



# Hope Women's Center

Winter 2011

## *Sanctity of Human Life*

January 23, 2011, is Sanctity of Human Life Sunday, a national day to raise awareness about the intrinsic value of human life and the fundamental right to life. Since the *Roe v. Wade* Supreme Court decision on January 22, 1973, more than 46 million people facing an unplanned or unwanted pregnancy felt that abortion was their only answer. Most of us have felt the impact of an abortion-- either directly or vicariously through friends or family members. No matter who we are or what our experiences have been, all of us can help those who are facing this same decision today. We all know that choosing life can be a challenging path, especially with today's economy. But at Hope Women's Center volunteers go the extra mile to listen to, care for, and support women so that they can feel empowered to carry their pregnancy to term. Hope Women's Center provides the physical, spiritual and material support these women need. As we celebrate the sanctity of human life, reflect on the beauty of God's creation, and, with the writer of the Proverbs, "Open your mouth for the dumb in the cause of all such as are appointed to destruction." (Prov. 31:8).

## *Opportunities to Help HWC*

At Hope Women's Center, we face the daily challenge of helping women who come to the Center with unwanted or unplanned pregnancies. We covet your help in the following areas:

- ★ Pray for this ministry. Satan would have us defeated, but our God is greater and will ultimately win the victory. But He does command us to pray.
- ★ Give generously. HWC is a non-profit ministry and is totally dependent on the support of local churches, individuals and businesses. God has been gracious in meeting our needs, but the needs are on going and He uses the local body of His people to support the work.
- ★ Donate your time. Volunteers are always welcomed and more counselors are desperately needed.
- ★ Donate new or gently used clothing so that the women who come to the Center will be blessed. Other baby items are also needed. See the article later in this newsletter for specific needs.
- ★ Call Hope Women's Center to see how or where you can fit into the work of this ministry.

## *Baby Bottles*

The Baby Bottle ministry is used to fund the Center's programs that help women in crisis pregnancies. This program can be used by church groups, individuals and families. Simply take a bottle home with you and place it on your desk or dresser. When you empty your pockets at night put the loose change in the bottle. You will be amazed at how quickly it can fill up. Use this to teach your children about sacrificial, joyful giving. Use it as competition in a Sunday School class. Use it as a prayer reminder to pray for the work of Hope Women's Center. Then, simply drop it off at the Center when it is convenient for you during our business hours. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of these women and their unborn babies.

## *Director's Report*

God has abundantly blessed the ministry of Hope Women's Center during 2010. We have been privileged to serve 653 families. We have had ten babies born to clients and one adoption as a result of HWC's referral. Three of our clients professed salvation, for which we praise the Lord! There is a constant need for counseling, for material goods (baby clothes, diapers, formula etc), and for support for women and families right here in Pickens County. Several churches have had showers for us. We are very thankful for all the baby items we have received from those showers. We have also had many church groups meet at the Center for their monthly meetings and to receive a tour of the facilities. We were able to visit many churches to talk about the Sanctity of Human Life and to present the ministry of the Center. We also attended several health fairs in the County. In all, God has given us many opportunities to reach out to the community and we are very thankful for that.

## *New!! Hope Women's Center Web Site*

Hope Women's Center now has it's own web site. Just go to [www.yourservant.com/hope](http://www.yourservant.com/hope) to see what is happening at the Center. We'll keep you posted on current events as well as our current needs. We hope you'll check often to see what the Lord is doing with and for us.

**EVERY DAY 450 PEOPLE MAKE LIFE-AFFIRMING DECISIONS AT CARENET CENTERS.**

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO RETURN BABY BOTTLES TO THE CENTER ONCE THEY HAVE BEEN FILLED.**

**THANK YOU.**



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## *On Going Needs*

Hope Women's Center tries to provide anything a baby up to the age of 24 months might need. As with any "family" our stock frequently needs to be replaced. We are always in need of diapers (particularly sizes 4 thru 6), wipes, baby lotion, powder, shampoo, baby oil, pacifiers, bottles, formula (please check the expiration date), sleepers, premie clothing (for both boys and girls), new or gently used baby clothes, baby cribs (with all the parts) and bassinets. Shoes, socks and bibs are currently not a big need. Gently used maternity clothing, however, would be helpful. While we appreciate all donations, please consider carefully the used clothing you donate to the Center. If it is stained, torn, or well used (and you would not put it on your children or grandchildren), please do not give it to the Center. We strive to serve God by giving Him our best at Hope Women's Center—spiritually, physically and emotionally. When the women/girls come through our doors, we want to furnish them and their babies with the best items possible. Thank you for helping us to do this.

## *Bi-Lo Cards*

We are participating in BI-LO's boostersplus fund-raising program this year. You can help earn money for Hope Women's Center simply by shopping at any BI-LO with your BONUSCARD. Just pick up an enrollment card from the Center and give it to the cashier along with your BONUSCARD to be scanned within your grocery order. This one-time scan will enroll you for Hope Women's Center until May 31 and we will receive one percent of your purchases.

## *Belk Charity Sales Day*

We are very thankful for everyone who helped earn money for the Women's Center by buying a Belk Charity Day Sales Ticket. HWC received \$1100.00 as a result of that sale. Special thanks to Belk for their willingness to help the community.

## *Board Members*

An organization like Hope Women's Center would be difficult to run without the help and support of a solid Christian Board. We appreciate all the work that our board members do. In case you are not aware of who the HWC Board members are, special thanks to Sue Donnell (President), Liz Rampy (Vice President), Peggy Mabry

(Secretary), Susan Thorsland (Treasurer), Dr. Kristine Pasui (Medical Advisor) Rev. Roger Gwinn, Janet Benton, Minister Mary King, and Diane Lay.

## *Legislation*

The South Carolina State Legislature began its 119<sup>th</sup> Session on January 11, 2011. One of the earliest bills to be introduced (H3026) is a bill stating that if an ultrasound is performed, an abortion may not be performed sooner than twenty-four hours following completion of the ultrasound. The physician must inform the woman of her right to view the ultrasound image at her request during or after the ultrasound procedure. The woman must be presented with a written form containing the following statement: 'You have the right to review printed materials prepared by the State of South Carolina which describe fetal development, lists agencies which offer alternatives to abortion, and describe medical assistance benefits which may be available for prenatal care, childbirth, and neonatal care. You have the right to view your ultrasound image.' This form must be signed and dated by both the physician who is to perform the procedure and the pregnant woman upon whom the procedure is to be performed. Third, the woman must be informed of the probable gestational age of the baby.

Hope Women's Center is working to obtain an ultrasound machine, and with it, the services of a qualified nurse. Statistics prove that the use of ultrasound doubles the potential number of babies saved compared to only counseling. If you think that H3026 is a good bill, please let your Representative know.

## *Attitudes*

Do we tend to "put down" those who find themselves in difficult situations—whether physically, spiritually or financially? We assume we have kept ourselves from those situations and think, "If they hadn't done such and so they wouldn't be in such a fix. They've made their bed, let them sleep in it. Why should we help, donate time or money, provide nice things for them? It's 'their' problem." On the other hand, the Apostle Paul said, "For who makes you superior? What do you have that you did not receive? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as though you did not receive it?" Christ said, "In as much as you have done it for one of the least of these, you have done it for Me." May God help us to guard our attitudes towards those in need. As He has blessed us, let us also be a blessing to others.

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**THANK YOU.**