

A Few Choice Words

THE NEWSLETTER OF CHOICES FOR WOMEN RESOURCE CENTER

Quarter 1 | January - March

WORTH THEIR WEIGHT IN GOLD

From the Director's Desk, Rose Condra

Thirty-three million dollars - \$33,728,198.40 to be exact! This would be the worth of our new cleaning crew if their combined weight was multiplied by the price of gold. Obviously, they are not made of gold, but their hearts may be.

One worker was speaking to another and said, "We clean to help the babies." Who are these precious souls? They are the clients of Quality Community Services (QCS). This organization provides independent living alternatives to developmentally disabled adults. Most Friday mornings you will find six or eight QCS clients and a couple of their staff here mopping and dusting and disinfecting.

It has been our great joy to get to know them and now to be the recipient of lots of hugs! What a joy to see people, who many say have a poor quality of life, contributing to the lives of others. Many abortion advocates say it is compassionate to end the life of a child who may be born with physical or mental challenges. This rationale is why nine out of every ten babies suspected of having Down's Syndrome in-utero are aborted. Abortion advocates say these less-than-perfect people would have a poor quality (or quantity) of life. My questions would be, "Who isn't less than perfect?" and "Who gets to decide what quality is standard for a life to be of value?"

A bright young man in his thirties with near-Einstein intelligence making a seven-figure income may be the most miserable person you would ever want to meet. However, a young deaf lady with other mental challenges who is smiling as she sweeps the floor or disinfects baby toys may be completely happy and satisfied. Which one of these people "deserves" to live? Do any of us really deserve to live? Or should we just thank God that He has decided our lives are precious? He put the ultimate

value on our lives when He created us in His image and then sent Jesus to die for our sin.

The month of January is a terrible and wonderful time. It is a time when we mourn

the more than 50 million babies who have been killed in the United States since Roe vs. Wade. It is a time when we pray for women who have made that fateful decision in the past and for men who enabled or coerced. January is also a wonderful time as more than

any time of the year the sanctity of human life is at the forefront. Pastors are preaching messages on the value of life and on the forgiveness and healing available through Christ. Pregnancy centers around the country are proclaiming a message of hope to those facing an unplanned pregnancy. Right to Life organizations are educating citizens on the value of



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Drive 4 Life

Did you know you can support Choices for Women while you drive?



Just visit your local BMV today and get your "Choose Life" license plate! A \$25 donation will go toward the Pregnancy Center in your county each year your plate is registered.

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Volunteer Opportunities

Are you looking for a way to invest in lives and really make a difference? Consider becoming a Client Advocate. Volunteer opportunities are available for Administrative, Blessing Boutique, Client Rooms, Teachers/Teaching Assistants for parenting and life skills classes and Fundraising Events.

For more information on exciting opportunities in all areas of the ministry, call Shari at 812-941-0872 or go the partner website at www.cfw4life.org.

WORTH THEIR WEIGHT IN GOLD - cont. from pg. 1

human life from conception until natural death.

Be encouraged this January! For those of us who value and protect life, the odds are stacked in our favor, regardless of who is serving in office. You see, those of us who proclaim the dignity of human life, regardless of location (in-utero or out), or ability, or length of days are the ones who are welcoming children into our world and then affirming the intrinsic value of these children. Kids are naturally pro-life. Babies love babies. If you show an 18 month old child a 12 week fetal model like the ones we hand out, they will say one word – baby. Most will then cradle that little plastic model in the crook of a little arm that just two years earlier was the same size as the one on the model.

When does this nurture and protection for tiny life begin to turn into “situational ethics?” When does a 12 week old person become a non-person in someone’s eyes? Children have to be indoctrinated with the theology of convenience or circumstance or perceived lack of ability to move from being pro-life to pro-abortion. On the other hand, we have the privilege and responsibility to affirm the value of life and to teach children a lesson they already know – *life is precious*.

MOVIN ON UP... CONTINUED

Demolition is complete and all of the wall studs are up. By the time this reaches your mailbox, the drywall, plumbing and HVAC at 2656 Charlestown Road will be complete. Whew!!! What a wild ride.

