



# SAFE BABY NEWS



Free Women's Center of Pulaski County

January 2019

Volume III, Issue I

## Providing Alternatives to Abortion



As a provider of last resort through the **Alternative to Abortion (A2A) Program**, the Free Women's Center case manager has sought out our communities existing resources and successfully made them known to our mothers. In this effort, many local education program managers have visited our Center. They spent time educating us about available grant programs. This clarity creates a bridge. This bridge has provided an open door for our staff to seek out answers for clients. It also allows our case managers to inform our clients clearly of their opportunities. Without guidance, clients become frustrated and give up; however, our clients are now taking advantage of available educational options.

We mentored 25 clients in 2018 along with the fathers of their babies into starting either the High School Equivalency Test (HiSET) program or college classes. We are often able to help them complete college with *NO* student loan debt. During our case management appointments, we set goals and work on everything from budgets, child care, counseling, and domestic issues to Free Application for Federal Student Aid or FAFSA and college applications procedures.

Often, we find that clients only need a few questions answered for them to complete the process. Many times, they thank us for what "we" did. "We" are able to return this gesture with a "No, look at what you did." Later, as they graduate, we get to cheer

"Wow! Look at all you have accomplished despite the difficulties you faced!"

One client provided this review of the services she received at the Free Women's Center: "The services and support offered [at the Free Women's Center] are absolutely amazing. They made sure I went to apply for WIC and insurance, gave me my first ultrasound, signed me up for SUPER HELPFUL classes, and basically anything else I might need. I was struggling with getting my breast pump to work for me and they set an appointment for me to meet with their CLC [Certified Lactation Counselor]. Then I had an issue with the newborn insert in my car seat and they set up another appointment for me to meet with a [Child Passenger Safety] specialist. Both of them are very knowledgeable and fantastic ladies. All the staff is incredibly friendly and supportive."



A Happy Client and her Baby Boy

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### Since opening our Doors in March 2011:

- Served 1096 clients with over 9000 client visits.
- Saved 236 babies from abortion.
- Provided 602 ultrasounds.
- Over 230 women have graduated from our Prenatal Education Program.
- We have distributed over \$282,000 in direct assistance grants.
- Follow us on Facebook



[www.supportmyfwc.com](http://www.supportmyfwc.com)

## 2018 Statistics

Through our donors support and use of the A2A grant, we provided the following Gifts to Our Community:

Clients Served **278**  
 Pregnancy Tests **189**  
 Ultrasounds **145**  
 Assistance Grants **\$73,542**

In 2018, we began Marital and Family Therapy, Certified Lactation Counseling, and

Mobile Clinics. In 2019, we will begin STD Testing.

In our execution of the A2A Program, we have provided the following Fruits to Our Community:

Back to School: **25**  
 Found New Jobs: **25**  
 Found Housing: **18**  
 Enrolled in Vocational Rehab Program: **4**

Graduated Prenatal Education Classes: **38**

Our average case load was 50 clients per month, with 80 case management hours. All clients graduating from our prenatal education classes earned a \$150 shopping trip for baby supplies. In 2018, our clients earned \$5700 in baby supplies, while learning valuable parenting skills.

## Free Women's Center of Pulaski County

704 Historic Route 66  
West  
Suite 106

Tel: 573-774-4992

Fax: 573-774-4968

E-mail:

[Info@freewomenscenter.com](mailto:Info@freewomenscenter.com)

**Want to donate or  
volunteer? Visit us at  
[www.supportmyfwc.com](http://www.supportmyfwc.com)**



## What's Up in 2019

With the support of our donors, our Board of Directors authorized the expansion of our Center floor space and the addition of new services. A premier service added in 2018 was our mobile clinic, *Daisy*. We served seven (7) locations from May-October. In 2019, we will conduct mobile clinics one week a month on the following dates: March 25-29, May 28-31, June 24-28, July 29-August 2, August 26-30, September 23-27, and October 7-10. Renting the Mobile Clinic, Miss Daisy, from the Pregnancy Help Center of Central Missouri (Jefferson City) saves on overhead costs. We served more clients and provided more ultrasounds than any other center in Central Missouri.

A huge issue confronting Pulaski County is the epidemic of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). In our first eight (8) years of operations, we received weekly requests for STD testing and treatment. As part of our expansion project last summer, we added a laboratory to collect and eventually test urine and blood STD samples. Our goal is to educate every client who crosses the threshold of our doors. Through our *Choosing the Best* Program, we are educating hundreds of 8th Grade Students in Pulaski County on the risks associated with sexual activity to include STDs, teen pregnancy, and emotional trauma. These new services support our mission to be a community leader for positive sexual values.

Our volunteer Marital and Family Therapist, Robert Gillette, is developing an upgraded Men's Mentoring Program. We hope to institute this new program in Spring 2019.

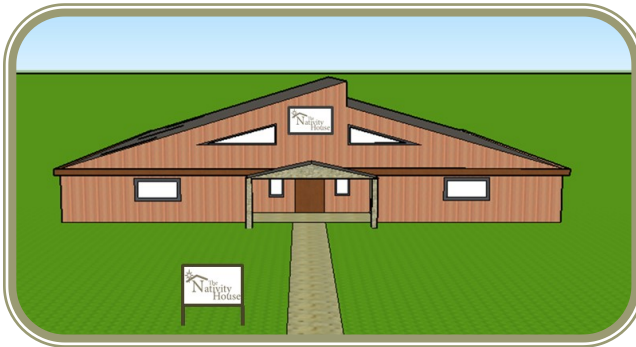
### Shopping through Amazon?

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<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/27-3346342>



Our Expanded Center

## Neighborhood Assistance Program Award



Artist Concept - The Nativity House

The Missouri Department of Economic Development awarded the Free Women's Center \$316,485 in 70% income tax credits under its Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP). We will sell these tax credits to Missouri businesses to raise the funds (\$452,122) needed to construct *The Nativity House* in Waynesville. We hope to raise these funds by the end of 2019, and then breaking ground in Spring 2020.

We have met our internal savings goal (\$64,600) in order to recruit, hire, and train new staff and purchase client transport van, furnishings, insurance, and security systems.



Our vision is to build and staff the *BEST* Maternity Home in Missouri. We will empower residents to make healthy life choices consistent with the

intrinsic value of human life, while teaching positive sexual values and life skills.

*"And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn."* Luke 2:7

### Upcoming Events

- **Pro Life Sunday, 20 January 2019**
- **9th Annual Banquet for Life, Thursday, 28 March 2019**, at the ARK Community & Sports Center.
- **10th Annual Walk & 5K Run for Life, Saturday, 12 October 2019**, in the Waynesville City Park.