

January 2018

Dear Sustaining Partner,

We were all anxious to come to work today! Although when the office was closed for business, we enjoyed some down time, and got lots of end-of-the-year tasks accomplished, it's time to get moving forward. There's a LOT happening I'm excited to share with you.

Our total numbers are in and we think you'll rejoice with us when you hear we saw 3423 clients in 2017!!! December was an especially busy month. We had 195 clients in just 15 working days. The 12 days of Christmas took on new meaning as we raced around seeing that needs were met. As you might suspect we have more and more moms and families come to us with GREAT needs. We've been grateful to share donations of necessary paper products as well as miscellaneous other material goods. It makes a huge difference for moms and dads to know money won't need to be spent on things other than food, rent, bills, etc.

In the mail I opened our first day back was an angry letter from someone in the community who felt he needed to inform me there is a family getting material goods from us who he considers to be taking advantage of our program. We laughed! The joke's on him because clearly he doesn't understand how we roll. There are no qualifiers to participate in our program. We don't ask about income or anything else because the most important thing is to have the opportunity to reach out and minister hope, healing and life to our clients. We KNOW there are some who take when there is no dire need, but we are glad to be known as a ministry where we all agree "a little extra never hurts."

A friend shared this quote with me today: *"God specializes in things fresh and firsthand. His plans for you this year may outshine those of the past... He's prepared to fill your days with reasons to give Him praise."*
~ Joni Eareckson Tada~

I LOVE this quote not because it is just a good thought: it is based on the truth of God's Word. God DOES specialize in working in fresh ways that fill us with joy and expectation. Every year is an empty book in to which we can write a story about the truth of God's love and its impact when encountered by someone again or perhaps for the first time. It's all about redemption and restoration in the lives of our clients, and in ours as well as we serve together. Our strong team gets more effective all the time because we approach each client and one another from a position of humility and graciousness.

As we get started this year we need diapers (all sizes up to 5), wipes, blankets, hooded towels, onesies, binkies, other newborn needs, items for our client gift tub (Personal, hygiene, jewelry, bath/body products, etc), and large gift bags in which we assemble the newborn layettes. As you might have guessed, our need for diapers and wipes is on going. Even when our shelves are stocked, we are glad for the donations to replace what goes out as quickly as we carry things in the door.

Maybe this will be the year you decide to act on those thoughts you've had to volunteer. We NEED both men and women to train to see clients, or to help us out in many other ways. Call Wendy at 909-382-4550 to find out where you'd best fit. There's a place for you. Trust me on this one! At least plan to come down for our Open House on Thursday, January 25 from 6 PM to 8 PM to have a look around.

The next abortion recovery class, *SaveOne* begins Tuesday, February 6, 2018. Those interested can contact Sonja @ 909-762-3878 for completely confidential information. Will this be the year you choose to heal? I hope so!

Personally, I'd like to extend my gratefulness to you for placing your confidence in my team and me. It is important that we all are good stewards of that which God entrusts to us. As I begin my 12th year as Executive Director of Pregnancy & Family Resource Center, I do not take for granted your trust and expectation that we use all you give wisely and well. In the last years, we have made GREAT progress by adding staff, programs, additional space, classes as we're able, more help with material needs, vitamins, and non-diagnostic ultrasounds. To God goes all the praise and glory for the work He's done in this little office on the south end of San Bernardino between two very busy abortion clinics, and one strip club. Who'd have thought?

I look forward to sharing more of the vision God has given us as we go through this year. It will be my pleasure to communicate with you through the monthly donor letter, our quarterly newsletter and email updates. Make sure we have your correct information so you won't miss a thing.

I pray your New Year will be happy, healthy, prosperous and filled with His presence!

Yours For Life!

Lisa J Stiefken

Executive Director