

A. NARRATIVE

1. Organization Information

The Pregnancy Resource Center began in 1984 as the Crisis Pregnancy Center, an outreach of the City Rescue Mission of New Castle. The Crisis Pregnancy Center closed in December of 1999, but a group of people led by Rev. Dickson Marshall felt Lawrence County still needed a Pro-Life, Christian pregnancy center. This group envisioned a center that would extend God's love and care to the unborn and to needy families in the area. Through hard work and prayer, the Pregnancy Resource Center re-opened its doors in February 2000 as an independent ministry.

The first Directors of the Pregnancy Resource Center were volunteers, including Mrs. Anna Mary Mooney who continues to serve on the Board of Directors. In 2003, the Board voted to make the Executive Director a salaried position. The Center's current Director, Mrs. Lindsay Young, has been in that position since 2008. She is a 2005 graduate of Geneva College and served as a volunteer at the Center before being named Director.

The mission of the Pregnancy Resource Center is provide a Christian resource to meet the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of those facing an unplanned pregnancy. We do this by providing loving counsel and education, and by sharing the good news of the Gospel. Our vision is a community in which all life is sacred from conception because it is made in the image of God, sexual purity is valued and affirmed only within the context of marriage, and the needs of those struggling with an unplanned pregnancy are met in a loving manner.

The Center serves any and all who enter its doors. Our clients come from all walks of life. No one is denied assistance, as do not impose any income or geographical restrictions.

The Pregnancy Resource Center's goal for 2010 is to expand the current parenting education curriculum with new and updated material, to increase the material assistance we can offer our clients, and to double the current number of clients we serve.

2. Purpose of Grant

We are requesting this grant to help defray costs that directly benefit our ongoing programs, and to enlarge the programs that we offer. Those programs include free pregnancy testing, parenting education, and abstinence education.

- Free Pregnancy Testing: Any woman who requests a test is eligible. During the testing we also offer crisis pregnancy counseling and counseling about abortion alternatives, as well as information on adoption.
- Parenting Education: Our **"Earn While You Learn"** program offers weekly parenting lessons, one-on-one counseling and the opportunity to "shop" in our Donations Store, where we offer everything from diapers, wipes & food to clothing, furniture, toys & more.
- Abstinence Education: Our **"Abstinence is the Best Choice"** program, or ABC, teaches 7th – 12th graders about the dangers of premarital sex and why abstinence is the best choice until marriage. We provide this program to all public schools in Lawrence County, and serve approximately 2,500 students per year.

The target population of our Center is any woman (or couple) experiencing a crisis

The target population at our Center is any woman (or couple) experiencing a crisis pregnancy, and any woman (or couple) struggling to provide through infants and children under the age of three.

The funds requested will be used to enlarge our current programs in the following manner:

1. \$1,000 for program supplies, including pregnancy testing supplies and materials for our parenting and abstinence programs.
2. \$2,000 for general office supplies.
3. \$1,500 for advertising.
4. \$4,250 for maintenance & upkeep of the Center.
5. \$550 for client supplies for our Donations Store, including diapers, wipes, clothing & other baby necessities.
6. \$4,000 for staff training & support.

The goal for all of our services is to be a life-affirming support our clients. We will meet this goal by continuing to offer free pregnancy testing with counseling on life-affirming options and by continuing to offer parenting classes while giving parents the opportunity to earn necessities for their babies. We will continue to work closely with other social service agencies to remain connected within the New Castle community and to ensure that our clients are getting other needed services. We will also continue to speak to all of the Lawrence County schools, to educate students about the benefits of abstinence until marriage.

Our programs remain ongoing throughout the year with the exception of the abstinence program, which only operates while the public schools are in session.

In addition to the Almira Foundation, we work with the Carolyn Knox Memorial Foundation, the Hoyt Foundation, and the Margaret Henry Home, and have applied to those organizations to help meet our budget requirements.

Our long-term funding needs will be met through donations and fundraising. We continue to receive support from churches, individuals and organizations. We have also started an ongoing fundraising campaign, the Baby Bottle Drive, in which individuals and groups fill a baby bottle with spare change. This fundraiser's benefits are two-fold: it not only brought in \$1,600 in 2009, but also increased community awareness about the Center and its offerings.

Our program directly affects Lawrence County by meeting the material, emotional and spiritual needs of every woman, man and child residing in Lawrence County who seeks our services.

3. Evaluation

We track the progress of each client by recording her appointments, lessons completed, credits earned and credits "spent" in our Donations Store. Each client requesting a pregnancy test is tracked through an intake form, complete with personal information and history. Any topics discussed and materials given during counseling are also recorded, as well as the test results and the client's intentions. We track our abstinence program by keeping detailed records of the schools and number of students that participate. We also issue a monthly report on the number of appointments held, clients seen, pregnancy test client results, abstinence presentation statistics and statistics on other presentations given.

Other Funders
Other contributors to the Pregnancy Resource Center include churches, individuals and organizations. We have requested \$12,000 from the Carolyn Knox Memorial Fund, \$1,500 from the Hoyt Foundation and \$1,250 from the Margaret Henry Home

Foundation. We expect to receive \$18,000 from voluntary contributions, including \$15,000 from local churches. Additionally, we have projected a \$2,000 income from our Baby Bottle Drive fundraiser.