# Words Of Life

## September 2020

#### The Reason for Agape House...

She already knew what it was like raising children on her own. She knew the struggles it brought but she also knew the joy. She did not want to become pregnant ever again, especially now. Her only future plans were to get married to her fiancé.

She wasn't happy about having to deal with the appointment, the testing, the discussing of her options or the waiting. She was rather indifferent actually.

We loved on her the only way we knew how, through the love of Christ. We assured her that we were not here to pressure her and that we just wanted to help her uncover her concerns and why she thought abortion was her only option. We talked with her about adoption but she wasn't sure she could do it because others may ask questions she didn't feel she could deal with.

We offered her an ultrasound and STI testing, which she accepted. The ultrasound showed quite a large baby, which was not what she nor any of us expected. She had taken several pregnancy tests at home quite some time before she even made an appointment with us. She wasn't easy to talk with. Her lack of "emotion" made it difficult to understand what she was feeling.

After the ultrasound we discussed the types of abortion procedures she would encounter. She wanted to take the abortion pill, but we explained that she was too far along and she would likely only be offered a suction abortion. She did show just a little emotion at the thought of that...but not much. She said she was absolutely sure she would have an abortion and wouldn't change her mind.

We made an appointment for a follow-up visit for her the next week but she never showed.

It was a few months later when we were finally able to reach her by phone.

We asked how she was doing and if she had made a final decision about her pregnancy. She explained that she had driven far away from home to the abortion clinic but once there, she couldn't go through with it and came back home.

She followed up with OB care and we encouraged her to enter our S.T.E.P.S. program.

Amen, I say to you, what you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me.

Matthew 25:45

From a Director's Heart New Additions! **Baby Bottles** Walk for Life We Have An App! **Current** Needs **Statistics Financial Gifts** 



#### Greetings from Agape House!

As many of you know, after a two and half year long fierce battle with breast cancer, our daughter, Christie DeBoard Ricketts went home to be with the LORD on July 25, 2020. Our family would like to extend our most sincere appreciation to each one of you who have prayed, loved, and supported us with your many acts of kindness during this difficult time. We love and appreciate you beyond measure.

From a Director's Heart,

I am pleased to share with you that Agape House has remained open throughout this pandemic and continues to provide services. The added restrictions of social distancing have reduced our numbers but we, along with you, are adapting to the many changes while remaining diligent to

our calling.

We recently welcomed two new faces to the Agape House staff. Cindy Legate is serving as our Director of Development and Shaunda Shadowens is our new Clinic Receptionist. Both ladies bring much needed skills to our ministry and we are excited to have them join our team. (Please see related article.)

Speaking of necessary changes, we sure missed seeing all of you back in the spring due to not having a Spring Event. In continuing to learn and adapt to new and different ways of doing things, we are planning our very first "Virtual Walk for Life" scheduled in October. We hope you will join us in making this fundraising event a success. (Please see enclosed brochure.)

Thank you for all you do to protect the sanctity of human life.

Yours for LIFE, Linda DeBoard, CEO

# **New Additions!**



You Shop. Amazon Gives.

To shop go to http://smile.amazon.com/ch/62-1549150 from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. We have two new additions to our staff!!

I am Cindy Legate, the new Director of Development. I have a BS in Education from UTM and a Master in Religious Education from Liberty University Baptist Theological Seminary. Along with my educational background, my work and life experiences have instilled a passion to minister to women, especially those that are struggling. I am eager to offer such service through the Agape House ministry!

Hello, my name is Shaunda Shadowens, I was born and raised in West Tennessee where I continue to reside. I have been married to my husband Rob since 2002 and we have two wonderful children. I am a former Dental Assistant, and I am excited to join this ministry full time as the Clinic Receptionist!





