



*** MAY 2017 ***

Words of Life

"Angie's Story"

Already a mother of several children and older than our average patient, Angie was still anxious about this pregnancy. She didn't know if she wanted to abort or parent, and

adoption wasn't an option in her eyes. She said she was leaning towards abortion because of financial reasons. As we explored her options she admitted she didn't know the risks involved with abortion. We assured her she was in the right place.

The father of the baby was a possibility of three different men. Angie's current boyfriend knew about the pregnancy and was undecided between abortion and parenting. He didn't know there were two other possible fathers.

Neither of them had told anyone about the pregnancy.

Angie feared not being a good parent if she parented another child due to her past. She was very distressed and totally considered herself a failure to her other children. She did not want to repeat that.

When asked about her faith beliefs, she told us that was one reason why she was undecided about having an abortion. We attempted to discuss her faith further, but she was closed to the discussion.

We offered STD testing and she accepted. She already had health issues that affected her daily life. This pregnancy may have been a little tougher due to those issues.

Angie wanted an ultrasound to determine how far along she was but preferred not to see the ultrasound during the scan. The ultrasound revealed a little baby, alive and well! There were only a few weeks left until the abortion pill would no longer be offered. She was nervous. Angie left that day a little calmer but still undecided.

We set up her follow up appointment but she didn't return. She had transportation issues and when we called her the last time, we finally heard the words we desired to hear...

"I've been to an OB doctor and I'm going to keep my baby."

Knowing Angie and her baby would benefit from attending our STEPS Program, we asked her if she would be interested and she accepted.

To God be the glory, her STD results were negative and she has given her baby life.

(Names have been changed to ensure confidentiality.)

From a Director's Heart...

Greetings from Agape House!



As I pen these words, it is raining outside my window reminding me of God's continuous showers of blessing on this ministry. He is always leading, guiding, and growing us daily in the trenches of life and showing Himself faithful! What a mighty God we serve!

Agape House continues to grow in reaching others with the truth about life and God's plan for sexual purity. I hope some of you will consider coming to our upcoming Volunteer Orientation in October. (See related article.) We have several areas of opportunity in which you might serve.

We said "see you later" to Bobbi White last week as she officially resigned her position as Director of Development and moved out-of-state to be near her family. We miss her in countless ways but we are happy for her and the new journey in which she has begun.

I am most pleased to introduce you to our newest staff member, Autumn Smith. Autumn is serving as our new Director of Development and looks forward to working with all of you. (Please see related article.)

Thank you for all your countless continued ways of support for this ministry. Every single deed connects with another creating a beautiful masterpiece reflecting Him. It is such a joy to walk and serve alongside you.

Yours for Life,

Linda DeBoard



www.chooselifetn.org

Show support for life by purchasing a state-issued "choose Life" specialty license plate and help promote our services to women at risk for abortion. Obtain your specialty "choose Life" plate by inquiring at your local county clerk's office. A portion of these funds go to support our life affirming ministry.

October Orientation Coming Soon

Have you ever wanted to make a life changing impact in another person's life? If so, the Agape House Volunteer Orientation may be just the place for you to start!

You are invited and encouraged to prayerfully consider attending our upcoming Volunteer Orientation scheduled for one weekend in October. (Friday night and Saturday)

This Orientation will provide an overview of the Agape House ministries enabling you to explore ways in which you may participate. The information shared will be beneficial for you to use in numerous ways in addition to volunteering at Agape House. Upon completion of the weekend orientation and with the help of our staff, you will be equipped to discern the best way for you to move forward.

Many times we hear those who complete the Orientation say, "I had no idea this was so big." Some decide to volunteer inside the clinic, others serve on the Board of Directors, some have helped with our educational program, others work during fundraising activities, and others commit to provide ongoing prayer support.

Who knows what God has in store for you? We look forward to seeing you at our October Volunteer Orientation Weekend!

Contact Barbara Mullins at barbara@agapehousefriend.com or by calling 731-588-0339 for more information.

Special Thanks...

Special thanks to some very special ladies who faithfully come when we call to help fold and label our quarterly newsletter! We couldn't do it without you.

Lawanda Alfred
Frances Cline
Marilucille Counce
Judy Doyle
Betsy Ducworth
Shelby Giles
Violet Harding
Sherry Hatchel
Kay Jackson

Dolores Mansfield
Wanda Mullins
Paula Myers
Carmen Pendergrass
Deana Robertson
Susie Romelhart
Jerry Seamans
Patti Waggener
Ann Wilkerson

A Seat at the Table

The Agape House Annual Spring Fundraising Event was held on April 20, 2017. It was a beautiful evening indeed with a sweet, sweet Spirit in the place!

Guest speaker, Megan Alexander, challenged all of us to consider our individual opportunities to be His voice as we are given “a seat at the table” in numerous circumstances of our life. God has ordered our steps as only He can and placed us where we can speak His truths if only we will recognize the opportunities and have the courage to respond in obedience. It is time for us all to “take a seat at the table”.

One brave patient shared her written testimony of how she had struggled with choosing life for her baby before coming to our clinic. Throughout her story it was evident how God kept providing her with an opportunity to turn to Him. Her story ended with a picture of her newborn baby, born just 4 hours before we shared her testimony!

