

#4 Single Parent...Rosalie Hall

You probably see lawn signs and other promotional material around the GTA promoting the work of ShareLife. This charity is the fundraising arm for the Catholic Church in the Archdiocese of Toronto, reaching out to those who need our help. In fact, more than 100,000 people will be touched by the helping hand of ShareLife's 34 agencies this year alone. Think of how our school community can make the difference in helping someone who needs care and support.

Sandra was in Grade 10 and thought she was head over heels in love. After a couple of months with Art, she found herself in a physical relationship that had no limitations. When she realized she was pregnant, she was scared. What would her family think? Would her friends still accept her? But at least she still had Art. That is, until Art found out about the baby. He broke off the relationship and wanted nothing to do with Sandra. How could things have gone so wrong so fast?

Sandra's guidance counsellor told her about Rosalie Hall, a ShareLife agency in Scarborough, working with teen Moms who need support. Sandra was able to continue her studies through Rosalie Hall and learn about how to care for her child, the emotions that come with parenting and how to juggle all the responsibilities of being a single Mom. As Sandra says, "When I felt at my lowest and with nowhere to turn, Rosalie Hall was there and helped me through the darkness."

Albert Einstein once said, "There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle." Some decisions we make are ones that have lifetime implications. We have difficult choices to make in life: with our relationships, our friends, our family. Yet we give thanks for the miracle of life, of each new day, for all that we've been given. We pray for the strength to make responsible choices and for the courage to own up to our actions. ShareLife agencies help many people each year that feel they have very little choices. We pray for all those that support ShareLife, giving thanks for the ability to serve the least of our brothers and sisters.

Our Father...(or other appropriate prayer)