# **Baby Bottles**

The 2020 Baby Bottle Campaign has ended, but we are still collecting bottles. If you have bottles, keep bringing them! A total of \$34,729.79 has been received to date. A huge "Thank You" to the 61 churches who participated this year:

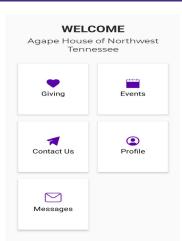
Adams Chapel Baptist Church Beech Springs Baptist Church Bethel Baptist Church Bible Union Baptist Church Calvary Baptist Church Central Baptist Church Eastside Baptist Church Faith Lutheran Church First Assembly of God Martin First Presbyterian Church Greenfield First United Methodist Martin Harris Station Baptist Church St. Jude Catholic Church Johnson Grove Baptist Church Macks Grove Baptist Church McConnell Baptist Church New Concord Baptist Church Oak Grove Baptist Church Pleasant Hill Baptist Church Martin Pleasant Valley United Methodist Church Public Wells Baptist Church South Fulton Baptist Church St. Edward Catholic Church

Alamo Baptist Church Beech Cumberland Presbyterian Church UC Bethlehem Baptist Church **Beulah Baptist Association** Cayce Baptist Church **Corinth Baptist Church** Exchange St Church of Christ Union City Baptist Temple First Church of God UC First United Methodist Gleason Gardner United Methodist Church Healing Faith Family Worship Center Immaculate Conception Catholic Church Long Heights Baptist Church Martin Cumberland Presbyterian Church Mt. Pelia Baptist Church New Home Baptist Church Palmersville Baptist Church Pleasant Hill Baptist Church Rives Pleasant View Missionary Baptist Church Stanley's Chapel United Methodist Church Tumbling Creek Baptist Church Thompson Creek Baptist Church



Ralston Baptist Church Sandhill Baptist Church Sidonia Baptist Church Hodges Chapel FBC Dresden FBC Fulton FBC Gleason FBC Troy FBC Greenfield FBC Martin FBC Union City The Mission Ruthville Baptist Church Second Baptist Church





#### WE HAVE AN APP!

Here are the instructions to download and use the app: Go to App Store MinistryOne Search "Church by MinistryOne" (purple box with white cross) Click "Get" Click "Open" Search for "Agape House of Northwest Tennessee" (you will see our logo pop up when you start searching)

That's it. You will be able to set up recurring donations, give once, contact Agape House and get updates.

#### **Mission Statement**

## Agape House provides evidence-based medical and sexual health



#### services.

#### Agape House, P.O. Box 473, Martin 38237 ~ 731-588-0339 ~ www.AgapeHouseFriend.com

#### Current Needs

*Dishwasher Detergent	*Bottled Water
*#6 3/4 Size Envelopes	*Copy Paper
*Sandwich Ziploc Bags	*Lysol Aerosol Spray
*Lysol Wipes	*Hand Sanitizer
*Paper Towels	*AA Batteries
*Walmart Gift Card	*Canned Drinks
*Individually Wrapped Snacks for Clinic Lobby	

#### Jan. - Aug. 2020 Statistics

Initial Patient/ Ongoing Client Visits	97
Pregnancy Tests Given 34 (+); 13 (-)	47
Abortion-Risk Patients Reached (pos. & neg)	21
Abortion-Risk Patients (with positive test)	17
Abortion-Risk Patients with Final Stated Intentions to Carry	6
Abortion-Risk Patients who Aborted	5
Abortion-Risk Patients who Miscarried	0
Abortion-Risk Patients with Unknown Outcomes	6
Patients Receiving STI Testing	25
Spiritual Discussions with Patients	70
Bibles Given Students Attending Abstinence Education Program	1 1339

## Medical Director Dr. Karen Davidson, MD ff Board of Directors

Clinic Staff
Linda DeBoard - CEO
Amanda Hicks, RDMS - Clinic Services Director
Barbara Mullins, RT (R) - Client Services Direc-
tor
Shaunda Shadowens - Clinic Receptionist
Maci Reaves - Director of Finance
Cindy Legate - Director of Development
John Hamrick - Education Team Director

**Medical Volunteers** 

Dr. John Howard, MD Lauren Jackson, PharmD Emilee Ray - PharmD Morgan Stone, NP Kelly Morgan, NP

