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Women's Help Center News

Fall/Winter 2018

Changing lives, one heartbeat at a time, since 1990

Westside Center Hosts Open House

The Westside location is a continuance of Women's Help Center's life-affirming legacy throughout Northeast Florida



We are grateful for the outpouring of support for the new Center that we have received from donors, churches, Knights of Columbus councils and respect life ministries.

limited ultrasounds. We want women who are facing an unplanned pregnancy and other overwhelming circumstances to know that when they feel desperate or alone, Women's Help Center is here to help them.

We also provide assistance to families in need through the WHC Angel Closet ministry, where families receive free diapers and infant clothing, whether or not they are Women's Help Center clients.

One main challenge for any pregnancy help organization that is considering adding more pregnancy centers is being able to secure the financial foundation needed to keep multiple centers running over time. These needs are just another reason to pray expectantly and step out in faith. Because Women's Help Center took that step and answered the call to minister to Westside residents, the lives of many unborn babies have already been saved at the new Center!

We ask for your continued support of our ministry, as we look forward to walking alongside women in the community throughout their pregnancies and into motherhood.

The new Women's Help Center Westside location opened its doors for a community open house on November 8, 2018. The Center, which began serving Westside women and families over the summer, welcomed area residents, donors and church members to a relaxing evening of fellowship.

Upon arriving, guests received a goody bag that included a Women's Help Center t-shirt, brochures and other materials about the services the Center offers to the community. They were then treated to Center tours and light refreshments, provided by the St. Matthews Respect Life Ministry, and served by Knights from the Knights of Columbus Most Holy Redeemer Council.

Action News Jax stopped by to film the event and interview WHC staff, and ran a spot during the news that evening and throughout the following morning, which provided great publicity for the Center!

The Westside location, which is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 am—4:00 pm, is a continuance of Women's Help Center's life-affirming legacy throughout Northeast Florida, and fills a tremendous need for a pro-life pregnancy resource center in this part of Jacksonville. Our services support women on the Westside who are faced with an unplanned pregnancy, and, like all Women's Help Center locations, include free and confidential pregnancy testing, pregnancy options counseling, and

Topgolf Afternoon a Swinging Success



Above: some of the golfers and guests who attended the Topgolf tournament.

Pros and novices of all ages recently turned out for a fun afternoon to support Women's Help Center at the First Annual WHC Topgolf Tournament. After a short session learning how to play, players were shown to their bays, and the games began. Participants played two rounds of Topgolf, enjoyed a delicious lunch buffet, and had the opportunity for lots of networking.

Players were also able to bid on autographed sports memorabilia from the Florida Gators, Florida State Seminoles, Georgia Bulldogs and Jacksonville Jaguars. Medals were awarded to the top three teams. The event raised thousands of

dollars, which directly benefits the women and families supported through Women's Help Center. Plans are already underway for next year's event which will be held in the fall. We hope you will join us!



Our Centers

University

4209 University Blvd. South
Jacksonville, FL 32216
904.398.5143

Westside

4116 Blanding Blvd.
Jacksonville, FL 32210
904.503.2964

Samuel Wells

3599 University Blvd. S., #1201
Jacksonville, FL 32216
904.374.5188

Beaches

1903 North 3rd Street
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250
904.249.8644

Helping Women Choose Life, Now...and Always

We've all heard the saying, give a man a fish and you feed him for a day; teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime. The same philosophy holds true for the abortion-minded women who come through our doors. While our immediate goal is to save a woman's unborn child from the horror of abortion, our ultimate goal is to empower all of the women who come to us by giving them the strength and skills they need to choose life **each time** they become pregnant. Here is a story of one such woman, shared by one of our counselors:

"Today I counseled a woman who came to the United States from Africa in 2007. She brought her two young sons with her and was again pregnant. She let me know that she was experiencing trouble in her personal life and did not know what she was going to do, especially now that she was pregnant with a third child. As I reviewed her paperwork, I noticed that she had written down the words, "I will love this baby!" We talked about some of the obstacles she was facing, and she shared with me that even though she was now excited to be having another baby, there was a time a few years ago when she did not know if she could face having a child. She pointed to her two sons and said that she had come to our Center several years ago looking for an abortion. The counselor she saw that day had not only showed her how beautiful life could be if she would only trust in God and have her child, she also worked with the client for many weeks, teaching her about motherhood, helping her find resources and a job that would help her both now and in the future. The client then whispered to me, "I love being a mom."

