

# Life Notes

*A Publication of Life Choice Center For Women*

## HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR 6TH ANNUAL BANQUET:

- November 6th, 2014
- In Attendance: 201
- Speaker:  
Shaun Dickerson,  
Executive Director of  
Pregnancy Support  
Center in Lebanon, Mo.
- Theme: Together for Life
- The Program:
  - \* Excellent Speaker
  - \* Two Client Testimonies
  - \* Great Food
  - \* Fantastic Fellowship
- Cash Gifts: \$15,025
- Pledged: \$20,105

## **Together we can create a massive culture shift for life...**

*This is a defining moment for this ministry, which includes all of us: Prayer Partners, Volunteer Staff, Board Members, Compensated Staff, and Financial Partners...All of us. This ministry has always been about all of us, working together to create a massive cultural shift in our area toward life. Our goal and our desire is to be the first choice for all women and men in our community who are facing an unplanned pregnancy. And it is going to take all of us working together to make this goal a reality.*



*First, in an effort to reach out to more abortion minded women, as well as men, Life Choice Center For Women is currently in the process of changing the Center's name to Alternatives Clinic. We will still be Life Choice Center For Women doing business as (d.b.a.) Alternatives Clinic. The name change will help us reach more abortion minded women. It will also help men feel more comfortable coming to the Center.*

*Research by various national organizations shows that women considering abortion are not attracted to an organization with the word "Life" in its name or a heart logo like we have been using. Research has also shown that these women want to go to a medical clinic. The Center is a medical clinic, we have just not previously chosen to highlight this aspect of our ministry in the Center's name. We believe the name change will allow us to reach more individuals facing a crisis pregnancy.*

*In a few days you will receive this year's year end letter. In this letter I will outline more details about where we are going, our plans to further impact our community, and what it will take for this impact to take place. So when you open your mail in a few days, amidst many other letters, you will find one from me. I trust you will open it. I have a lot to share, and a lot of dreams ready to come true. Big things are about to take place—and we are going to be a part of all of them...Together!*

*In Christ,*

*Linda Freeland, Executive Director*

### Inside this issue:

Client Spotlight: Kathryn's Story	2
Volunteer Spotlight: Jennifer Cook	3
Needs List	3
Client Spotlight 2: Holly's Story	4

## Kathryn's Story



Kathryn

I am 43 and have Chronic Hypertension. When I realized that I might be pregnant, I knew that would make my pregnancy really high risk. I was so distraught. I was overwhelmed. I didn't know where to turn, how I was going to get health care, or prenatal care. I was so stressed out.

I went to the health department in Harrisonville, took a pregnancy test, and it came out positive. I asked the nurse, "Are you sure? Are you sure? It's not just a hormonal overload because of my age?" But it wasn't. The nurse gave me a card for the temporary Medicaid and sent me home with the info to sign up for pregnancy Medicaid. She told me that it would probably take a couple months to get accepted. Then she gave me the number to the Life Choice Center. I put it off to the side with the other paper work. When I got home, I started calling every doctor, hospital and clinic [to see if they were accepting Temporary Medicaid patients]. Then as I was going through all the paper-work that the nurse had given me, I saw the number for Life Choice Center again. So I called them. It was a Monday afternoon and the lady said that there was a cancellation and could I make it. I was so relieved; I was like, yes please! God works in mysterious ways.

So I kept my appointment then and every appointment since with a grateful heart. Life Choice Center is like a little piece of heaven on earth. Seriously wonderful. The Doctors there are awesome, they accepted my temporary Medicaid. There was even a lapse between my temporary Medicaid and when the pregnant Medicaid started. It was about a month and the Doctors still saw me. They just trusted that the Medicaid would kick in eventually. And the Center is a plethora of resources. The staff is awesome. Every time I come in for a visit, prenatal class, A to A visit, maternity [& infant] clothing ... any time I go there, it's just like home. Like talking to my sisters or my mother, everybody is so friendly and caring. They are genuinely concerned for me and my baby's wellbeing. So without them, I don't know where I'd be... where my pregnancy would have been. I am so grateful and thankful for Life Choice Center. Thank you.

