

# **CHOOSE LIFE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

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END OF FY2020 – FIRST HALF OF FY2021 GRANTEE UPDATE

APRIL 2021

# APM OUTREACH

- \$1,000.00 awarded funding Personnel and Adoption Course Materials

## FY 20 Summary

- 11 Adoption-Related Training Sessions Conducted
- 3 Pre-Adoption Counseling Sessions Conducted
- 14 Adoption Related Advertisements for their Adoption Course

## FY20 Second Reporting Period Successes

We received an email from one of our classes two years ago stating that they were finally moving forward towards adoption and that it had all started with the Discover Adoption class that she had attended.

## FY20 Second Reporting Period Challenges

We have been dealing with COVID-19 Restrictions and mandates and have not scheduled a class in this period. We have been discussing a virtual session and have scheduled a class in November to accommodate the regulations and material. It may even be more fruitful and widespread because it will be three sessions in the convenience of online and statewide.

## Program Impact

Awareness is always a part of the initiative at Anchor Point. A quote from the above mentioned client was that she wouldn't have known where to start and that she wasn't decided when she attended the class two years ago, but we gave her the tools and desire to pursue adoption. We are excited about the new contract and will be reaching out to a larger audience so hope to have more impact. Anchor Point always is a pro-life organization and our medical office just acquired a grant and has a 4D Ultrasound purchased to further our impact on women who might seek other options to an unplanned pregnancy. Our medical division is very well versed and has talked many into adoption that would have not considered the option.

# APM OUTREACH

- \$1,000.00 awarded funding Personnel and Adoption Course Materials
- A budget adjustment was done to assist this agency with pivoting to a digital format for their adoption course due to COVID restrictions.

## FY 2021 First Reporting Period

- 2 Adoption Related Training Sessions Conducted
- 4 Advertisements Directed Towards Adoptive Parents
  - 2 Website Advertisements
  - 2 EventBright Advertisements

## FY21 First Reporting Period Successes

Two people attended the scheduled sessions.

## FY21 First Reporting Period Challenges

Smaller class due to change in the format of class due to COVID restrictions. Classes went from in person all day to virtually with two weekly sessions.

## FY21 First Report Period Program Impact

The one couple that attended the class was very grateful for the information. They currently do not have plans to move forward with the adoption process but were excited to gain the knowledge and ask questions for when they are ready!

# AUSTIN LIFECARE



- \$5,000.00 awarded funding Advertising

## FY2020 Summary

- 2000 impressions and 6 engagements from geo-mapping advertising.

## FY20 Second Reporting Period Successes

We have been able to reach more women with information about our organization and the services we provide. In just the first few weeks of our digital marketing campaign we had over 2,000 impressions and 6 engagements. That means that over 2,000 women saw our ad online and 6 of them clicked the ad to find out more information about us. This results in 1 appointment request. As the campaign continues we anticipate this number growing each month.

## FY20 Second Reporting Period Challenges

Our biggest challenge this year was COVID. We experienced a change in leadership in January, at which point our new CEO began exploring geo-fencing and other digital marketing options. We planned to start this advertising in April, but in the midst of COVID and needing to focus energy of making adjustments in our operations, we did not want to start an ad campaign if we did not have the capacity to serve more women. Once we made changes to our intake process and our staff made adjustments (working remotely, being rotation schedule in clinic, etc.) we felt confident that we could serve new patients and handle the increase in clinic flow that we anticipated seeing as a result of the ad campaign.

## FY20 Second Reporting Period Program Impact

Since we were not able to launch our ad campaign until August, we are still seeing the impact and success of the campaign unfold. However, we have already started to see the impact. We had a young woman do an initial intake appointment over the phone and then come into our clinic to receive and ultrasound. She was leaning toward having an abortion, but as she spoke with our sonographer it was discovered that this patient also has a son that is under the age of 3. After her ultrasound our Nurse Practitioner was able to talk with her and answer her questions. By the end of the appointment she told the nurse that she was leaning more towards continuing the pregnancy. Before she left we were able to provide her with some pull-ups for her little boy as well as prenatal vitamins and a gift bag. The following week she sent the following text to the Patient Advocate who had conducted her intake message: "Thank you so much it was great meeting the staff you girls are all very nice and helpful that is very appreciated! Hey I'm actually interested in your resources such as parenting education, material assistance, and church referrals." She later confirmed that she has decided to keep her baby! We got her signed up for classes, added her to the monthly diaper distribution list, and provided her with church referrals.