Vision was cast to continue our Client Billboard Campaign as this has proven to be a successful way in reaching patients at risk to abort. Total expenses for one year is \$20,600.



Another upcoming opportunity is a one-day event for high-school juniors. This high impact, abstinence-based, fun-filled day will be held on the University of Tennessee Martin campus. Students from area high-schools will be bused to the event. Total expenses are \$7,000.

At the end of the evening, \$48,500 was given through cash, checks, and pledged support.

A special thanks to all who helped to make our Annual Spring Fundraising Event a success! Together, we really are making a difference for life!

Greetings from the Development Office

Hello everyone!



I am Autumn Rain Smith, the new Director of Development. I like to describe myself as hard working, quick thinking, creative and a believer of the Gospel. I am married to my incredible husband Jordan Smith. We have three wonderful boys Lucas, Riley and Kennix. We are also members of Central Baptist Church.

My passion for this ministry runs deep in my heart. As a former client, I have experienced both the coldness of my own abortion - determined thoughts and God's love through the warmth and encouragement from the staff and volunteers. I believe God called me to serve this ministry as Director of Development. Throughout my journey He has bestowed many gifts and talents that may be used to further His Kingdom.

I hold a degree from The University of Tennessee at Martin in Broadcast Communication. I have worked with the public for many years and truly enjoy building rapport with everyone I encounter. I have served in many leadership roles and feel confident that the gifts God has given me will help further this ministry by picking up where Bobbi left off! If there is anything I can do please contact me at 731-588-0339.

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. 2 Corinthians 1: 3-4

Baby Bottle Campaign Update



Many of you have filled a baby bottle with your loose change in recent months to help raise funds for Agape House.

Well, your giving has paid off! With 60 churches participating, we have seen over \$27,500 given and more bags of change are still being counted at the bank!

It always amazes us to see how "Change really does CHANGE lives!"

Mission Statement: Agape House is a Christ-centered ministry committed to upholding the sanctity of human life through education, medical services, and spiritual restoration.

Board of Directors

Mark Dowdy.....Chairman
Alex BrittVice Chairman
Denise Mathis.....Secretary
Beverly Carr, RN.....Treasurer
Fred Hancock, Board Member
James Burdette, Board Member
Linda DeBoard, CEO

Medical Director
Dr. Karen Davidson, MD

Clinic Staff

Linda DeBoard.....Chief Executive Officer
Amanda Hicks, RDMS.....Clinic Services Director
Barbara Mullins, RT(R).....Client Services Director
Autumn Smith.....Director of Development
John Hamrick.....Education Team Director
Maci Reaves.....Director of Finance
Tia Barnhouse.....Receptionist

Medical Volunteers

Lauren Jackson, PharmD
Morgan Stone, NP

Men's Client Coordinators

Ed Hill
Jim Barnhouse

Office Support

Denise Burdette
Pat Harmon

Patient Coordinators

Jane Ogg
Becky Lister
Debi Morris
Lois Blackwell
Mariallie Smithson
Penny Petty
Pam Tankersley

ReNew Coordinators

Angela Hughes
Martha Hopper

Resource Room Coordinator

Paula Garner

S.T.E.P.S. Client Coordinators

Tia Barnhouse
Halina Brown
Reta Hancock
Lois Silvia

Support Services

Judy Mehan
Marvin Downing
Sherry Hatchel
Chad Jimerson
Betsy Ducworth

A Financial Gift has been Given

In Honor of Mrs. Janice Gibson By Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Akin
In Memory of Emma Parker By Mrs. Patty Turner
In Memory of Mrs. Barbara Everett By Mrs. Patty Turner
In Memory of Mrs. Kathy Reynolds By Mr. and Mrs. Farris Cole
In Memory of Philip Ray McConnell By Mr. and Mrs. Tyler McConnell
In Memory of Mr. Elige Culvahouse By Anonymous
In Memory of Mrs. Glenda Graves By Anonymous
In Memory of Dr. Harold Smith By Anonymous

Prayer Coordinator

Jane Ogg

Education Team Presenters

Cathy Britt
John Hamrick

Agape House Needs

Blow Pops, Airheads, 6 pack crackers, Slim Jims, Dum Dum suckers, peppermints, Smarties (G.R.O.W. School Abstinence Program)
Lg White Laundry Baskets (layettes),
Paper Towels,
New or Nearly-New Baby Beds/Pac-N-Plays/Strollers
Walmart Gift cards (*for client needs and office supplies*)

Due to a change in safety regulations we are no longer able to accept baby powder.

Agape House PO Box 473, Martin, TN 38237
Phone 731-588-0339 www.AgapeHouseFriend.com

January-April 2017 Statistics

Patient/Client Visits (Initial & Ongoing).....122
Pregnancy Tests Given (25 Positive; 24 Negative).....49
Abortion Risk Patients (with positive test).....16
Abortion Risk Patients with Final Stated Intentions to Carry.....12
Abortion Risk Patients who Aborted.....1
Abortion Risk Patients with Unknown Outcomes.....3
Patients Receiving STI Testing.....42
Purity Commitment.....5
Spiritual Discussion.....107
Bibles Given.....7
Students Attending Abstinence Education Program.....1389