---

***"Are you sure it's not just a hormonal overload because of my age?"***

---



Kathryn's baby girl, Hudson. Born 10/30/2014

## Volunteer Highlight: Jennifer Cook

Jennifer is our Clothing Closet Coordinator. She has faithfully served Life Choice Center since September 1999. She originally started as our receptionist on Mondays, but eventually transitioned to managing the Closet. She does an outstanding job sorting, organizing, and filling our racks & shelves with generously donated clothes and accessories from our community.

When asked what drew her to the Center, she said, " I just reached a point in life where I needed something to keep me interested and busy, and felt like it was a time to be doing things, giving things back. I had a girlfriend who was working here at that time, Sophia Smither. Just talking to her, she suggested I apply, so I filled out an application. I actually started out as a receptionist on Monday mornings. Over time they had enough people able to help as a receptionist on Mondays and I started helping back in the clothing closet."

I then asked her what keeps her coming back; what's her favorite part of being here, to which she replied, " When I sort through a box and I set some things out. And then a girl comes by and goes 'Oh, that's what I needed!' And she takes the things I just set out. It's like that's great! Its good to see them actually finding things they need, that help them out."

She told me that she tries to keep only the nicest up-to-date gently used baby clothing so the girls find things they actually want and they don't have any negative feelings about coming in. In the future, she would really like to see a donation of more contemporary (younger) maternity clothes. And More space!!!



Jennifer Cook, Volunteer

---

*"It's good to see them actually finding things they need; that help them out"*

---

## Life Choice Center Needs List:

- Larger Sized Baby Blankets
- Crib & Bassinette Sheets,
- Baby Towels & Wash Cloths
- Diapers of all sizes, but especially the larger. Sizes 4, 5 and 2T-3T training pants.
- Baby Wipes
- Spring Infant Clothes (preemie to 3T)
- Formula
- New Mom Basket Items: Baby Shampoo, Baby Lotion, Bibs, Diaper Rash Ointment, Stuffed Animals, Developmental Toys, Books, Socks, Thermometers,

Life Choice Center For Women  
307 W Washington Street  
Harrisonville, MO 64701  
816-887-5100

Non-Profit  
US Postage  
PAID  
Harrisonville, MO  
64701  
PERMIT NO 11

Address Service Requested

*This newsletter is dedicated in  
the memory of Leota Pacini.*

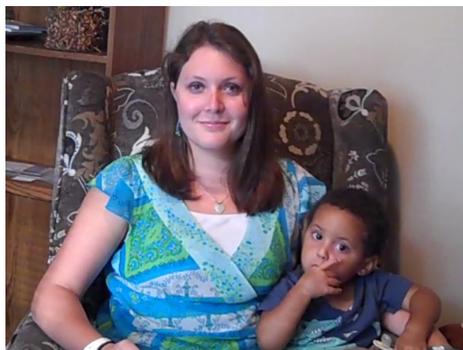
**Touching hearts and saving lives . . .  
One at a time.**

**Client Services Hours:**

**Mondays: 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.**  
**Prenatal Clinic begins at 2:00 p.m.**  
**Tuesdays 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m..**  
**Thursdays 10:00 a.m.— 1:00 p.m. &  
2:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.**

---

## **Holly Pays it Forward**



I lost my job because of my pregnancy. I was less than two months along. I applied for any line of work and found that I was unable to find anything. So I decided to do some research and I found out about Life Choice.

I met with the women who work there and they helped me to gather the essentials for the first few months. I was then hired part time for a school district. After working there for three months, my son was born. He was almost two months early, only four pounds and spent six weeks in NICU. During this time I had a seizure and was unable to drive. I had to pay people to take me to the hospital to see and feed my son. His heart rate kept dropping and he was unable to eat or breathe on his own.

I went back to work two weeks after having him. I also went back to Life Choice and they provided me with counseling and trainings. The kind women at Life Choice helped me to learn how to care for my premature son and they helped me to provide for his first two years of life. Life Choice is a unique organization. They provide help for people in need, whether it's food, clothes, information or even someone to talk to.

I have been fortunate enough to have had their help, now I am paying it forward. I've donated a lot to them these last couple of years. I will continue to help in any way that I can. I believe women need a place like this to come to in times of need.

---