



Angelorum Pregnancy Services

www.angelorum.org

Newsletter

FALL 2010

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We are thankful to the following groups for their Love Donations ~

Our Faithful Monthly

Commitment Donors

Our Angel of the Day Supporters

Boeing Employee Giving Fund

Microsoft Matching Gifts

Chevron Matching Gifts

Regence Employee Giving

Pregnancy Aid of Everett

Clothes for Kids in Lynnwood

Immaculate Conception Arlington

Mountlake Terrace Food Bank

St. Joseph's Parish in Issaquah

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton CDA

St. Brendan's Catholic Cursillo

St. Brendan's Spiritual Adoption

St. Mark Parish in Shoreline RLC

St. Mark Queen of Heaven Guild

St. Thomas More Lux Mundi

The Marysville Binky Patrol

Couples for Christ

K of C St. Mark Assembly 2959

St. Brendan Catholic Cursillo

St. Francis Parish-Friday Harbor

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing what you have learned and received and heard and seen in me. Then the God of peace will be with you.

Philippians 4:8-9

Today is Monday, September 27, 2010 and at 12:53 PM this afternoon, a very friendly UPS delivery driver brought us four big boxes with a cash value of \$67,000 but which we believe and know to be priceless!

Today our ultra sound machine was delivered!

Now it's Wednesday, October 6, 2010 and at 1:30 PM this afternoon, our nurses witnessed a beating heart on an ultra sound machine, in our office, for the first time! A vision as miraculous as this will never be forgotten and the smile it brought to the mother's face will forever be etched in their hearts. This was a scheduled

appointment made by a loving mother that already knew the value of her baby.

We had three positive pregnancy tests at our office on this first day of training - two of these women were extremely abortion minded, one with four abortions in her past. Both of them scheduled to have ultra sound - and we know the value of that. It is the core of our ministry, it is life revealed. This is what will forever be etched in my heart!

Some reflection on Mercy

The day our ultra sound machine was delivered, before the boxes were open or anything had been assembled, in my excitement and celebration of the moment, I accidentally called my dog “Murphy” “Mercy”. Then a few days later while visiting the Adoration Chapel at my church, I came across the following in a prayer book:

The Meaning of Mercy

What do we mean by mercy and what does this mercy do to heal?

Mercy takes a person who is bruised, beaten, afflicted by sickness, guilt, or perhaps on the point of death as was the Good Thief on the cross . . . and bathes that person in the love of God.

Mercy is always concerned with touching and healing the whole person . . . and never just an arm or leg or part of a person.

Mercy is never a technique or a practice . . . but flows from the heart of God as if from a river and touches a human being with gentle peace.

These beautiful words were spoken by a priest who struggled with melanoma for many years. Shortly before his death, while speaking to a room of physicians, in his own words, he defined mercy.

After reading this a few more times, and now in a state of humility, I thought about the years everyone involved with our ministry has been working towards, and patiently waiting for, this day - the day Angelorum/Next Step Pregnancy Services will be able to offer a woman in crisis the opportunity to view the life within, the day that the existence of a beating heart is witnessed, the day a love affair between mother and child begins.

We are all partners in this ministry - those who pray, donate, volunteer, and support financially - and we have been blessed and rewarded by our Lord, the ultimate healer and giver of mercy. We must trust and believe that *many* lives will be saved, *many* souls will be spared and *many* relationships will be healed as we *bathe our clients in the love of God*.

I'm not feeling so bad about calling my dog “Mercy” by mistake anymore. Rather, I am thankful for the awareness of the awesomeness of the power of ultra sound in pregnancy. Of course the technical name for this piece of equipment is “Ultra Sound Machine” but to me, she will forever be known as “Mercy”, because through mercy our clients will find forgiveness and strength.

Joy & Peace, Kathy

Location, Location, Location



I passed by Next Step every day on my way to church. Every day the sign shouted to me that it was time to take the “next step” in my faith by putting it into action. My mind was pro-life, but my hands and feet continued in their routine. Then, a conversation with a woman from my church lead me to take that step. I thought, how will people know that I am pro-life, how will they know that I believe abortion is wrong, how will they know I believe all life is precious?

Next Step Pregnancy Services called my name, calmed my soul and gave me the relief that my hands and feet could put action to my faith.

Sheila is a wife and mother of three and her time is precious. We are very thankful that she “stepped” through our door with a smile on her face asking how she could help. Because of her commitment to her family, much of her volunteering is done from her home. She is also known around our office as the “formula lady” because while grocery shopping one day and realizing how expensive formula has become, she bought a couple of bottles and brought them to our office, which is something she does routinely now and usually has extra at her home that she will bring in at a moments notice. Sheila, her husband, and their two teenagers helped us at our 2010 Auction of the Angels, and from the looks of things, they are **a family packed full of faith in action!**

I recently attended an informative meeting on implementing a Gabriel Project ministry at Catholic Churches in Washington State. The Gabriel Project is an effort to help women in what might seem to be a crisis pregnancy. A sign is put in front of the church or community stating; "We believe in the sanctity of human life and will help any woman in need." When a woman calls she is assigned a church volunteer called a Gabriel Angel. The message relayed to the pregnant woman is "Rejoice! Fear Not!" This message is delivered in friendship as she/he becomes the advocate for the woman in need.

