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It is with great happiness that we congratulate Margie Simpson, our Medical Coordinator, for her son's recent accomplishments. Spencer Simpson, 16, made the Principal's Honor Roll, the highest academic achievement at his school. Proud mother Margie and Spencer attended the awards ceremony on March 10th. This is his third year on the Honor Roll. Spencer also won the Inglewood School District (10th Grade) Spelling Bee in January. He is a Boy Scout and currently working on the "Citizenship in the Community Badge," which involves preparing a presentation that highlights some important aspects of the community. He hopes to some day become an Eagle Scout, the highest level a Boy Scout can attain. CSP congratulates the Simpsons for such outstanding work!



Lights, Camera, Action!

2010 has put CSP in the spotlight when we participated in two very popular TV shows, TLC's "The Little Couple" and "The Dr. Phil Show." We are excited to be able to share these experiences.

In early February, TLC's "The Little Couple," Bill Klein and Jennifer Arnold, visited CSP's office in Encino, CA, to attend a consultation with our staff. Jen is a neonatologist at Texas Children's Hospital in Houston and Bill owns his own sales, training and telecommunications business in New York.

Ever since their marriage Bill and Jen have talked about their dream of having a baby. However, Jen is only 3'2" tall and Bill is 4' tall. Jen knows a pregnancy could prove difficult and even life threatening because of her tiny stature, but that has not stopped her and Bill from dreaming of becoming parents

one day. While many women with dwarfism are able to carry pregnancies to term, this is not the case for Jen. Her form of dwarfism (spondyloepiphyseal dysplasia, or SED), as well as the many surgeries she has had to endure since childhood, could make it potentially life threatening for Jen to be pregnant and deliver a healthy baby.

In a recent episode of "The Little Couple," they revealed how excited they are to add to their family through surrogacy. Of course, surrogate parenting is a big decision for any couple. When CSP received the phone call about Bill and Jen, we were thrilled at the thought of helping them become parents. We had lots of phone calls, meetings, emails and more meetings and much anticipation.

When the day of the consultation finally arrived, there was so

Program Administrator Joanne Bubrick, poses with Bill and Jennifer "The Little Couple," during their visit to our offices in Encino, California.





much camera, lighting and sound equipment in our conference room we barely had space for ourselves! It did add to our anxiety. But when Bill and Jen arrived at our office we quickly saw how lovely, warm, funny and friendly they are. That helped the initial nervousness pass and everyone relaxed. After a bit, you do forget about the cameras and the crew. We were able to conduct a full consultation to educate Bill and Jen about our wonderful world of surrogacy. We got to know them as a loving couple who dearly wants a family, and they got to know us as an experienced agency ready and able to assist them with achieving their dream.

The episode featuring CSP aired on Tuesday, February 2nd at 10:00 PM ET/PT on TLC.



But, “The Little Couple” was not the only TV show featuring CSP. We were also invited to Dr. Phil’s show to discuss how surrogacy should really work.

“The Dr. Phil Show,” a syndicated, daily one-hour series, is the second highest rated daytime talk show in the U.S. The show has been making headlines and breaking records since its September 2002 launch, when it garnered the highest ratings of any new

syndicated show since the launch of “The Oprah Winfrey Show.”

During the last few months, two surrogacy cases were brought to light in the media - twin babies born in Michigan and another case involving a single baby born in Florida. Both surrogacy cases went terribly wrong when the surrogate mothers decided to keep the babies, leaving the intended parents with the loss not only of their children and a lot of time and money, but also leaving a huge emotional toll.

On the other side of the coin, a member of Dr. Phil’s staff, John Perry, and his wife, Cheryl, worked with a surrogate to have their second son, Hayden. “We actually researched a lot of agencies, ended up going with CSP and Bill’s services,” John told Dr. Phil. “We were vetted; our surrogates were vetted. We were offered counseling throughout the entire thing. It was handled perfectly. Thank goodness, because now we have Hayden.”

For these reasons, Dr. Phil decided to feature CSP on his show in order to clarify the proper steps of surrogacy. Bill Handel, Director of the Center, participated in the episode where surrogate mom Shelly Baker returns to Dr. Phil’s stage to face her critics and set the record straight about her controversial decision to keep

the twins she carried for intended parents, Scott and Amy Kehoe.

When asked what went wrong, Bill Handel shared, “You can’t do it [surrogacy] in Michigan, because no matter what we talk about, Shelly has the absolute right to say no, these are her children.” He also points out that the Kehoes took an enormous risk by soliciting a surrogate online.



“No psychological counseling, screening, monitoring, all the misunderstandings that happen. I can see that Shelly is upset with a lack of disclosure and a background check. That all would have been resolved with a psychological screening and monitoring early on.”

Later in the show Dr. Phil once again asked for Bill’s professional expertise and inquired about the legal rights of the intended parents in the state of California. “Shelly would have had no rights to those



children at all. As a matter of law, in California, with a signed contract where intent is clear, the court has no choice but to say the Kehoes are the parents of these children,” Bill states.

Dr. Phil’s controversial show about surrogacy aired on February 22nd, and while the two cases he presented had a sad outcome for the intended parents, he closed the show with a very important statement: “It would be a very unintended result from this show if people became afraid of surrogacy. I think surrogacy is such a miraculous, miraculous gift.”

It breaks our heart to hear stories such as these with no happy endings. The intended parents do not have to suffer like this. Babies are also affected by this uncertainty. Here at CSP we make certain all the necessary steps are taken to avoid these kinds of situation. We do not take shortcuts and that always pays off.

Coming Up in our next newsletter...

Two teenagers from California, their mother, one teenager from Texas, a surrogate mother, her children...they all meet. What brought them together?

Their Story...



Egg Donation Inc.
Where Dreams Come True

To view our egg donor database, please visit:

www.eggdonor.com

Did You Know?

Between January and March 2010, our surrogate mothers gave birth to a total of **20** babies!

12 singletons



8 twin babies



In addition, **66** babies are currently on the way, and expected to be born in 2010.



Congratulations!