

For Immediate Release
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Contact: Ruth Yorston, Executive Director
ruth.gcrtl@gmail.com
614.445.8508

**Greater Columbus Right to Life honors
Marti Hughes with the “2010 Defender of Life” Award**

Columbus, OH - Greater Columbus Right to Life is pleased to announce that Marti Hughes, a loyal volunteer for Pregnancy Decision Health Centers will be receiving the 2010 Defender of Life Award at the 2nd Annual Tailgate for Life Fundraiser on Sept. 26, 2010, at Grove City Church of the Nazarene, 4770 Hoover Road, Grove City, OH. The Defender of Life Award is awarded to a resident of the Greater Columbus Metropolitan and surrounding county area; who is at least 16 years of age; who has demonstrated over time a consistent position which defends life from conception until natural death through community activism, education, and example.

“Marti’s commitment to women in crisis pregnancy and their pre-born children is inspiring, and Greater Columbus Right to Life is thrilled to celebrate Marti’s life and example,” said Ruth Yorston, GCRTL Executive Director. “Marti’s 30 years of service to women in crisis pregnancy, her dedication even through great personal trials, her nurturing and mentoring of other volunteers all contributed to her selection as recipient of this annual award.”

Marti has faithfully volunteered with Pregnancy Decision Health Centers since its founding in 1981, beginning with ten volunteers manning a 24-hour hotline and opening the first office in German Village. She and her fellow champions for life were so committed to serving women in need and at risk for abortion that they alone staffed the Hotline and made sure they were continually available to serve women in the Columbus area.

Throughout the years, Marti has demonstrated commitment to pro-life issues and concerns by encouraging those women that are at risk for abortion to choose life; empowering them to do so by connecting them to available resources and support, equipping them to make a life decision not only for the benefit of the baby but also the well-being of the mother. She also serves as a mentor to the staff of PDHC and fellow volunteers through her ongoing dedication. Marti continued to serve at Pregnancy Decision while raising her family and working as an elementary school teacher in the Dublin City Schools district.

Julie Moore, Hotline Coordinator for Pregnancy Decision Health Center, expresses her admiration of Marti, “One of the most touching stories of service that Marti has relayed to me is how her husband and children would pray for Marti and the abortion-minded women during those difficult phone calls, when literally a life is at stake. To me this exemplifies the legacy of life that Marti has built throughout her years of service.”

More recently, Marti has fought for life while battling her own cancer. Marti is now a five-year ovarian cancer survivor. Julie continues, “I know this experience has only increased her value and respect for life. Even through her own difficult struggle, she continues to serve women at risk for abortion despite the challenges of working through illness and treatment. I believe that for Marti, serving women and the unborn is truly a way of life. I am honored to know and work with her. She is an inspiration to all that know her.” Marti is also considered by those that work with her a dedicated “warrior” in the battle for life.

In attendance at the fundraising event will also be some of our local and state-wide candidates, including Mike DeWine, former U.S. Senator and candidate for Ohio Attorney General.

For more information about the Tailgate for Life or to register to attend visit www.gcrtl.org.

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