

October 2018

Dear Sustaining Partner,

“Thank You, God for allowing us to be a ‘House of Plenty’ for a city in need.”

Except I suffer with terrible fall allergies, October begins my favorite season of the year. Don't you love the chill in the morning air and the afternoon cool down? I've recently relocated to Banning where my family loves the cool, afternoon breeze which kicks up the same time every afternoon. Even “the boys,” Peter and Rufio position themselves by an open door to dream about catching a Hummingbird while they snooze. I believe the world NEEDS the fall season when our heartbeat seems to slow and our “last nerve” isn't so close to the surface. Thank God, our wise Creator who knows we often need to be forced to slow down. With the pace most of us keep it's a wonder we don't all implode or explode more frequently. Just as we're at (literally) the boiling point, we wake up one morning, not because our heads kick on, because we're chilly.

Naturally, I'm thinking autumn and about the annual fall gala which I hope you will not/did not miss. It's fitting to have the event in the fall as I think ahead to Thanksgiving. I AM truly, truly thankful to God for bringing me to serve in this ministry and for partners like yourselves who provide what is needed to not just begin this kind of outreach in the community, but to keep it growing and operating smoothly. Every year I've watched God bring more people on board with us who see a need and determine to see it's met. Once great example is toothpaste and tooth brushes for our clients and families.

I take my oral products for granted. Thanks to Costco, in my home we have more toothpaste, tooth brushes and dental floss than we'll use this year. For our clients, a new baby is not just another mouth to feed, but another mouth to clean. One partner took me seriously when I spoke to his Bible study group and answered the question, “What do you need you have trouble keeping on hand?” When he heard my answer, he went right to his dentist's office and asked the manager if they would donate sample products.

The result is why I am thankful for our partners in the community who see a need or come up with a great idea and follow up to see it happen. By ourselves the need could never be met, and women would be faced with more hardship. Despite the fact, we all know we should plan our families in advance after we consider many factors, many of us don't and must face consequences. It's an unexpected blessing for families to receive help just when mom (and dad) think “I don't have any choice but to end the life of this baby who will have to share what little we have.”

People who are pro-abortion will often sigh "It's for the best," but will not say as we do, "We'll help and support you, so this baby will be a blessing as God intends."

Just recently Barbara Curtin, one of our board members, prayed "Lord, thank you for making us a house of plenty for a city in need." And so, we are---because of God orchestrating and working a team made up of hundreds of people, each which bring a little bit to the table to share with those who have great needs. They will often address the spiritual void, when the material needs are alleviated. I'm glad we can be at the ready as we assure our clients they will be able to rely on us, not for everything, but what we have, we'll freely share.

What we do is called "a leg up," "a hand extended," "open arms" and "light at the end of a tunnel" all made possible by people who genuinely believe ALL life is sacred, and every baby may have not been planned, but God has a plan for each baby.

Therefore, when I think about the reasons for which I am thankful, you are high on my list. Without you we could not have grown from seeing (and providing significant help) from just a handful of clients each week, to often 20 a day!!!

Together, over the past 13 years, we have built this legacy: Nearly 1,000 children have been born whose mother would have chosen abortion without our intervention. Those children will experience this coming holiday season and have the opportunity to say "Yes" to following God's intended purpose. If for any reason, you ever think your life is insignificant, think about the walking, talking legacies you will leave behind. The world is a better place, because you cared enough to give to those who couldn't help themselves. THANK YOU!

I cannot say "Thank You" enough you choose to partner with us. I don't take your commitment to give lightly. Together we are Saving Families One Child at a Time!

Indeed, we have built a house of plenty for a city in need."

I hope you will take the time to enjoy the cool air and beautiful color both gifts to us from a very creative Father.

For Life!

Lisa J (Stiefken) Wholley
Executive Director