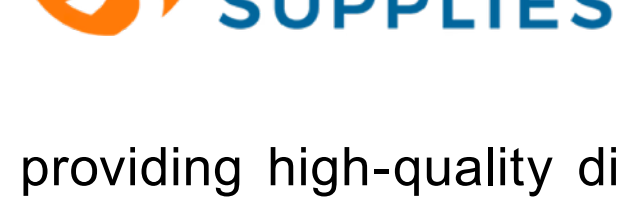
MICHAELA - MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR



"Joining NIFLA has expanded my knowledge of what I thought I already knew about the pro-life movement. I knew that pregnancy resource centers existed, but I was not aware of their ability to operate as professional medical clinics. Coming from a medical background, I truly appreciate NIFLA's dedication to providing thorough training and resources to ensure women and their babies receive high quality care. **I am honored to work for an organization that I believe in.**"

MEET OUR SUPPORTERS

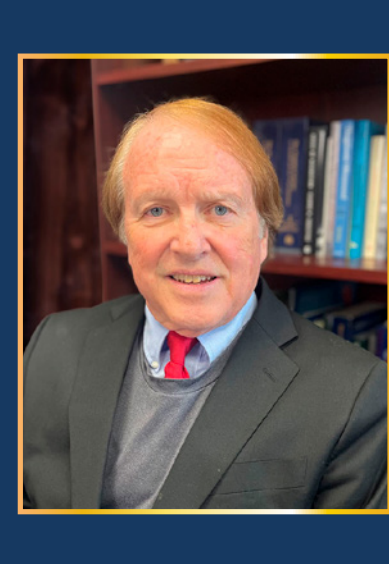
SONO SUPPLIES FOUNDER AND CEO



"SONO Supplies is honored to partner with NIFLA, supporting pregnancy centers across the nation. Our mission aligns with NIFLA's dedication to empowering women and families to choose life by providing high-quality disinfecting products tailored for ultrasound equipment. SONO is committed to this cause, offering a 20% discount to centers on our website and pledging 10% back to NIFLA on purchases made using the link below. If you own a business that uses Clorox or Lysol, SONO can replace those big brands. Your ongoing purchase can help support NIFLA. Ordering is simple: just click or scan the QR code and your discount will be applied at checkout. Join us in this partnership to support and protect life at its most vulnerable stages."



click or scan to access
sonosupplies.com/nifla



PRESIDENT'S HIGHLIGHT

THOMAS GLESSNER, J.D.
PRESIDENT AND FOUNDER

NIFLA has been so blessed with the continued growth of member centers – now nearly 1800 in our network! While we have grown, we face the most pressing financial challenges of NIFLA's thirty-year history. The pandemic lockdown affected NIFLA as our in-person courses came to a halt. However, we knew the vital training courses needed to continue to meet the demands for high-quality professional training for our member centers. We stepped out in faith to invest in new ways to train pregnancy center staff and felt compelled to move forward.

We created the online option for the Basic Institute in Limited Obstetric Ultrasound in 2020, transferred our directors course online and underwent a significant update of our online Advanced Institute (for physicians). Still, this wasn't enough as nurses needed practical, hands-on training in ultrasound. In April 2023, we launched the Ultrasound Practicum, a four-day course in intensive scanning practice. NIFLA keeps adding course locations to meet the needs out in the field for trusted, professional training. Meanwhile, we invested in a partnership with the Christian Medical and Dental Association to provide continuing medical education credits for physicians who enroll in any of NIFLA's medical courses.

We are calling on God's people to prayerfully consider extra support for NIFLA at this most critical time **so that services continue uninterrupted for the center staff** on the front lines of the pregnancy center movement.

LOOKING FOR A WAY TO HELP?



LIFE DEFENDERS

Monthly Giving Society

Pregnancy centers now outnumber abortion clinics thanks, in part, to the **LIFE DEFENDERS Monthly Giving Society!** As a result of these donors' support of life-affirming training for pregnancy centers nationwide, new centers are able to open their doors with highly qualified nurses, staff, and support systems right from the start.

Will you become our newest DEFENDER and continue this life-saving fight?

Click, call, or email to join today!

