

THE L.O.V.E. APPROACH

A simple, memorable, life-saving guide



L LISTEN & LEARN

Explore the pregnancy issue and the details of her story through listening and learning.

Ask about:

- ◆ Her Needs.
- ◆ Her Strengths.
- ◆ Her Areas of Awareness (Feelings, Thoughts, Wants, Values and Beliefs)
- ◆ The attitudes, feelings and responses of the child's father and/or her parents since they are key to her feelings and fears.

How to explore and listen:

- ◆ Pay close attention to her every word and body language.
- ◆ Ask open-ended questions and use statements like "Tell me more about..."
- ◆ Interpret and "check out" what you think you are hearing ("Did I hear you say...?").
- ◆ Observe and listen for contradictions and ambivalence to understand more deeply (she is probably not totally "at ease" about her actions, thoughts, or the feelings she is experiencing).

O OPEN OPTIONS

Share information about options she needs to consider to make a life-giving decision. Use what you have learned in the L step about her story. Share in a

factual but loving and caring way what you know about abortion, having a baby, adoption, marriage, and how they might apply in her situation. Focus on her first, not her baby.

V VISION & VALUE

Awaken a vision in her for a healthier life (a vision that she may never have had, or that has become dimmed). Help her Value herself differently. She is a special creation, worthy of love. She is made in the image of God; He loves her and even died for her. There is always hope. She can make positive choices for herself and her baby.

E EXTEND & EMPOWER

- ◆ Give Referrals for help she needs, especially 1-800-712-HELP or OptionLine.org for the nearest pregnancy help center.
- ◆ Help her plan her next steps. A call from you? How can you contact her?
- ◆ Pray for her and her baby.