God is bringing in many like-minded people with skills and a desire to help. We could be moved in before March if things continue to move as smoothly as they have been so far.

If you would like to help with building supplies or manual labor, call us at 812-941-0872. For up-to-date info, check out our new partner website at www.cfw4life.org or our Facebook page.

Current Needs

Oh, Baby! Due to the increase in clients and all of the little lives we are welcoming into our world, there are some items we are running low on. If you don't have time to shop for these, but would like to help, a directed donation may be made to purchase items for the Blessing Boutique (just make that note on your check). If you have gently used baby items or clothes (maternity and newborn to 4T), we accept those items as well.

- Diapers (all sizes, but specifically size 6 and newborn)
- Baby Wash/Lotion
- Sippy cups
- Bottles (8 oz.)
- Toddler clothes (new or gently used)





Baby Bottle Boomerang

A Fundraising Program

The 2011 Baby Bottle Boomerang brought in over \$55,000 in donations! Fifty partner churches and a few private organizations handed out the bottles various times throughout the year and thousands of new and existing financial partners showed their support for the mission of Choices for Women.

The overall average for bottles returned was \$22.95 each. In spite of

the down economy, the bottles increase by \$17,000 over the previous year. These were much-needed donations since our client numbers have grown 30% over the past year.

If you are a member of a church or organization who has not participated but would like to, give Rose a call at 812-941-0872.

Save the Date

Annual Spring Banquet

Mark your calendars for the ninth annual Choices for Women Spring Fundraising Banquet. This year's event will be held at beautiful Plantation Hall at Huber's Orchard and Winery on Tuesday, May 15, 2012. Our guest speaker is Mrs. Abby Johnson, a former Planned Parenthood clinic director.

Abby always had a fierce determination to help women in need. It was this desire that both led Abby to a career with Planned Parenthood, our nation's largest abortion provider, and caused her to flee the organization and become an outspoken advocate for the pro-life movement. You can read her story at www.unplannedthebook.com. If you would like to host a table for this event or become a business underwriter, please call Rose at 812-941-0872.

CHOICES FOR ... MEN

The flight of the new Fatherhood Program at Choices for Women has officially left the ground. This curriculum consists of two parts. Doctor Dad is a two-session program designed to teach basic safety and parenting skills to new dads. The second part, 24/7 Dad, is a 12-lesson study on the importance of fathers in the lives of children. In seeing lots of young men walk through our doors we have noticed that many of them really want to be good dads, they just may be lacking the training and encouragement to carry out that desire. Currently we have one male facilitator meeting with the young men. If you are a father who is interested in mentoring young dads, give Shari a call at 812-941-0872.



Abby Johnson



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Schedule of Hours:

Monday & Wednesday 9a – 3p

Tuesday & Thursday 9a – 8p



TRUE LOVE

By Client Advocate, Mary Munford

During the month of February much time and thought is devoted to love. We try to define love. We try to explain love. We try to make love and relationship things that they are not.

One of our most basic needs as a person is to be loved by others. God created us this way. He created us for relationship. His perfect plan for us is to love and be loved. His perfect plan for us is to save intimacy for a committed marriage relationship. Somehow, we humans have clouded the real meaning of love and relationship to mean false intimacy and sensuality. Love does not equal intimacy. Intimacy grows out of love. The Bible gives us a picture of true love in 1 Corinthians 13:4-7.

“Love is patient, love is kind. It

does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.”

At Choices for Women we talk to young people about sex, love and relationships. We help them capture a vision of why postponing sexual activity until marriage is one of the best

choices they can make for a happy and healthy life. We also offer them tools and strategies to make this vision a reality, regardless of past experiences. This message is shared individually with clients as well as in schools and youth groups where teens and pre-teens are not just craving love, but starved for truth.

Truth and true love. True love is pure. True love does not rush or push. True love waits.

“Love does not equal intimacy. Intimacy grows out of love.”

FEEDBACK
OUR CLIENTS SAY



What did you like best about your visit?

“Amount of support I was offered”

“Learning about my options and about God”

“Someone who cared enough to help me and my son”

“Getting ultrasound, hearing heartbeat”