

The Gift of Life

"It was the best of times; it was the worst of times...it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness," wrote Charles Dickens in his novel, *A Tale of Two Cities*, in 1859. Though more than 150 years have passed, the same could easily be written today as we reflect on the issue of Life in the past year. As we approach this final month of 2022, allow me to share some thoughts with you as well as some highlights from our year at PHC.

In late 2021, we had booked Abby Johnson, one of the nation's leading pro-life speakers, for our upcoming *Night for Life* event in May. At that time, we did not know the U.S. Supreme Court would be hearing oral arguments that would eventually lead them to overturn *Roe v. Wade*. Much of our attention in the late Spring not only shifted to preparing for the Night for Life, but we also had to think differently than we ever had before. With pregnancy centers like PHC being targets around the country by abortion activists, we spent time and resources reviewing security protocol and heightening office security, all while continuing to meet with those in need of pregnancy and parenting support in our community.

When the U.S. Supreme Court did indeed overturn *Roe v. Wade* on June 24, the efforts of so many for nearly half a century to reverse that ruling seemed to be validated. Lives would be saved as abortion policy would be sent back to the states for their decision. As it went back and forth in the courts in Kentucky, we remained committed to our services to affirm the **gift of Life** while staying aware of the cultural chaos surrounding us.

During that time, we were made aware of a young teenage mother in a crisis situation. At 18, and already parenting an infant, she had walked into the abortion clinic. When she discovered she was pregnant with twins, she left but was shunned by her family and in immediate need. With the quick response and support of our community and beyond, we were able to provide her housing, as well as material and emotional support. I am happy to announce that she gave birth to two healthy babies in October.

As the Kentucky courts continued to wrestle with the state's strong pro-life legislation in the aftermath of the Supreme Court decision, we began having MORE opportunities to discuss adoption with expectant mothers as they discovered abortion was no longer an option for them in our state. Whereas they previously would not even entertain adoption as a potential option, we have recently seen more willingness to at least discuss it.

Women are being empowered and choosing life – the best of times!

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"In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."
- John 1:4-5



"My experience here has been nothing short of genuine love, sincere help, and positive guidance. They take time to talk with me, pray with me, and listen to my concerns."

- Mother who chose life and is planning to place her child for adoption

Fast forward to November 8. Kentuckians had a chance to affirm life by voting on a proposed constitutional amendment that would clearly state that our constitution did not afford a right to abortion. That measure was defeated in a 52-48% vote. Though abortion remains illegal, we missed an opportunity to make a strong statement for Life – the worst of times. The lawsuit on the legislation that makes abortion illegal is now pending before the Kentucky Supreme Court. They heard oral arguments on November 15, and a decision is expected any day. (Pregnancy Help Center signed on to an amicus brief in the lawsuit with Attorney General Daniel Cameron.)

Where do we go from here? PHC remains steadfast in our mission to **value and passionately affirm the gift of Life**. Here is some data for 2022 through October:

- Our medical clinic continues to remain open four days a week, and services have remained steady with 105 pregnancy tests and 98 ultrasounds performed (a 24% increase from 2021).
- Client mentors have conducted over 450 client visits with women in our Earn While You Learn parenting program.
- Our fatherhood mentors had 78 client visits to instruct men on being better fathers and Godly leaders in their homes.
- We had 100 client visits with women in our Step Up parenting program and celebrated as 17 individuals completed and graduated from the program.
- We were able to purchase six NEW car seats for women who completed our Car Seat Incentive program.
- We have welcomed 13 babies to clients enrolled in our parenting programs.
- We provided 79 instances of material aid for those in need of emergency assistance in our community. Some of this was due to the formula shortage in early 2022 where we were able to meet a crucial need.

We have also changed how we follow up with abortion-minded women in our clinic in order to better understand their outcomes. We know that five women who came in thinking abortion was their only option changed their mind after seeing their ultrasound and **CHOSE LIFE!**

All of this is possible because of your support, and we are incredibly thankful. Lives are being saved, and lives are being transformed!

Though it is easy to be discouraged by the world around us, I am reminded of a powerful truth from the Gospel of John: ***“In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.”***

PHC is determined to be a **LIGHT** to our community as we have been for over 30 years. Will you continue to support us in those efforts? Please consider a gift here at year’s end. Your donation is **tax-deductible** and will help us set our goals and programs as we look ahead to 2023. (If you have recently given, thank you! We hope this letter has provided you with an update.)

Thank you for your prayerful consideration and for standing alongside of us FOR LIFE! You truly are a blessing to us and those we serve. Have a blessed Christmas season as we celebrate the true **GIFT OF LIFE!**

In celebration of Life,



Sarah Roof
Executive Director



WHAT DOES IT COST PER MONTH?

\$15 = 24-hour “crisis” hotline, available for those who call after business hours

\$50 = Funds to purchase new car seats for completion of the car seat program

\$100 = Subscription for continuously up-to-date parenting curriculum

\$125 = Phone and Internet services, the means by which most clients make first contact with PHC

\$1,000 = Targeted marketing campaign

\$1,500 = Rent and utilities in a prime downtown location

Scan the QR Code or visit myegiving.com/app/giving/madisonphc to give online.