



July 2017

Birth Certificate: Challenge Met!

By Niki Ludt, Esq,

Her smile says it all. Face to Face Legal Center client, Gloria Cuttino, is thrilled to finally have "proof" of her birth. Gloria was born at home in South Carolina in 1951 during the Jim Crow era when the births of black children frequently went unrecorded. Gloria's family moved to Philadelphia when she was a toddler. Although in her 60's, Gloria never had legal ID because she did not have a birth certificate. Gloria testified about this hardship in her role as a plaintiff in the case of *Applewhite v. Commonwealth of PA*, more commonly known as the Pennsylvania Voter ID case.

Legal Center Director, Niki Ludt, took on the case to help create what is known as a "delayed" birth record for Gloria. She and some law student volunteers searched for official documents from Gloria's schools, medical providers, the Social Security Administration, former employers, and the Elections and U.S.

Census Bureaus to obtain proof of Gloria's birth facts. Searching for these documents took years, yet still resulted in an insufficient number of acceptable documents. Some documents simply could not be located due to the passage of time. Others had clerical errors which made them unacceptable. Since a delayed birth record could not be created administratively by South Carolina Vital Records, Legal Center volunteer attorney, Carl Engel, offered his pro bono assistance. Carl filed a Petition to Create a Delayed Birth Record in Philadelphia Family Court which included appearing before a judge with Gloria and family members who testified on her behalf. This delayed birth certificate case took years to resolve, which is not uncommon for these kinds of cases. Face to Face Legal



Center is committed to helping clients obtain their birth records which are the lynch pin to obtaining legal ID.

In Memorium



Keith Harvin



Peter McVeigh



Earnest Flippen

In the last few months, Face to Face has suffered the loss of three extraordinary members of our community; Keith Harvin, Peter McVeigh and Earnest Flippen, lovingly known as Flip. Keith lit up the Dining Room with his handsome, kind smile. He was the face on our brochure for years. Peter, a long time teacher at Germantown Academy and leader of their Community Service Organization, connected with our guests and inspired scores of Germantown Academy students to reach out to those on the margins. Flip's joyous response when asked how he was, was always "BLESSED," despite being a double amputee and wheel chair bound. We miss these gentleman and all that they brought to Face to Face; their spirit, however, remains.

Volunteer Update

Face to Face needs Saturday and Sunday greeters! We are looking for volunteers to help greet our clients and volunteers at FUMCOG, our temporary location. This is a wonderful opportunity to welcome clients, volunteers and newcomers to Face to Face. Timeframe is from 10am-1pm. If you are interested in this position, please contact Becky Messa -

**becky@facetofacegermantown.org.
Thank you!**

WISH LIST

Due to the limited storage space in our temporary home, we are currently only able to accept the following donations:

- * Gift cards (ACME, Walgreen's)
- * Septa Tokens
- * Personal Care Kits: zip lock baggies containing soap, deodorant, lotion, shampoo, conditioner, toothbrush, toothpaste (washcloth, razor and shaving cream are a bonus, but not necessary!)
- * Athletic socks
- * Ground Coffee, Tea Bags, Sugar Packets
- * Plastic grocery bags for take-home meals

For questions regarding food donations, please contact Altenor at altenor@facetofacegermantown.org or 215-438-7939.

**If you have additional items you wish to donate,
we recommend the following neighborhood organizations:**

Whosoever Gospel Mission Thrift Shop (215) 438-3094

101 E Chelton Ave Philadelphia, PA 19144

Monday- Saturday 9:30-4:15

Will accept all clothing (men and women), household items, books, toys/games

Divine Light Women's Shelter Call Paula at (914) 564-1063 for details and times

75 W Sharpnack St. Philadelphia PA 19119

Will accept men's and women's clothing and food items

Janes United Methodist Church Call (215) 844-9564 for details and times

47 E Haines St. Philadelphia, PA 19144

Will accept all clothing, food and most other items

Our temporary home during the renovation:

First United Methodist Church of Germantown

6001 Germantown Avenue

Philadelphia PA, 19144

**As Always, Face to Face can be reached at 215-438-7939 or
E-mail Marie McCabe: marie@facetofacegermantown.org**

THANK YOU!

Spread the Word!

Forward this e-mail to friends, family, colleagues and anyone you think would be interested in the mission of Face to Face.

Thanks!

DONATE NOW

Newsletter Editor: Susan O'Hagan Marley
susanmarley@facetofacegermantown.org

Face to Face, 109 East Price Street, Philadelphia, PA 19144

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