

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! We are in the midst of great change here, but wanted to keep you abreast of the plans being made for 2009.

"He wanted me to get an abortion. He said he wanted nothing to do with me or this baby."

"I just had a baby. How am I going to take care of another one?"

"I'm not ready for a child. How am I going to raise this baby?"

For five years, we have been hearing these statements from our families. Each woman has a unique story, but the themes are the same: scared, worried, and a lack of confidence in her ability to be a parent. At the Catholic Charities Pregnancy Resource Center, we have been providing hope and assistance to these families (over 800 at last count). We have also heard the pain of the post-abortive woman who struggles with her decision to terminate her pregnancy. How our hearts ache for her! It is our goal that no woman should ever have to go through the pain, grief, sadness, and loss over her abortion.

We have been incredibly blessed over these last five years. The connections we have made in the community have truly been heaven sent, and we view our program as a ministry. Through baby item and monetary donations, volunteers, prayers, we have been inundated with love from our community who support our mission of providing hope, help, and real alternatives to abortion. **We thank all of you for your help.** Your generosity has allowed us to help so many families in the York area. Our moms often asked where we get our donations and when I explain that they come from private, school, or churches, they are amazed that the community helps our program so much.

Our New Years plans are full of expansion ideas! We recently received the "thumbs-up" from Catholic Charities to look into an expansion plan for our program. The program has grown tremendously over the last few years; we are looking to move to a new facility. Our reasons for moving are simple—we are running out of space! We share this building with the Intensive Family Services office and as both of our programs have grown, the building has not. We would like to accommodate more clients with more counselors being able to counsel at one time. Right now, we have two counseling rooms which do double duty as my office and the other is Store Room for our Parenting Resource and Education Program (PREP). With three counselor volunteers, one part-time counselor, and one program coordinator, we are constantly running into each other and the lack of space limits the amount of clients we can see daily. In our new building, we would love to have more counseling rooms, more storage space for donations, a large reception area, a resource area for the counselors, and eventually a room to do ultrasounds. Our goals are high, but with the help of our community and the good Lord, we know that we can achieve these dreams.

A committee is being formed to head up the expansion process. We ask you to prayerfully consider extending your support for our program through committee involvement, prayer, outreach, fundraising, and volunteer work. On the following page, we have listed ways for you to become involved in the program. Of course, we are always open for suggestions. Thank you for continuing to be partners in providing

alternative to abortion services. Please keep us in your prayers as we begin this journey.

Our moms, babies, and staff of the Catholic Charities Pregnancy Resource Center wish you all a very happy, healthy, and blessed New Year.

Sincerely,
Erin Mickley
Program Coordinator
Catholic Charities Pregnancy Resource Center

Ways You Can Help

- *Host a tea/gathering in your home to raise awareness/funds for the program. We'd be happy to come and talk about the program and the needs.
- *Get on our email list and learn about upcoming events and needs. To join the list, email Erin at emickley@hbgdiocese.org. We promise not to spam you!
- *Become a monthly donor. Even donating \$10/month allows us to raise \$120/year for the program. If 20 people become \$10/month donors, that's \$2400 for the program. Every little bit helps us to help others. Each donation is tax-deductible.
- *Participate in upcoming fundraisers
 - *Bon-Ton Community Day Event held twice/year. People are needed to sell coupon booklets to family and friends before the sale and also to sell coupon booklets in the store before the sale. All proceeds from the coupon booklet sales go back into our program. The next sale is Saturday, February 28
 - *Fill up a baby wipes container with spare change. As the container gets full, cash it in and donate it to the program. We'll even provide the container for you!
 - *Volunteer for large-scale events – volunteers, sponsors, and participants are needed

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