# AUSTIN LIFECARE



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- \$5,000.00 awarded funding Advertising

## **FY2021 First Reporting Period**

No Grant Reporting To Date.

# CHILDREN'S CONNECTIONS, INC.

Children's Connections,  
Inc.

- \$3,000.00 awarded funding Advertising and Printing Costs

## **FY 20 Summary**

- A television ad was run Jul – Aug that reached 71,400 and 130,300 viewers in August

that was created to reach and appeal to the greatest numbers of pregnant women. We had several revisions with various pictures and wording before finalizing the ad. This worked out really well in the end and wasn't really much of a challenge since this was seen as a very typical process for producing an ad.

## **FY20 Second Reporting Program Impact**

As a result of the advertising provided by this grant, a client came to Children's Connections with an unplanned pregnancy. She was in crisis and was considering her options, including abortion. She decided to make an adoption plan for her baby after much consideration of her situation. The client has been given referrals to local and statewide resources to help meet her more immediate needs. Since she was homeless at the time she initiated services, CCI has been paying for her housing, food, clothing, needed household items and has provided her with educational materials pertinent to her situation. CCI has also been able to arrange for her to have a doula during her pregnancy and childbirth to help alleviate some of her fears about childbirth since this is her first pregnancy. The client has been able to locate part-time employment and is looking for full-time employments. She states she feels she will be able to support herself after placement of her baby and has a more positive outlook for her future. The ads paid for by this grant has increased the overall knowledge of the community about services available to pregnancy women, including those in crisis.

## **FY20 Second Reporting Period Successes**

We had 33 pregnancy women in crisis who reached out to us after seeing the ad, which we felt was a tremendous response. We will continue to use the ad on social media to continue to encourage the women in need to call for services.

## **FY20 Second Reporting Period Challenges**

No serious challenges were experienced in implementation of purchasing, production or airing of the ads. The biggest challenge was working with the station to produce an ad

# CHILDREN'S CONNECTIONS

Children's Connections,  
Inc.

- \$3,000.00 awarded funding Advertising and Printing Costs

## FY2021 First Reporting Period

- A television ad was run during this quarter and reached 129,546 viewers in February

## FY21 First Reporting Period Successes

78 pregnant women requested services after seeing the ads, which we thought was a good response. The ad will also be used on social media to reach as many potential clients as possible. The content was the same as the ad developed with Choose Life funding in 2020.

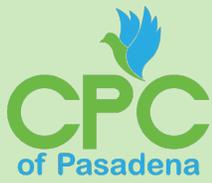
## FY21 First Reporting Period Challenges

We don't feel that we faced any challenges during the time period since the ad we utilized was already produced and ready to be shown to the community.

## FY21 First Reporting Period Program Impact

Children's Connections, Inc. (CCI) began working with a client in September who was experiencing an unplanned pregnancy. She had seen the ad run on the local TV station. She already had two children she was struggling to support and did not know how she could possibly support a 3<sup>rd</sup> child. Initially she was living in a trailer with no heat and no appliances, so we assisted her in locating and getting moved into an apartment. CCI was able to support her by paying for some of her housing, food, clothing and cell phone. This client gave birth in February and placed her baby for adoption and now has an open relationship with the adoptive family. Placing her baby for adoption has made it possible for her to continue to support her other two children.

# COMMUNITY PREGNANCY CENTER OF PASADENA



- \$1,000.00 awarded funding Advertising

## FY 2020 Summary

- 269 Women Served
- 27 Adoption Related Advertisements
  - 1 Newspaper Advertisements
  - 2 Email Advertisements
  - 24 Website Advertisements

## FY20 Second Reporting Period Successes

We have been approved for google ad grants. This is increasing our visibility, and as clients are surveyed, during this reporting period 2/3 of our clients have found us on google. During COVID shutdown clients were frightened and willing to listen to their client advocate and hear the adoption education.