While listening to the speaker from Texas, I couldn't help but think about how wonderful this will be - even if only a handful of churches commit to the project. I was also taken with the similarities of our own ministry, Angelorum/Next Step, and I am confident we could have a wonderful working relationship with any Church, Catholic or otherwise, that has a visit from a pregnant woman in need of help. It is my understanding, however, that the relationship between the Gabriel Angel and the woman ends with the birth of the child, where we continue to help and support the mother with material goods for approximately two years after the baby is born.

During the training, the speaker addressed the difference between those who are pro-life and those focusing on social justice issues, and she mentioned that the two probably wouldn't get together for a beverage. She explained that, although both are compassionate about their particular cause, they don't see eye to eye.

This is what makes us, Angelorum/Next Step Pregnancy Services, a different kind of ministry. We, the Board, volunteers, and employees are dedicated to helping the mother and child - from conception with education, resources, and genuine friendship. This makes us pro-life. Because we continue to help with diapers, clothing, blankets, and other necessary baby supplies, we are members of the social justice community. I think this is the perfect mix of supporting and loving those in need. We are a Life Affirming Social Service Agency. How can we justify telling a woman that we will help you until the baby is born but then you are on your own? How can we offer help to a family in need but then make them feel ashamed if they get pregnant again?

Our Nation is facing abundant financial challenges, forcing cutbacks or the closing of social service agencies that receive government funding. Because we don't rely on government assistance, we don't have to worry about this. We will, however, realize an increase of those coming to us for help.

If you feel as we do, that every life is important and that helping those in need is Christ like, please, I implore you, do what you can to support our ministry. The time is critical. There should be no reason for a pregnant woman to feel as though being pregnant is a crisis or that taking care of a problem means killing a baby. She needs to know that she is not alone ~ she needs to know that we are here to help.

CLIENT COMMENTS

"The service was amazing and the staff was very friendly." "It was great to see my baby and his beating heart."
"I would absolutely refer a friend to come here." "I was totally comfortable and I felt like they really cared about me."
"My favorite part was when my baby rolled over and put her thumb in her mouth." "The praying was my favorite part."



Save This Date!

Our 2011 Auction of the Angels is June 18th. Now that you know, you can plan the rest of your summer vacation! If you would like to join our Fabulous Auction Committee, we would LOVE to have you! Please call Kathy at 425 329 4569.

BENEFITS OF VOLUNTEERING

- * Meet new people!
 - * Improve your health!
 - * Learn or develop skills!
 - * Feel needed and valued!
 - * Teach your skills to others!
 - * Make a difference in someone's life!
 - * Make important networking contacts!
 - * Build self-esteem and self-confidence!
 - * Express gratitude for help you may have received!
- In today's busy world, it can be hard to think about finding time to volunteer. But as you can see, the benefits you will receive are numerous! Volunteering can even help your physical and mental health! So, as you can see, you owe it to yourself to volunteer at Next Step. Just 2 hours a week will help us in so many ways! It can be as simple as sorting, folding and hanging baby clothes. Or, if you wish to be more hands-on with clients, we are in need of advocates, which once you have completed your training, will allow you to accompany her in the ultra sound exam room! So think about it, pray about it and do it for you ~ and us of course.**

VOLUNTEER~IT DOES A BODY GOOD!



Our Pro Life Family is Growing!

Please join us in welcoming
Shannon ~ daughter of Kevin and Denise
and sister of Sean and Lindsay
James ~ son of Richard and Angela
Judah ~ son of Tim and Heidi
Robert ~ grandson of Lori
Aeva ~ daughter of Ashley and Aaron

Please feel free to cut this coupon out and put it in your purse or wallet so that when you come across someone that is in need of our services, you will have our information readily available.

NEXT STEP PREGNANCY SERVICES

17602 HWY 99 #170
LYNNWOOD, WA 98037
(425) 329-4569

We are a medical pregnancy clinic offering:

- *free pregnancy testing
- *free limited obstetrical ultra sound
- *options education
- *assistance obtaining pregnancy medical insurance
- *community resource referrals
- *material goods such as:
 - maternity clothes
 - diapers
 - baby clothes and miscellaneous baby items

YOU ARE NOT ALONE ~ WE ARE HERE TO HELP

MON-FRI 2PM-6PM
SAT 10AM-2PM