

Second Time's a Charm for Sarah!

Veteran volunteer gets challenged and makes an amazing impact in California

I first met Sarah Torre (below & right with sunglasses) when she was a student at Focus on the Family Institute in the fall of 2008. Our JFA team was visiting Colorado State University-Fort Collins. She learned many lessons in Colorado and was excited to work with us again.

In May of 2009, Sarah decided to come to our May Missions camp (advanced training) and to our outreaches at Pasadena City College (PCC) and UC-San Diego. The camp included a survey outreach at Moonlight Beach in San Diego. Sarah and I were paired up for this part of the camp and it worked out very well.



One highlight was talking to a pro-life man who was very encouraged to see young people who were focused on lovingly changing hearts and minds.

A second highlight was talking

with a mother who essentially said, "I know exactly what the unborn is because I am a mother and know about human development, but I have a hard time telling someone that abortion is wrong". Sarah and I graciously walked this lady through our brochure and she really seemed to appreciate the interaction.

Sarah also had great experiences at PCC and UCSD. She reflected on the outreach opportunities by saying...



"My experience with JFA honed my dialogue skills, humbled my prideful confidence in my own abilities to change people's hearts, and equipped me with tools to take the exhibit's message to family and friends back home.

At times, the confidence in my own dialogue abilities blinded me to the necessity of God's hand in softening hearts and opening minds to the truth of abortion and absolute morals. By no real power of my own, however, I was blessed to personally see a number of people change their minds regarding the humanity of the unborn.

Possibly even more exciting was the chance to learn exhibit training skills that I can now utilize to teach others in my church and community to effectively defend the unborn in a Christ-like manner."

She went on to say, "**On the last day of the UCSD outreach, after ---->**

...complaining to multiple JFA staff about my relative ineffectiveness, I met Alex*. And, like almost every other student I talked to in San Diego, Alex didn't really care how promising the toddler or how socially valuable the grandmother, if the life imposed on the rights of another there was nothing wrong in ending it.

Finally, at the end of my own logic, I asked Alex whether it would be permissible to violate the rights of a father who was beating his son, perhaps even threatening to kill him. Alex didn't respond. After what felt like hours, Alex silently shoved his backpack into my arms and wrote on the Free Speech Board, "Don't abort, adopt."

As he returned to my confused look, he explained that his father had physically abused him for years. While he had at-



tempted to suppress the memory, he knew that no one should have to live under those circumstances, even if changing the situation would limit his father's rights.

'Those children,' he said as he pointed to the pictures, 'shouldn't have to suffer just because their parents are selfish.'"

Your support helps me equip and mentor ambassadors like Sarah.

Prayer requests and Praises for August 2009:

- This last week I was introduced to a school in Oklahoma that may be interested in our training seminar for their students. This adds to our great list in Oklahoma!
- I was able to get three new donors over the last few weeks. God totally provides!
- We were recently able to make some key connections in Georgia for next year!
- Please pray for a high school training opportunity that is developing near Kansas City.
- Please be praying for our new interns (Rebecca, Jeremy, Tony) as they raise support.
- Pray also that I can live out the two verses below as I finish the summer strong. I am very excited for the conversations I will have this fall and am also excited to hear how you apply these verses to your own conversations!

Verses that continue to motivate me:

Proverbs 15:1 "A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger." (NIV)

Defending Human Value together,


Jonathan Wagner

Proverbs 13:10 "Pride only breeds quarrels, but wisdom is found in those who take advice." (NIV)