## FY20 Second Reporting Period Challenges

COVID. We were short client advocates and could not see all the clients who came to the center. Even as the state opens back up, we are seeing a drop in attendance at classes, and having a hard time getting these clients back into the center. We continue to struggle with clients not even willing to hear the adoption information, and many even leave it booklets and other information in the center.

## Program Impact

Carrie\* came to the center, sure she was pregnant. As she described her situation to the client advocate, she stated, “I will be having an abortion if this is a positive test.” Her client advocate was stunned. She looked Carrie in the eyes and asked, if she was a Christian, how could she justify this decision. Silence hung in the air as Carrie considered that question. The client advocate reached for a small booklet, “I might consider adoption if...” and handed it to Carrie; she looked at the booklet as she considered her answer. Carrie decided that while this would be a difficult decision, adoption should be an option she considered. Her pregnancy test was negative. They had the discussion that it could too early for a positive test and Carrie agreed that she would return for a retest if her period did not start. Carrie also assured her client advocate that she would consider all of her options before making any decisions. We are still waiting to hear back from Carrie, but have hope that she is considering all her options, and if this scare does not end in a pregnancy, that it may end in a lifestyle change for Carrie.

\*name changed.

# COMMUNITY PREGNANCY CENTER OF PASADENA

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- \$1,000.00 awarded funding Advertising

## FY 2021 First Reporting Period

No Grant Reporting To Date

# GRACE HOUSE MINISTRIES



- \$2,090.00 awarded funding Personnel

## FY 2020 Summary

- 458 Women Served
- 88 Pre-Adoption Counseling Sessions Conducted
- 1 Adoption related training session

## FY20 Second Reporting Period Successes

While we were not able to serve as many clients due to issues surrounding COVID-19, we did continue to see a significant percentage of the clients we did serve who were vulnerable to abortion which is the audience we target for presenting adoption as an option. March began normally for us, and 33.3% of clients that month were vulnerable to abortion. With the exception of April, when we saw very few clients at all, percentages of vulnerable clients were comparable or higher than March. May 47%, June 31.7%, July 33.4%, August 44.4%.

## FY20 Second Reporting Period Challenges

Restrictions due to COVID-19 presented problems. Our clinic closed to in-person visits for two weeks due to a staff member's exposure to the virus. We attempted to engage clients with virtual appointments but were unable to interest clients in this method. In the first few months of the virus clients were not making many appointments even when in-person visits were available. We put procedures in place to reduce risk, and eventually clients numbers began to increase.

## FY20 Second Reporting Period Program Impact

One patient who came to us in June told us she was undecided about her pregnancy when she first arrived. She said she did not believe in abortion, but there were a lot of circumstances she had to consider. She was single and had two children who live their father with whom she is fighting over custody. She told us that her mother wanted her to carry this pregnancy. The father of the baby knew she was pregnant but did not care what she decided. She said they weren't doing well at all, and the relationship would not last. She was staying with her aunt and uncle who might be willing to adopt the child if she decided to carry. She was not working or going to school at that time. She shared about a miscarriage she had a year and a half ago at 22 weeks pregnant. Our advocate and nurse discussed adoption with her, provided more information on ways she could go about that, and provided brochures to different agencies. They were able to help her understand more what to expect if she chose adoption. She was scheduled to return for a sonogram one week later where she met again with the nurse and client advocate. She confirmed that she is planning on placing her child for adoption with her aunt and uncle.

# GRACE HOUSE MINISTRIES



- \$2,090.00 awarded funding Personnel
- FY 2020 First Reporting Period**
- 328 Women Served
  - 62 Pre-Adoption Counseling Sessions Conducted

## FY20 Second Reporting Period Successes

Three clients we served during the reporting period indicated adoption as their intention for the pregnancy. 48% of the clients we saw in September and 43% of the clients in October were abortion minded or abortion vulnerable. This aligns with our objective of reaching that population with alternatives to abortion.

