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WALK FOR LIFE

JUNE 22, 2024

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SPRING 2024

We value and passionately affirm the gift of life.

(859)624-3942

Safe Haven Baby Box Coming to Richmond

In partnership with Pregnancy Help Center, the Richmond City Commission voted unanimously on January 9 to install a Safe Haven Baby Box at Fire Station #1 in downtown Richmond. The decision came after multiple discussions were held with PHC representatives, the Richmond Fire Chief, and the Richmond City Manager regarding the logistics of adding such a box.

A Safe Haven Baby Box allows the birth parents to anonymously and safely leave an infant (up to 30 days old) that they are unable or unwilling to care for. Once an infant is placed in the box, a sensor alerts authorities to retrieve the baby. The baby is then tended to and transported to the hospital for evaluation and placed for adoption. These boxes aim to prevent unsafe abandonment and ensure that infants are placed in proper care, following legal protocols.

Sixteen states currently have Safe Haven laws in place that allow for the anonymous and safe abandonment of an infant, and there are over 200 boxes throughout the U.S. Kentucky currently has 32 active baby boxes.

The majority of the funding for Richmond's Safe Haven Baby Box was made possible by an anonymous donor. *"We are so thankful for the donor who, like us, wants to promote a culture of Life in Richmond and beyond,"* said PHC Executive Director Sarah Roof. Roof reiterated that the hope is there is not a need for the box to ever be used but that it is a resource available if a woman feels she needs it.

The box is currently in production and is expected to be ready for use in May or June.



PHC Board Member Jessica Hess opens the Richmond City Commission meeting in prayer on Jan. 9.

PHC to Open Satellite Women's Clinic in Berea

In 2023, PHC served clients from 20 counties. With that data, the decision was made to open a satellite women's clinic in Berea to better serve those in the southern end of the county and beyond.

The office will be open two days a week and will only be offering clinic services at this time with free pregnancy testing and ultrasounds. It is located at 133 Plaza Drive and is expected to be operational in May.

Scan the QR code for our Amazon Wish List to help stock this clinic. Gift cards from Amazon, Lowe's, or Wal-mart are also appreciated.



Under Construction

Our desire is to more effectively serve our clients, so our Richmond office and our website are both undergoing some renovations. Please be patient with us! Our current website will be client-focused, but we have a new website for our supporters coming soon. Stay tuned!



THRIVE Update



Our THRIVE team is busy for the spring semester! We have currently presented to over 200 students at three of the county middle schools. In addition, we have upcoming presentations scheduled for one of the high schools, a middle school, and a youth group conference. *"We are excited to help youth develop a strong foundation for their future so that they can enjoy a healthy marriage and strong family relationships,"* said Kourtney Cole, PHC's Community Outreach Coordinator.

Feedback from middle school students:

"To show that some things it's good to say no to."

"I liked that I got to learn more about healthy relationships and the risks of things."

"It's teaching me how to have a safe relationship."

"I learned very important things for my future."

Our THRIVE Team is Expanding

Are you a young adult who has a heart for youth and public speaking? We're looking to add to our THRIVE teaching team! This paid position would require going to local schools to present our sexual risk avoidance curriculum. Hours are flexible and vary, depending on the teaching schedule for the semester. Please inquire by emailing sroof@madisonphc.org.

Volunteer Spotlight: Alexis Kays

Alexis Kays has joined the PHC team as one of our parenting class mentors. A retired teacher, she has a natural ability to connect with the young mothers in our parenting programs.



"Volunteering at PHC is such a blessing to me," said Alexis. "The service they provide to families in our community is invaluable as they demonstrate the love of Christ and the value of life everyday."

Alexis retired from Madison Central High School where she served as the Library Media Specialist for over 20 years. She is a member of Emmanuel Baptist Church in Berea, where her husband, Joey, is the pastor. They have two adult sons and five grandchildren.



It's that time again! PHC's largest fundraiser is the Baby Bottle Blessings, which provides essential funding for the services we offer. Most churches distribute bottles on Mothers' Day and then collect them on Father's Day (though it can be done at any time). PHC volunteers will be contacting churches in mid-April to coordinate distribution. If your church would like to participate, please contact us at 859-624-3942.

Planting Seeds and Bearing Fruit

Chloe* came to PHC in early January at about 6 weeks gestation. Driving from nearly two hours away, she arrived with her mother with the intent of getting an abortion. At 17, she had one child already and didn't feel she could mentally handle another.



As our advocate discussed her options with her, Chloe stated that she could not consider adoption because she would not be able to give her child away. "I normally wouldn't be able to do abortion, but right now it is just a clump of cells," she explained to rationalize her choice. The advocate continued to educate Chloe on the baby growing inside of her and attempted to help her understand the impact of her decisions. Chloe (and her mother) were determined that abortion was her best option.

The following month, our nurse followed up with Chloe to see how she was doing. Much to our surprise, Chloe shared that she **CHOSE LIFE!** Now 12 weeks along, she excitedly told us that she was having a boy!

At PHC, we exist to value and passionately affirm the gift of life. Sometimes we do not know what seeds will bear fruit, but we serve a big God and will remain faithful to shine His light where we are able. Thank you for partnering with us to do so! Because of your support, there is one more little boy who will experience the breath of life later this year.



Blessings, in Christ,



Sarah Roof
Executive Director

*Names have been changed for confidentiality.

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing... This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples." ~ John 15:5, 8

Thank you to the following for allowing me to recently come and share about PHC:

- Ashland Church
- River of Life
- Emmanuel Baptist Church
- Berea Rotary Club
- Rosedale Baptist Church



Students at **Blast Christian Academy** kicked off the 2024 Baby Bottle Blessings campaign with a bang. In just one week, they raised \$2595.11 to benefit PHC.



A Sunday School class (grades 1-3) from **Emmanuel Baptist Church** collected \$75 and used it to purchase diapers for the PHC Baby Boutique.



Thank you to members of **First Baptist Church** for serving PHC by painting and organizing our Baby Boutique as part of their First Saturday Serve initiative on March 2.