

Pregnancy Matters

Making a Difference • January 2011



During the first week of 2011, sixteen women came to us for pregnancy test services.

One young girl was still in high school, her hand shaking as she dropped the urine into the test kit. Her sister put her arm around her to comfort her. But after four months with no period, what she feared the most... a positive result... occurred. Denial is a strong defense mechanism, a psychological buffer. But sooner or later, a young woman comes to terms with the fact that her life is about to change. When they enter our doors with fear and confusion and many questions, we want to walk with them through the hurdles they face and find joy in an experience that seems overwhelming to most.

During the first week of this year, 38 families walked through our door for practical assistance for their children. Some had lost jobs and all were seeking support, hoping to hear solutions, praying for direction, and found a helping hand.

If this pace continues throughout the year... that would mean more than 800 women will walk through our doors for a pregnancy test this year and nearly 2,000 families will seek assistance with maternity and baby items.

Our hope is to not turn anyone away...and with your help, this is possible.

Have you sat at home, watching the local news stories, hear about how others are struggling, and wonder 'what can I do'? Do you feel you do not have the time or resources to make a difference? The fact is, you have an opportunity to take action, to get involved, and help those in need. We hope you will be a part of our team in this endeavor:

Join us in our annual fundraising Walk for Life!

Location: University Mall Carbondale

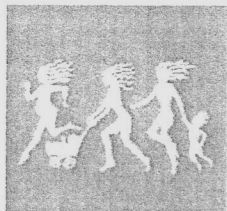
Date: Saturday March 26

When: Music, drawings, registration and breakfast 8:30-9am

Five mile walk: 9:00-9:45am

Announcements of winners: 9:45-10am

All participants turning in \$100 or more will receive a free Walk T Shirt



Tips on Collecting your pledges:

****Start early**

Don't wait until a week before the event --- a sponsor form is enclosed (page 2/3) ---

Get started today!

****Set a goal**

****Make a donation yourself**

****Ask family, friends, coworkers, neighbors to match your pledge**

****Remember to enjoy yourself!** *Research has lead to the conclusion that helping others makes people happier and healthier*

Questions? Email us at info@pregnancy-matters.org or call any of our four offices at: Carbondale 618-549-2794, Marion 618-997-2790, Anna 618-833-7797, Pinkneyville 618-318-1187