## FY20 Second Reporting Period Challenges

Fears and pressures related to the COVID-19 pandemic led some clients to be more determined to pursue abortion rather than being open to alternatives. Our staff encouraged them to take time to consider alternatives and made them aware of resources that would enable them to overcome those pressures.

## FY20 Second Reporting Period Program Impact

One client with a history of abortion just two years prior came for a pregnancy test. She stated that she had considered abortion earlier in this pregnancy but felt it was too late. The father of the baby was no longer in her life, and she had not told her family about this pregnancy. She was leaning toward adoption, but she was unsure if her grandmother with whom she was living would try to talk her out of it. Our nurse and client advocate affirmed her consideration of adoption, gave her brochures for several adoption agencies, and offered our facilities as a location for meetings with agencies if needed. They encouraged her to see how adoption was a means of providing for her child. The client left indicating adoption would be her choice for her pregnancy.

# NORTHWEST PREGNANCY CENTER, INC.



- \$12,750.00 awarded funding Ultrasound Trainings and Supplies

## FY 2020 Summary

- 657 Women Served

## FY20 Second Reporting Period Challenges

It is hard to overstate the difficulties caused by the COVID19 pandemic. Both of our clinics were able to make the necessary modifications to protocols and were able to purchase appropriate personal protective equipment as a result of a Choose Life budget reallocation. Although we were able to remain open continuously for pregnancy testing and options counseling--including adoption--and continued to offer streamed educational materials as well as material support to women experiencing an unplanned pregnancy, we were prohibited from offering ultrasounds between March 26 and May 17, 2020. Even so, we were still able to provide 90% of the # of ultrasounds that we provided in the first 6 months for an FY2020 total of 657 ultrasounds provided by nurses following Choose Life-funded training in September 2019. In the previous year, due to scheduling constraints, just 90 ultrasounds followed Choose Life-funded training of our nurse sonographers.

## FY20 Second Reporting Period Program Impact

(Names are aliases) Lea and Bo stopped seeing each other after 6 years, but then, Lea missed her period. Because they were separated, Bo doubted he was the father. Terrified to tell her parents, Lea turned to an online search looking for help. Lea visited NWPC with the clear intention of having an abortion, but she was met by compassionate people who truly cared about her and her situation. Pam helped Lea feel less terrified to tell her parents as they scheduled her for an ultrasound. When she and Bo saw their baby on the screen, they were shocked! At 14 weeks, the baby was so well developed! As the sonographer described her baby's features, at that moment, with the image of her baby clearly in her mind, Lea resolved to give her baby life—even if she had to do so as a single mom. Once the dates lined up, Bo connected with the image, realizing this was his baby, too. Armed with the scan photographs, Lea mustered up the courage to tell her parents, who were disappointed at first, but they embraced both Lea and their grandchild. Lea gave birth to a healthy baby boy. Lea and Bo now live next door to his mother, who loves helping out with Leo, her 1st grandchild. Lea is amazed at how well their little family is doing: Bo has a full-time job, and she stays home with Leo. Bo loves being a daddy. He and Lea have worked diligently on their communication skills and, despite the stresses of having a newborn, their relationship is better than ever before. A wedding is planned soon.

## FY20 Second Reporting Period Successes

An intensive week-long ultrasound methodology training provided in September 2019, at the beginning of the FY2020 grant period, allowed all of our staff and volunteer nurse sonographers to update and improve their scanning skills. During the second 6 months of the grant period, which included some restrictions on scheduling scans, 10 nurses provided 312 ultrasounds, compared to 345 during the previous 6-month reporting period.

# NORTHWEST PREGNANCY CENTER, INC.



## FY21 First Reporting Period Successes

- \$12,750.00 awarded funding Ultrasound Trainings and Supplies

### FY 2021 First Reporting Period

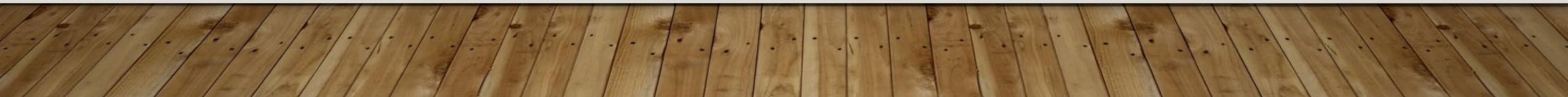
- 438 Women Served
  - This number indicates the number of women provided with pregnancy-decision coaching which includes adoption as an option and a sonogram.

