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Resource Center expands commitment to women

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GREENVILLE — In a commitment to serve women in crisis pregnancy, A Woman's Heart Pregnancy Resource Clinic has recently become a limited services medical clinic.

The clinic opened its new location at 2612 Jordan in March and provides pregnancy testing, first trimester ultrasound, and eventually, testing for sexually transmitted diseases.

Medical personnel and volunteers are now on board, and the facility has a new ultrasound machine, which shows viability of a pregnancy and the gestational age of the fetus.

The new facility has been totally renovated and includes modern decor geared toward the younger generation. Clinic rooms include counseling rooms, a resource library, and a prayer room.

One of the main services offered by the clinic is counseling for women with unplanned pregnancies.

"We give them information on all their options including parenting, abortions and adoptions so they have the accurate information to make the choice they need to make," said President and CEO Gail Fry. "The clinic provides a place where individuals in a crisis pregnancy find compassion and help without judgment or condemnation."

General counseling is available for pregnancy loss, drug, alcohol and past abuse issues, stress and anger.

The clinic also offers a 24-hour help line, STD and contraceptives consultations, a resource library, a client website, post-abortion counseling, abortion recovery support group and childbirth and car seat classes.

All medical and counseling services are free and confidential.

Some of the programs offered included the HOPE program, the Abstinence 'Til Marriage program and the Sexual Integrity program.

The HOPE program is a two-segment mentoring program, with the first segment dealing with pregnancy and childbirth, and the second segment dealing with parenting for infants to three year olds.

The Abstinence 'Til Marriage program provides abstinence materials and presentations to schools and youth groups.

The Sexual Integrity program provides teens with one-on-one mentoring to help them understand relationships and sexual intimacy within marriage.

Parenting workshops are held every Thursday from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Guest speakers teach on anything related to parenting including anything from preventing abuse in families to stress anger management.

The clinic first opened in June 2000, and with the addition of the ultrasound and pregnancy testing, personnel expect to see an increase in clientele as much as 75 to 90 percent. Next, the clinic will be offering testing for STDs.

Consultations with nurses are now offered, including consultations on birth control, in which accurate information is given to the clients.

Fry said the clinic is a Christian ministry.

"We're here because we love these women," Fry said. "The biggest thing we see in women is that they don't have anyone who cares about them. We're like their surrogate mothers, and we try to help them however we can."

One of the greatest needs for the clinic now is volunteers.

"We need volunteers who are being drawn to minister to people," Fry said. "If they love God and love helping other people, they would fit right in."

Other clinic needs are books for the library, new baby items, diapers, large gift

bags, paper towels, toilet paper, Bibles, NIV or NLV, soda and water, a new vacuum cleaner, white copy paper, latex gloves, snacks and specialty coffee.

Fry would like to thank everyone who was involved with opening the new facility.

“We couldn’t have done this if it wasn’t for the community support,” Fry said.

“We’re lucky we have so much support.

The following businesses, agencies, community groups, churches and individuals who helped in any compacity with the new facility were:

Pregnancy Resource Clinic board members Tim Stainback, Tobbie Davis, Peggy Sheffield, Jerry Scott and Gracie Almanza; and staff members Dr. Karen Kaden Andre, Cindy Campbell, Thereesa Sadler and Kelli Cross.

Volunteers Carrie Kirkham, Kim True, Jerin Thompson, Cheryl Upshaw, Wendy Farr, Cathy Goen, Sharon Hunter and Ruby Pippin.

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