




# Help, Hope, & Healing

Spring 2014

 Pregnancy Clinic Ministry  
Annapolis • Bowie Crofton • Severna Park

"I had always told him if we accidentally got pregnant, abortion wasn't an option," said Melissa, sitting on the couch cradling her newborn, "but I had never expected to be in this position, and I was angry." Her husband, Chris, sitting beside them, occasionally reaching over to sooth the baby or press Melissa's hand, agreed. "I had never thought about it before. In this situation, I just knew whatever she wanted, I would support her, but I knew we weren't ready for a child."

Melissa and Chris had been married for a few years, but some difficult times found them separated when Melissa realized she was pregnant. Confused and unsure of their own future together, they sought out the Pregnancy Clinic., looking for answers. "I just felt like we couldn't do this. So we talked about abortion, but as soon as my counselor began going over the procedure, I knew I wouldn't do that, I just couldn't. And my counselor was so calm, supportive, and understanding, I really found her support in our situation so encouraging."

Many times, we hear how life changing the sonogram is for clients. That moment of seeing the tiny life on the screen is so pivotal for some, but what Melissa needed was a chance to really go through the options and be supported in her choice of life for her baby. In her case, it was not the sonogram, but the counseling: a reassuring presence that gave her the resolve that no matter what happened in her marriage, she could parent this child.

At first it wasn't easy, as all married couples find, difficult times made it hard for them to reconcile. But they continued working at it and reunited when Melissa was seven months pregnant. "We took some of the classes together which was so helpful because we could ask questions and the teacher gave us her time to answer them. And then, when we picked up our layette [which clients who take three classes receive], we were overwhelmed by how full and generous it was."

On February 1st, Ariella Vera (pictured above) was born. Melissa smiled, "She's the best thing that has ever happened to me. It's like she has become my reason for getting up in the morning, for keeping going even when things are tough." Chris agreed, "It's amazing, I'm so glad she's here. All I want is to protect her."

The Pregnancy Clinic Ministry is a faith-based, medical non-profit, serving those facing pregnancy-related and sexual health issues by offering physical, emotional, and spiritual support, and empowering them to make healthy and life-affirming decisions.

[www.pregnancyclinicministry.org](http://www.pregnancyclinicministry.org)

# Pamela's Post

Tuesday's are abortion day... all day long on West Street in Annapolis.

After the Annapolis Pregnancy Clinic opened across West Street and began having an impact, Planned Parenthood started sending women into the parking lot the back way, so they wouldn't see our office or signs and visit us for an ultrasound instead.

Beginning this spring, we are recruiting men to stand in teams of two on the public sidewalk off of Smithville Street behind Planned Parenthood on Tuesdays from 8-11am. They will be friendly faces, holding a simple sign informing the men and women entering the parking lot, of our free services such as ultrasound, just across the street.

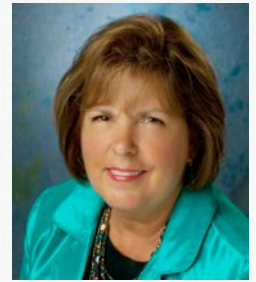
Men, who are called to be protectors and providers for women and children. Men, who can stand there in the gap, offering help and care so women don't feel abortion is their only option. Two men a week, each serving once a year. Are you such a man?

Go to [www.pregnancyclinicministry.org/the100](http://www.pregnancyclinicministry.org/the100) for more information or contact Dennis, our Men's Ministry coordinator for questions: [Dennis@pregnancyclinic.org](mailto:Dennis@pregnancyclinic.org)

Yours in Christ,

*Pamela Balumbo*  
CEO

*I searched for a man among them...who would stand in the gap. Ezekiel 22:30*



*McKenzie & Bryce*  
*Born October 18th, 2013*

"I saw the ultrasound and I just knew... we were going to keep them" - Ashley

Having missed only one period, Ashley was in total shock when she came to the Pregnancy Clinic and found that not only was she pregnant, but her pregnancy was nearly 20 weeks-- and that it was twins! "I wasn't sure what I was going to do at first, but after the ultrasound and the support from my counselor, I knew I could do this."