All women who visit Northwest Pregnancy Center receive pregnancy decision coaching which includes adoption as one of their options. One of our center directors previously worked for an adoption agency, so she is well-equipped to have a more in depth consultation with women who would like to pursue adoption. We also have close relationships with adoption agencies in our area who will meet with clients in our offices. All women with a positive pregnancy test are offered a sonogram so that they can see their baby in the womb. During the first 6 months of the current reporting period, we provided 438 sonograms, representing 64% of women who visited Northwest Pregnancy Center and had a positive pregnancy test. Of these, 6% were abortion-minded, 74% were undecided/abortion-vulnerable and 19% were likely to carry to term. Of these women who received an sonogram, >99% of those who were undecided prior to their sonogram indicated that they would now carry to term after seeing the image of their baby; 88% of women who were initially planning an abortion changed their minds and stated their intent to now carry their baby to term.

## Challenges

COVID19 continued to interrupt some processes, though not to the extent that services were interrupted earlier in 2020. The number of volunteer sonographers continued to be down which somewhat decreased the number of sonograms that could be offered during the last quarter of 2020. The existing staff nurses added shifts to be able to accommodate as many clients as possible for sonograms. We have two volunteer nurses who are ready to receive ultrasound training so we expect to use Choose Life funds to offer that by the summer (we need to recruit one more volunteer nurse for training to fill the class). We are also actively searching for a part-time sonographer who will join the staff to add one day and evening of sonograms at each center--to not only increase the availability generally, but especially to provide a few slots weekly to those clients who have difficulty getting off work for a daytime appointment.

## Program Impact on Next Slide



# NORTHWEST PREGNANCY CENTER, INC.



## Program Impact

When Angela (alias) first came to us, she was leaning toward abortion because she did not want to interrupt her college plans. She was not receptive to making an adoption plan. Although her mom knew about her pregnancy and was supportive, Angela had not yet told her dad or her boyfriend who she had been dating for 4 months. We provided her with an ultrasound that showed she was 10 weeks along. She was delighted to see her baby and cried with her mother upon seeing the ultrasound image. Angela said that the baby “seemed real” after the sonogram and felt better after seeing that her baby was OK. Upon follow up, Angela told us that the baby’s father was excited, that she is planning on taking online classes, and they have decided to parent. Success!

Leigh (alias) was highly vulnerable to choosing abortion due to a lack of support from her husband. They already had two children ages 4 and 8, both girls, and Leigh had had two miscarriages in between those two full-term pregnancies. Her husband’s opinion was that two children were enough. Leigh also shared that she had had an abortion 2 years ago, but was not open to making an adoption plan. We provided her a sonogram on the same day as her pregnancy test that showed she was carrying TWINS! She was referred for prenatal care right away due to the twins and also a history of miscarriage. Sadly, she miscarried one of her twins, but both Leigh and her husband are now happy to be having a 3rd baby. Another win!

# OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS MATERNITY HOME, INCORPORATED

## OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS MATERNITY SHELTER

- \$3,000.00 awarded funding Counseling

### FY 2020 Summary

- 29 Women Served
- 24 Infants Served
- 64 Pre-adoption Counseling Sessions Conducted

### FY20 Second Reporting Period Successes

During this reporting period we continued to provide emergency crisis housing for pregnant women and children. However, we were forced to alter our intake process during the 3rd and 4th quarters due to COVID -19. While we served fewer women with stay in the shelter we did provide more services and care to the community filled with pregnant and parenting mothers. We saw an increase in our community programming of over 80%. While our residential services declined by almost 30% while we understood what was going on and how we needed to protect our clients, and their children and our staff.

