

30

Babies Born

*Helping
Them
Choose
Life*



The **Prevalence** of Chemical Abortion

In December 2021, the FDA issued a permanent decision allowing individuals to obtain abortion pills through the US Mail after a physician telehealth visit. So, even though Missouri is a pro-life state, a woman can order abortion pills online. Aid Access is a social justice group that blatantly advertises on its website the delivery of FDA-approved abortion pills to all 50 states.

The bottom line is chemical abortion has become the method of choice for women less than ten weeks pregnant. With 80% of abortions occurring in the first trimester of pregnancy, according to the Guttmacher Institute, untold numbers of women are ordering the abortion pill, often without counsel and without fully understanding the impact of that decision. All they know is that they are in an unwanted pregnancy situation, and the abortion pill is readily available to solve all their problems.

Now, more than ever, we need to let women know, with grace and love, that abortion is not a 'one-and-done' decision. While the fear surrounding an unwanted pregnancy is real and has to be dealt with, the trauma of performing your own abortion carries deep emotional scars, often negatively impacting future decisions and future relationships.

If you know someone contemplating abortion, ask her to call the center and speak confidentially with someone who can relate to her situation and understands her fears. There will be no judgment and no pressure. Just compassion and grace to process her situation. Sometimes space and grace is all we need to make the right decision.

"For it is by grace that we have all been saved."

2023 IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS



RIVERWAYS
PREGNANCY & FAMILY
RESOURCE CENTER

1600 Doss Road | Salem, MO 65560
www.riverwaysprc.org | 573.739.4673

IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

Services Rendered

Medical Services: Pregnancy testing, limited ultrasound, depression screenings, and prenatal care referrals

Prenatal & Parenting Education & LifeSkills Classes: Classes designed to foster positive prenatal care and parenting decisions

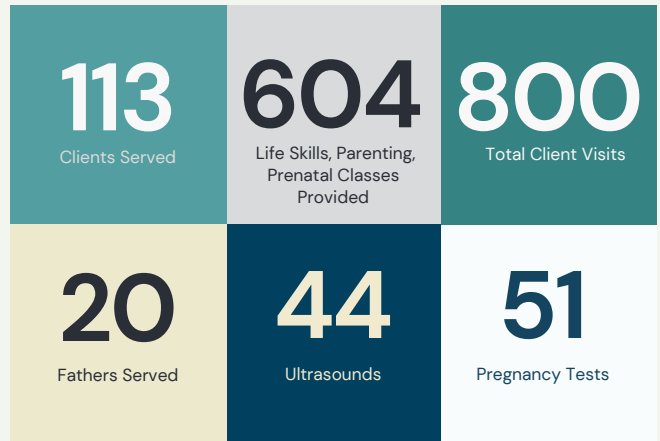
Practical Supplies & Resources: Baby diapers, formula, equipment, emergency rental, transportation or other practical assistance

Lactation Consulting: Breastfeeding information and support

Fatherhood Mentoring: Helping dads cope with stress and build effective communication skills

Post-Abortion Care: Helping post-abortive moms find healing

37% Increase in Client Activity



Oct 2022 to Sep 2023

More

Your support has enabled us to provide life-affirming and even life-changing services for the past 21 years. Our doors are open because YOU value the lives of the unborn, and you care deeply about what happens to at-risk moms and families in this community.

If I encapsulate in one word what's been going on at the center from this time last year, it would be the word MORE. More at-risk women and families in our community are contacting us for help.

From Oct 22 to Sept 23, we have served 113 clients for a total of 800 appointments. Compared to the same time last year, that's an increase of 37% in client activity.

When our doors first opened in 2003, our primary focus was to reach the abortion-minded woman, but it didn't take long to realize that abortion was not a single-focused issue. It wasn't as simplistic as encouraging a pregnant woman to choose life.

Studies have proven that 60% of women who choose to abort their child do so because they lacked the financial and material support they needed to choose life. They had practical issues to overcome.

In addition, many of these women had difficult childhoods and difficult family circumstances. Some

were still in high school. Some didn't have stable housing. Some would lose their job if they continued their pregnancy. Some were addicted to drugs or had abusive family situations.

There was a need to build a broad safety net for these women. If we were going to promote life, and they were going to choose life, then they would need a lot more support.

Our clients needed prenatal information and to learn how to parent. They needed practical help with utilities and rent and transportation assistance to see their doctors. They needed help finishing their education. And, thanks to your faithful partnership, Riverways PFRC continues to help meet these needs.

This year, God has blessed us with additional male mentors who are reaching young men with a message of fatherhood and encouraging a two-parent household. Our mentors share wisdom and encouragement to help these young men understand their role as a father and help them navigate the responsibilities and challenges of starting a family.

Because of your partnership, we have been able to encourage life and help these moms--and now dads--build a more solid future for themselves and their families.

Thank you for your compassion.

Marcie Thomas



www.riverwaysprc.org/donation

Ways to Give

text HOPE to 573-828-8003