## Give the Gift of Hope

### Gifts Given In Memory

**Debby Aird** by Walter & Karen Asplund, Clark & Judy Benson, Gegory Blackwell, Vera Lynn Brady, Mary Brown, Joseph Centineo, Maxine Chew, John & Barbara Donohue, Katie Fudge, Gerald & Gail Grace, Stacey Jefferson, Calvin Johnson, John & Jessica Klapstein, Veidie Montgomery, Angela Morell, William & Patricia Morell, Arlene Onesti, Timothy & Gena Persons, Williard Roche, James & Janet Scott, Elizabeth Siddon, Lin Siddon, Barbara & Douglas Smith, Levi Timmons, Kathy Treese, Joseph Upton, Calvert & Betty Upton, Donna Whittle, Allen & Sharon Willis, Brickman Group-Mid-Atlantic Region, Brickman Group-Montgomery Team, Cycle Disciples Chapter 717, IREM Chapters 8 & 92, Raymond C. Maule & Son, Inc, & Anonymous.

### Gifts Given In Memory

**Arthur Brunner** by Paul & Pamela Joop  
**Todd Bullis** by Bill Simpson  
**David Angel Flynn** by John Flynn  
**Joanne Haworth** by Kathleen Brunner  
**Paul Heitzenrater** by Paul & Pamela Joop  
**Karl Lensler** by Thomas & Renee Kendall;  
Richard, Nancy, & Andrew Smrz; Angela Weber;  
and Anonymous  
**My Husband John** by Joan Mastripolito  
**Aunt Myrtle** by Mike & Shellie Wilson

### Gifts Given In Honor

**Elwood Dove** by Debora Dove  
**Kathi Lee Gifford** by Jill Strickland  
**Margaret Hobson** by James & Genevieve Liang  
**Gerda Kuhnert** by Peter & Dinah Kuhnert  
**Anthony Martelli** by Mathew Martelli

### Gifts Given In Honor

**Amber Nathan** by Mike & Shellie Wilson  
**Rose Najmy** by Janice Alcorn, John & Mary Galleher, Donald & Patricia Horrigan, David & Judith Lorenz  
**Bob Seith** by Gregory & Kathleen Brunner  
**Tom & Linda** by Deborah Dove  
**My Mom, Fran Xenakis** by Angela Xenakis  
**Dr. & Mrs. William Xenakis**, my father & mother, who've always put others ahead of themselves by Angela Xenakis

Your gift In Honor or In Memory of someone can become a gift of life. Simply send your gift with the information and we will send a card to the person you designate.



\*\*Special thanks to Sarah Michele Photography and Chaotic Creativity Photography for the beautiful pictures of our client's babies.





## Growing Stronger

We don't always get the privilege of hearing from our clients years later, but when we do, it's amazing to see how God has moved in their lives. Amauni and Jordan were our cover story from last year's newsletter. You might remember that sweet little face (pictured left).

Now a year later, just short of his second birthday, we're thrilled to brag on him and his momma just a little. Jordan is happy, strong, and smart. Not even two yet, he knows his colors and can spell his own name. And his momma? She graduated from high school just after he was born and has gone on to finish a Medical Assistant degree all while working full time. Despite the challenges of raising a

little guy on her own, and the assertions from others that she would never amount to anything, Amauni has more than succeeded. We're so proud of her, and so many of our clients who embrace motherhood and not just survive, but thrive.



## More than Enough

I stood over these two tiny pink lines on a pregnancy test, awash with fear. In a moment like many of the women I'd personally counseled, here was the visual evidence of a growing, living, moving child inside of me, and I was terrified.