### FY20 Second Reporting Period Challenges

The challenges we faced during this period of the report can all be attributed to the Pandemic. Like the rest of the world with COVID-19 and all the fear, uncertainty and destruction that came along with it we had to pause admittance to the shelter for a while and just working with the clients we had until we could figure out what was going on and how to proceed safely. One of the ways we meet that challenge while we paused admitting women into the facility was to ramp up our community services. We moved a lot of our counseling services to a virtual platform along with providing Annie with a cell phone in order to afford her the opportunity to work from home providing counseling.

### FY20 Second Reporting Program Impact

During this reporting period we serviced several women who found themselves in a desperate situation. These women are dealing with a variety of problems and when compounded by a global pandemic the odds often times felt insurmountable. We helped 3 young ladies who all happened to be friends and who oddly enough were following the advice of peers to abort their pregnancy. But because we were able to offer counseling virtually to help educate them all 3 moms decided against aborting their child. Two of the mothers have already given birth. The counseling support and education helps the mothers to fill as if they are not in things alone and they have someone to walk along side of them.



# OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS MATERNITY HOME, INCORPORATED

## OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS MATERNITY SHELTER

- \$3,000.00 awarded funding Counseling

### FY 2021 First Reporting Period

- 8 Women Served
- 11 Infants Served
- 3 pre-adoption counseling sessions conducted

### FY21 First Reporting Period Challenges

In this first and second quarter we did not encounter any new challenges as we continue to operate with additional protocol enacted earlier in the year as a result of the pandemic. In fact, having the opportunity to do virtual learning helped us way more than we could have conceived as it relates to servicing more client needs.

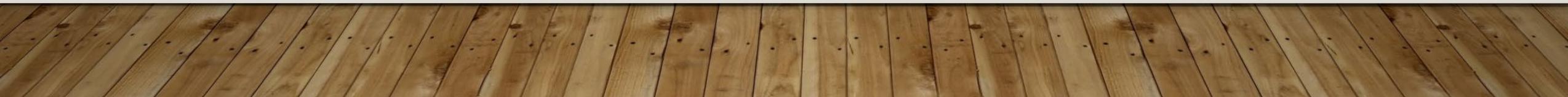
### FY21 First Reporting Period Successes

We make the difference in many women choosing life and not aborting their children. We continue to grow our services and programs to meet the needs of our population

served especially our ability to offer counseling. Affording the clients the opportunity for counseling has literally been the difference between life and death. During the first two quarters of this reporting period we had 5 moms who were considering terminating the pregnancy before the end of the 1st trimester. With counseling, support and services we saw all those moms make the decision to complete their full-term pregnancy. With counseling we are able to offer them in depth information about the baby that is growing in their womb and the resources available to them during and after their pregnancy. Additionally, counseling allows them the opportunity to speak directly about their own personal situation.

### Program Impact

One of our clients who is a former resident at the shelter and a participant in our After Care Program who we work with found herself pregnant with her 4<sup>th</sup> child. This mom has made so many strides since being in our program. She has her own place to stay, car, job and whose children are all doing extremely well in school. When she found out she was pregnant again she had already made the decision to terminate her pregnancy. She felt like she was doing so well and that she had lots of plans to continue moving on upward. We counseled with her extensively about every single concern and fear she had. We let her know that we would continue working with her and that we believed she could quickly get to a place where she would be able to continue with her plans and dreams. After much counseling and consideration, she decided to cancel her appointment for an abortion. As promised, she is still a part of our Aftercare Program, she is receiving counseling, case management and support services from our staff.



# THE CATHOLIC PRO-LIFE COMMUNITY



- \$8,772.00 awarded funding Personnel, Advertising, and Materials for Classes/Training

## FY 2020 Summary

- 148 Women Served, 121 Infants Served
- 1 Infant Placed for Adoption
- 2 Adoption Related Training Sessions Conducted
- 51 Pre-Adoption Counseling Sessions Conducted
- 10 Post-Adoption Counseling Sessions Conducted
- 4 Adoption Related Advertisements
  - 1 Radio Advertisement
  - 1 Website Advertisement
  - 2 In Person Advertisement at a Local Church Community Event

## FY20 Second Reporting Period Successes

During the third and fourth grant quarters, we prepared materials for our fall, volunteer training for 8 attendees via a virtual platform. We were also blessed to advise 11 women as they considered adoption, 1 of whom placed her child for adoption. For each of these mothers, we offered personalized counseling, emotional support, practical resources and referrals as needed. We assisted one mother with the adoption placement of her child in August.

