January 2021

THE SPARROW

2020 Year In Review Newsletter

www.ourlittlesparrows.org







2020 IN REVIEW

Despite this being the year of "Covid-19," we stayed busy continuing to build and grow awareness for Our Little Sparrows. p. 02

NONPROFIT HIGHLIGHT

The Sacramento Memorial Garden for The Unborn is a beautiful and precious nonprofit that we are honored to share with you. p. 03

OUR VISION FOR 2021

We are looking forward to this new year! The plans we have are ambitious to say the least. Thank you for following us in love and support. p. 02

DATES TO REMEMBER!

January 18th- Martin Luther King Day January 22nd-National Sanctity of Human Life Day

February 14th- Valentines Day February 15th-President's Day

March 20th-1st day of spring!





2020 IN REVIEW

by Geoff & Toni Brabec

This was a year of new beginnings. We moved into our first-ever office space, Toni became a volunteer with Sierra Pregnancy + Health, and we started a YouTube Channel. WHAT!?

Our Little Sparrows was blessed with an office of its own in Roseville. As a family, we spruced the space up and made it our own. The office was initially meant for supporting local parents of baby loss in-person with both Doula and Grief Recovery Method© Services. Little did we realize 2020 would change how we worked with parents.

Due to Covid-19, Toni became certified to teach the Grief Recovery Method© virtually over ZOOM and we also set off on an unplanned endeavor. We created a <u>YouTube Channel</u>! Currently, we have 60+ episodes available to watch 24/7, 365 days a year. The mission of the channel is to walk parents through the journey after being diagnosed with a life-limiting or fatal pregnancy, guiding them up to and beyond the death of their baby. Having our own space also allowed us to reach families through online "live" remembrance ceremonies for both Mothers Day and Fathers Day. Our office has become a YouTube Studio!

Toni also took a volunteer position with Sierra Pregnancy + Health. She is now a Reproductive Grief Care Advocate working alongside some amazing women of faith. Her role is to walk with parents who have experienced a pregnancy loss and have sought support through SP+Health's free prenatal services as a Nonprofit.



OUR VISION FOR 2021

by Geoff & Toni Brabec

- To begin, we will be for the first time be committing to a quarterly newsletter. Our goal is to keep our followers up to date on what we are up to but also what is happening in the Pregnancy and Infant Loss Community.
- We are encouraged to announce that Our Little Sparrows is seeking nonprofit status in 2021. Our intent is to join other nonprofits in our community that directly give back to parents of loss from tax deductible funds they receive. We wish to walk beside even more parents before and after the death of their baby(ies). Becoming a 501c3 will also allow us the opportunity to give back to

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Our Little Sparrows is seeking Nonprofit status in 2021!

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our community in unique ways that will impact future families that have yet to experience the devastating loss of their baby(ies).

- Expanding our local outreach and networking will also be a priority in this new year. Due to Covid-19 we will be creating media packets to introduce O.L.S. to local like-minded nonprofits, foundations, hospitals (maternity wards, child life specialists, social workers, chaplins), maternal fetal medicine specialists, churches, local mothers groups, etc. In the future we endeavor to not only meet in person put offer workshops and seminars to further our mission of supporting parents before and after their loss.
- We will be continuing to produce new content for our YouTube Channel. Our weekly video podcasts will talk about living day to day after a loss. This year we will address the grief that we experience, we will define it and give helpful tips based on our personal experience and shared resources. Profile interviews will be something new for 2021. We endeavor to amplify the voices of nonprofits, foundations, artists and authors in the pregnancy and infant loss community through interviews that will be made available on YouTube as well our social media platforms including YouTube, Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn.



NONPROFIT HIGHLIGHT

by Toni Brabec

Off <u>Interstate 80 and Greenback exit</u>, you may not realize there is a sanctuary of comfort and solace for the broken hearted. The Sacramento Memorial Garden for the Unborn provides a place for remembrance of those whose lives were too short. A place to see their names displayed on the remembrance wall, a place to mourn, a place to express our longing for what could have been. Most of all this is also a place to feel and experience God's hope, comfort and forgiveness.

In September of 2019, Geoff and I had the privilege of sharing our personal story of losses at their annual fundraiser called Grow the Garden Campaign. It was an honor to share our story and to be among others who have experienced similar heartache. We walked the pathways and felt the garden's invitation to come, sit and be still. To ponder, to wonder and to grieve openly or quietly the lives of so many precious babies. Nestled on the property of New Hope Christian Fellowship Church in Sacramento, the garden invites anyone who has been impacted by the loss of a baby by abortion, miscarriage and still birth to recognize and honor the lives of these babies gone too soon. It is open all day and everyday ensuring free and easy access to all at any time they need it.

We invite you to visit their <u>website</u> if you would like more information on the garden, engravings for the remembrance wall, and holding memorial services. If you're in the area, we hope you will visit and see the beauty of the garden and take a moment to read and honor the names of each precious baby on the remembrance wall.





WHERE TO FIND US



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HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT OUR LITTLE SPARROWS?

- Prayer
 - for families who have suffered the loss of their baby
 - Seeking God's wisdom and discernment as we follow His direction.
- Financial Support
 - OLS has been self-funded to this point. We appreciate donations to keep providing resources to our parents who have experienced baby loss.
 - We welcome donations that will be used directly towards the cost of registering as a non-profit as well as 501(c)(3) status.
 - Contact us directly for information on how to make a donation.