As a dual income family, working for the Pregnancy Clinic Ministry, with two little boys at home, I knew that our budget could not flex to fit a third child. Not only could I not afford childcare to continue working, but a return to the corporate workplace was unlikely with a belly that would begin growing and my desire to see my children before the sun fell below the horizon.

Now for me, especially working in the Pregnancy Clinic Ministry, abortion was not a consideration, but many of our clients haven't seen how God can turn those fishes and loaves into plenty and take care of our physical and financial needs. In the face of that fear, not only is abortion an option, but it can seem the only logical choice. That night, worried about what the future might hold, my husband gathered me into his arms and we looked at the faces of our two sweet boys and wondered... *would we have enough?*

It was a feeling just like this that began the Pregnancy Clinic Ministry more than thirty years ago. It was a deeply issued challenge that, as Christians, we must do something to help women who feel as though they have no choice. And because of this challenge, in this year's Annual Report you can see all of the services that we provided to help women feel that no matter their circumstances, they can choose life.

But the most important service that we offer is not the pregnancy tests, free counseling, or even the ever important ultrasound, it is the chance to encounter a living, moving God that has a plan for each of these pregnancies. Because no matter how good our intentions are, we will never be able to offer our clients enough free prenatal vitamins to ensure that they will always have enough to eat. We can never offer enough counseling to heal the hurt of parents who will put them out on the street when the pregnancy is discovered. We can never offer enough parenting classes to ease the loneliness of parenting without a partner. We will never be able to provide a referral for "enough". But, what we can offer is the Hope of the Gospel, which says that He will never leave us nor forsake us and that if we trust Him, He will give us Life, and give it to us abundantly.

And as for me? My husband was unexpectedly promoted, the ministry was able to adapt with me so that I could work primarily from home, and we welcomed little Juliana Faith as He planned all along, with more than enough.



*Kaely Linker, our Development Communications Manager and her daughter, Juliana Faith, born November 13th, 2013*

# Upcoming Events

- April TBD- The 100 Planning Meeting
- March and April- Pastor's Breakfasts for Foundation of Hope
- May 3rd - Spike for Life Volleyball Tournament Fundraiser
- May 11th - Mother's Day to Father's Day Baby Bottle Campaigns
- June - Summer Volunteer Training class
- July - Post-Abortion Bible Study
- September 20th - Walk and Run for Life - WalkandRun.org
- September - Fall Volunteer Training Class

For more information on these and other events, e-newsletters, baby bottle campaigns, Praying Friends, or to partner with us, check out:

[www.pregnancyclinicministry.org](http://www.pregnancyclinicministry.org)  
or [Facebook.com/pregnancyclinicministry](https://www.facebook.com/pregnancyclinicministry)



4341 Northview Drive • Bowie, MD 20716  
Return Services Requested

NON PROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT NO. 922  
CAPITOL HEIGHTS, MD

# How Far We've Come



**A FOUNDATION OF Hope**  
*934 West Street: a place of Help, Hope, & Healing*  
Pregnancy Clinic Ministry  
Annapolis • Bowie Crofton • Severna Park

Building a Foundation of Hope with the purchase of the house at 934 West Street, directly across from Planned Parenthood.  
[www.pregnancyclinicministry.org/934west](http://www.pregnancyclinicministry.org/934west)

October 2013	That goal was met and exceeded with gifts totaling \$142,000 by December 31st.	January 2014	February 5th, went to settlement, using \$177,000 towards the down payment and settlement.	Spring 2014	Phase Two Begins: Pastors' Breakfast, ministry tours and challenges.
A goal was set to raise \$100,000 towards the down payment by the year's end.	December 2013	As of January, an additional \$5,000 was received and \$30,000 in pledges, totaling \$177,000.	February 2014		

Goal	\$700,000
Raised thus far:	\$177,000
Bay Area Community Church Pledge	\$350,000
Remaining to be Debt Free	\$173,000