## FY20 Second Reporting Period Challenges

During March 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic health crisis shutdown all in-person activities including our regularly scheduled educational classes for mothers and trainings for volunteers. We transitioned classes and counseling to virtual platforms with a combination of pre-recorded sessions and interactive support groups for mothers. Our third volunteer training session was postponed, with preparation in August for the subsequent presentation via a virtual platform. The financial hardships faced by our clients during this health crisis brought new challenges to their lives and those of their families, which our volunteer mentors, coaches, and staff assisted in identifying and mitigating through community resources and referrals so that their participation in our program, and consideration of available parenting options, could continue uninterrupted.

## FY20 Second Reporting Period Program Impact

Throughout the second six-month period of this grant, we brought in 13 new pregnant and parenting mothers to our mentoring program and offered 10 "GEMS" classes, which included the opportunity for parenting-options counseling during or after the classes. Among the mothers we served in the third and fourth quarters of the grant, 11 considered adoption and one eventually chose placement. One client who considered adoption was especially challenged as she lost her job due to the pandemic. With our program's assistance her situation stabilized only to learn that she had contracted COVID-19 while pregnant. During her isolation, hospitalization and the birth of her child, she received continuing emotional and practical support. In her words, 'I would never have been able to get through all of this if I hadn't had all of you.' Thankfully both she and her baby are now home and healthy, continuing our education program.

# THE CATHOLIC PRO-LIFE COMMUNITY



- \$8,772.00 awarded funding Personnel, Advertising, and Materials for Classes/Training

## FY 2021 First Reporting Period

- 127 Women Served
- 49 Infants Served
- 1 Infant Placed for Adoption
- 29 Adoption-Related Training Sessions Conducted
- 20 Pre-Adoption Counseling Sessions Conducted
- 18 Post-Adoption Counseling Sessions Conducted
- 1 Radio Advertisement in November 2020

## FY21 First Reporting Period Successes

During the first 6 months of this grant we were able to train 29 new volunteers, including adoption counseling with pregnant mothers. We were also blessed to counsel 5 mothers as they considered placing their children for adoption, offering them emotional and material support as needed, as well as practical guidance and resources as appropriate. Our adoption counselor was interviewed on radio about the option of adoption and the services offered by our ministry during November, National Adoption Awareness Month, during a show targeted towards the Hispanic community in North Texas.

## FY21 First Reporting Period Challenges

During the first 6 months of this grant, the COVID-19 pandemic health crisis continued and therefore our regularly scheduled educational classes and counseling sessions remained on a virtual platform. Encouraging attendance by program participants and offering constructive, informative, and engaging material was challenging for all staff and volunteers. To stimulate involvement, class times were modified to accommodate work and parenting schedules of participants as well as new offerings of classes in the Spanish language. Financial hardships faced by our clients throughout the health crisis brought staff, volunteer mentors and coaches together to identify community resources and referrals which allowed the uninterrupted participation of all clients.

## FY21 First Reporting Period Program Impact on next slide

# THE CATHOLIC PRO-LIFE COMMUNITY



## FY21 First Reporting Period Program Impact

During these six months, we have served 16 pregnant mothers, offering mentoring, counseling and support with love and understanding. The women have each told us their stories stemming from fear, misunderstanding and lack of knowledge about the help available to them. In the words of two of our clients who felt isolated and alone - 'For the first time in my life I had someone that could handle hearing everything I had to say—all that I felt, and anything I had experienced. I never had to feel guilty, scared, or embarrassed by what I shared with her.' '[This] is a wonderful community with great women who are always there, available to assist you and I have been blessed to be part of it.'