All three of this woman's children are alive because Women's Help Center was here for her on that day many years ago. Teaching women about the beauty of life and helping them with the skills they need for successful parenting is what we have been called to do. It is our prayer that every pregnant woman in need knows that we are here for them. Please help us by sharing this message with your neighbors, churches, and schools. Nothing is more precious than life.

Thank you, and may God bless you and your loved ones this Christmas season.

Nancy Basham
Executive Director

Life is beautiful! 2019 Fundraiser for Life



The Women's Help Center 2019 Fundraiser for Life will be held on Thursday, April 4, 2019, at the World Golf Village Renaissance Resort. Featuring keynote speaker Jason Jones, this event is not to be missed.

Jason is a film producer (Bella), author, activist, and human rights worker. He works directly to help women faced with unplanned pregnancies, and is also dedicated to helping the homeless and people facing genocide. Jason has written two books, *The Race to Save Our Century* and *The World is on Fire*.

The Most Reverend Felipe Estevez, Bishop of the Diocese of St. Augustine, will be our Guest of Honor.

Event sponsorships are now available. Call 904.398.5143 for more information.

Thank You, K of C Council 11069!



Once again, the Texas Hold'em for Life Poker Tournament, held at Blessed Trinity, was a wildly successful event! The Knights of Columbus Archbishop Hurley Council 11069 raised over \$12,500.00, with all proceeds benefitting Women's Help Center. Our thanks go to Hassan Cruz, event chairman; the event sponsors; and all of the Knights who contributed so much time and effort to prepare for and host this always-fun event. Special thanks to Gary Van Siclen, who organized a silent auction for the benefit. Thank you, Knights, for your continued dedication to life and to Women's Help Center!



Gifts for Life!

First Saturday Mass is celebrated in the Women's Help Center Chapel of the Unborn on University Boulevard. Rosary begins at 9 AM; Mass follows at 9:30 AM. Everyone is welcome!

In Memory of:

Frances Smith
Pastor Ed Martin
Laura Holtz Rellihan
John Vergo
Roy Provost
Peter Sapia
Bernadette Ferrizzi
Ann T. Lucas
Nell Sada
Leonard (Gus) Hayden

In Honor of:

St. Andrew the Apostle
Special Intention
The Provost Family
Diane Joseph
Michael Orea
Dawn Russo

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for Generations!

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Powers Charitable Foundation
Radloff & Radloff, PA
Mr. and Mrs. Roland Garcia
Dr. and Mrs. Donald Barnhorst
Law Office of Jack Gibney



Ospreys in Action

A group of Catholic Ospreys from the University of North Florida recently donated their time—and muscles—to help us clean out one of the offices at our Samuel Wells Center. Pictured here are Ospreys Gaby, Josh, Anton, Emily and Olivia. Thank you!

Women's Help Center

Center Statistics

January-October 2018

Total Visits: 2113
Positive Pregnancy Tests: 1566
Ultrasounds: 485
Abortion Minded: 355
Babies Saved: 316
Adoptions: 13

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Westside Center

Teresa Rivera

Manager

Jennifer Stanley

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Samuel Wells Center

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Manager

Mary Jo Monk

Client Advocate

Mission Statement

Through God's help and guidance, the Women's Help Center provides a safe and loving environment for women, by promoting the best interest of children (both born and unborn) and families so they can strive toward the potential endowed to each individual by God.