> Handy Man Larry Mullins

Prayer Coordinator Jamie Revell Pamela Adams - Chairman Denise Mathis - Secretary Beverly Carr, RN - Treasurer Ben Lownsdale - Member Gary Smithson - Member Kay Wilkes, RN - Member Linda DeBoard - CEO

#### Financial Gifts

#### In Honor of :

Mrs. Vicki Exum Mrs. Glenda Meness Mrs. Shirley Towater By Dr. & Mrs. Donald Wright By Dr. & Mrs. Donald Wright By Mr. & Mrs. Robert Carpenter

#### In Memory of:

Mrs. Nancy Anthony By Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth Carr Mrs. Beth Hunt By Dr. & Mrs. Donald Wright Mrs. Joan Pritchett By Dr. & Mrs. Donald Wright Mrs. Joan Pritchett **By Anonymous** Mr. & Mrs. Randall Ricketts By Anonymous Mrs. Katherine Wright By Dr. & Mrs. Donald Wright Mrs. Christie Ricketts By Mr. & Mrs. James Jackson, Mrs. Gertie Sheffield, Mr. & Mrs. Keith Fowler, Mr. & Mrs. Paul Merwin, Ms. Nancy Claybrook, Mr. & Mrs. Doyle Hamm, Mr. & Mrs. Ron Gray, Dr. & Mrs. Donald Wright, Mr. & Mrs. Steve Rice, Mr. & Mrs. Jon Helton, Mr. & Mrs. Alvin Hazlewood, Helen Boston Circle, FBC Martin, Mr. & Mrs. Tim Hazlewood, Mr. & Mrs. Frank Vincent, Dresden Elementary School, Mr. & Mrs. William Randolph, Mr. & Mrs. Danny Walker, Mr. & Mrs. John Warner, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. Michael Elling, Mr. & Mrs. Chapy Ingersoll, Ms. Gloria Morris, Mr. & Mrs. Farris Cole, Mr. & Mrs. Todd Hampton, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Scott, Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Payne, Union City Glass, Westview High School, Ms. Jeanette Breeden, Mr. & Mrs. Sam Sinclair, Mr. & Mrs. James Tuck, Ms. Glenda Jackson, Mr. & Mrs. Dierk Seifert, Mr. & Mrs. Bill Austin, Ms. Martha Maxey, Ms. Ann Gather

#### **Interested in Volunteering?**

If you would like to know more about volunteer opportunities contact Barbara Mullins at 731-588-0339 or <u>barbara@agapehousefriend.com</u>

Resource Coordinator Paula Myers

> Office Support Wanda Mullins Barbara Lampley

Renew Coordinators Angela Hughes S.T.E.P.S. Coordinators Lois Blackwell Halina Brown

#### Support Services

**Debra Stringer** 

Mark Dowdy Marvin Downing Betsy Duckworth Sherry Hatchel Judy Mehan

#### **Patient Coordinators**

Becky Lister Jane Ogg Penny Petty Mariallie Smithson Candace Sumner Shirley Towater Babette McConnell Jimmy Carmichael (Men's)

# Agape House



Return Completed Brochure to Agape House October 13-15, 2020 from 8am - 6pm

> For those with pledges of \$200 + pick up a T-Shirt, too.

# FIRST VIRTUAL Walk for LIFE 2020

# Walk on Your Own

### 3 Ways to Register:

Contact your Church Representative Call 731-588-0339 Online: www.AgapeHouseFriend.com



#### The Tennessee Department of Health reports that 10,880 abortions took place in Tennessee during 2018.

The funds you raise directly support the every day missions of Agape House!

Make a difference by raising funds with your friends and family in 2020!

# Celebrate LIFE! Join our VIRTUAL WALK!

See Video at www.agapehousefriend.com Walk on Your Own Completed Brochures Due October 13-15, 2020 Your contribution helps Agape House reach those who need us most.

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

Agape House, a Biblically based ministry, provides

evidence-based medical and sexual health services.

80% of our patients who were at-risk to abort in 2019 committed to carry **after** having been seen at our clinic.

Over **2850** students have participated in our sexual risk-avoidance educational program in 2019. Unfortunately, COVID closed the program early.

The Kentucky Department for Public Health reports that **3,200** abortions took place in *Kentucky* during 2017

The Tennessee Department of Health reports that **12,140** abortions took place in *Tennessee* during 2017.

Approximately **862,320** abortions took place in the United States in 2017.

#### For Administration Only

Total Checks \$\_\_\_\_\_ Total Cash \$\_\_\_\_\_ GRAND TOTAL\$\_

#### \* Ask Friends and Family to Sponsor You

\* Walk- Rain or Shine

\*Free T-Shirt with \$200 in Pledges

#### A BIG THANK YOU to Our Walk Sponsors

**Baptist Memorial Hospital** 

BB's Furniture & Mattress Gallery

State Farm Insurance Phyllis Edwards

**Nature's Herbs** 

**Curtis Monument Company** 

Refit with Barbara/Anna/Esther

Ella Kate's Quilt Shoppe

**Elliott Chiropractic Center** 

**Farrell-Calhoun The Color Shop** 

Kenneth W. Carr MD FABFP

**Kenton Chevrolet** 

**Kizer Pharmacy** 

Martin Pediatric & Adolescent Clinic

Roadrunner Driving School, LLC

**The Sideline** 

**Tuck's Discount Sales** 

**Vincent Outfitters** 

**Weakley County Motors** 

West Tennessee Healthcare Volunteer Hospital

Woodmen Life Insurance Wendell Verdell

## Sponsor Form RAISE FUNDS, <u>SAVE LIVES!</u>

Walker's Name	
Address	$\mathbf{A} \mathbf{G} \mathbf{G} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{P} \mathbf{E}$
City/St/Zip	I would like to receive the newsletter. <b>Email</b> or <b>Paper Copy</b>
Cell Home Work	I would like Volunteer Information.
Church/Group	<ul> <li>I am interested in financially partnering with Agape House.</li> </ul>
Email	
Have you participated in the Walk for Life before? Yes / No	I will pray for the ministry.
I am an: Adult / Teen / Child I release this organization from any liability for this event:	

Signature

Paid

Pledged

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Pledged

Date

City

Email

\$25

\$35

\$50

I am unable to walk but I will make a check payable to Agape House to help support your program. \$\_\_\_\_\_ Mail check to: PO Box 473 Martin, TN 38237

#### Questions? Call 731-588-0339

#### Print Clearly - Please Make Checks Payable to Agape House First Last First Last First Last Address Address Address City ST Zip City ST Zip City ST Zip Pledged Email Email Email \$35 Other \$ \$25 \$50 \$100 \$35 \$50 Other \$ \$35 Other \$ \$25 \$100 \$25 \$50 \$100 Paid First Last aid First Last First Last Address Address Address City ST Zip City STZip City STZip Pledged Email Email Email \$35 \$25 \$50 \$100 Other \$ \$50 \$100 Other \$ \$50 \$100 Other \$ \$25 \_\_\_\_ \$35 \_ \$25 \$35 \_\_\_\_ Paid aid First Last First Last First Last Address Address Address City ST Zip edged ST aged City ST Zip City Zip Email Email Email \$25 \$35 \$50 \$100 Other \$ \$25 \_ \$35 \_ \$50 \_ \$100 Other \$ \$25 \_ \$35 \_ \$50 \_ \$100 Other \$ First Last Paid First Paid First Last Last Address Address Address City ST Zip ST City ST Zip City Zip Pledged Email Email Email \$25 \$35 \$50 \$100 Other \$ \$35 Other \$ \$25 Other \$ \$25 \$50 \$100 \$35 \$50 \$100 Paid First Last First Last Address Address

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\$25\$35	\$50 \$100 Other \$	1

#### It's EASY! Collect NO MONEY

Agape House will mail your "PLEDGE REQUEST" directly to your sponsors for any amount of \$10.00 or more

ST Zip

\$100 Other \$

City

Email

\$25

\$35

\$50

Pledged

#### FREE T-Shirt with \$200 in pledges!!! TOTAL PLEDGES \$

ST Zip

\$100 Other \$