

Assist Pregnancy Center

Winter 2011



**Partnering
Together
for Life**

Volume 22, Issue 4

Our Mission:

Assist is a Christ-centered ministry that exists to share the love of God in our community by encouraging life-affirming choices.

Our Hours:

Monday & Tuesday
Noon - 6 pm
Thursday
2 - 8 pm

Helpline:

703.354.7272

Business:

703.354.7291

Fax:

703.354.2966

Ministry site:

www.assistpartners.org

Client site:

www.assistpc.org

Special points of interest:

- ★ "Messaging" from Jane
- ★ A Memorable Evening
- ★ Like Us at www.Facebook.com/AssistPC



In Her Own Words

We love sharing with our Assist family the difference God makes in our client's lives. Fereal's story is one that was shared at the 2011 Annual Banquet.

My name is Fereal Awed. I have been in the U.S. for nine years. I was married for four years and never got pregnant during those years. After I was divorced, I had a relationship with another man and soon was pregnant. He said he was not ready for a baby, so I had an abortion. After the abortion, I was very sad and depressed. I cried a lot. I continued the relationship and soon became pregnant again. My boyfriend was still not ready for a baby and wanted me to abort again. But this time I did not want to do that. I wanted to keep the baby. So I left my boyfriend.

Then I struggled with what to do next. I am a Muslim and it is a very serious thing for a Muslim to have a child without marriage. It was very difficult for me to tell my family. I did not know what to do.

The place I went for the pregnancy test gave me a phone number for Assist. I called the number and made an appointment. I was very scared. But my mentor made me feel so comfortable. She talked to me about my situation. She helped me to make decisions. We began to talk about God. She gave me a Bible and told me about Christ. She began praying with me. We prayed about my problems and my

options – I was divorced, I was unemployed, I was staying with a friend, I knew little about babies, and I was still afraid to tell my family. The prayers helped me, and I saw things change.

After several visits, I finally was able to tell my brother about the pregnancy. After he thought about it, he told me I could live with him. I was so surprised.

I was also worried about how to take care of my baby. At Assist, I learned so many things I didn't know about pregnancy, about taking care of babies and about being a mother. My mentor said Assist would help me learn what I needed to know and would be there for me. It was difficult, but God blessed me with my beautiful daughter, Lamina.

I really want other women in my situation to know that abortion is not a good thing. Even if things seem impossible, all things are possible with God. You can find better solutions. And I know how God works because today both my brother and the baby's father are happy that I did not abort and thank God for this child!!!

Thanks to Assist for being there for me and giving me help during and after my pregnancy.

Wish list:

We are in **great need** of cribs (non drop-side), crib mattresses, car seats (infant) and diaper bags.

Thursday, September 22, was a truly memorable evening as Assist hosted its 22nd Annual Fall Banquet, "Shine like Stars - Holding Forth the Word of Life." (Phil. 2:16) Over 400 friends of Assist, representing dozens of area churches and partnering organizations, turned out at the Waterford of Springfield in celebration and support of this life-giving ministry. After a gourmet meal, Executive Director Jane Fuller welcomed guests and provided an update. Thanks to the generous support of donors and tireless efforts of volunteers and staff, many victories were celebrated.

The fruit of Assist's ministry was particularly displayed in personal testimonies shared by clients. One young woman shared how she chose to carry her child and give life through adoption. Another spoke about the healing she received after an abortion.

Keynote speaker John Ensor, author of *Innocent Blood: Changing the Powers of Death* delivered a passionate charge and left no room for apathy in the cause for life. With humor and compassion, Pastor Ensor told of his personal experiences serving in local pregnancy centers. He unapologetically challenged listeners

to answer the call to become actively engaged in the mission of "cross-bearing for the child bearing." In response, those attending gave generously and sacrificially to continue the ministry of affirming life in our community. The concluding time of worship led all in heartfelt recognition of the God who has called and equipped us for this ministry on His behalf.



John Ensor

The evening was a reminder of God's generous provision, and a special time of celebration for all who have and continue to contribute their time, energy, and financial resources to this mission. It was also an opportunity to look forward and prepare for another year of serving and encouraging life as God continues to expand the impact of Assist Pregnancy Center.

Interact with Assist on Facebook

By Emily Miller

You may have heard the news that **Assist Pregnancy Center is on Facebook!**

If you haven't "liked" our page yet, please do. You can find us at www.Facebook.com/AssistPC or by entering "Assist Pregnancy Center" into the search field on the top toolbar. The 'Like' button is located to the right of our name when you visit the page for the first time.

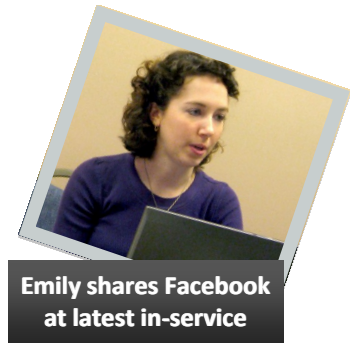
Facebook is an important tool for Assist Pregnancy Center to stay in contact with supporters and volunteers as well as to gain free marketing. As more people interact with our page, our network can grow quickly because content is distributed to all of their friends through Newsfeeds. This allows us to reach a huge number of people, including potential clients who may not be familiar with our services.

That is the power of Facebook - it provides an extensive reach while requiring less time and money than traditional media. Why? Because we are meeting people *where they already are*. Once they engage with the page, we've created a platform to continually converse with them.

In these early stages, **we need Assist's supporters to help** us grow our Facebook following through regular engagement with the page. Here are a few simple ways to interact on Facebook:

- ◆ **Click the 'Like' button on Assist's posts.**
- ◆ **Comment on posts.**
- ◆ **Use the Share option to link to one of Assist's posts on your own wall.**
- ◆ **Use the "@Assist Pregnancy Center" option when making a status update.**
- ◆ **Post something on Assist's wall yourself.**

Facebook is an incredible opportunity for Assist to provide important, timely information to our supporters while reaching out to a new audience. Thank you for your help in this new e-venture. For more information on how to interact with Facebook visit assistpartners@assistcpc.org.



Emily shares Facebook at latest in-service

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Jackee Knight, copy editors
Carrie Brightwell, Natalie Floyd, Emily Miller
Writers

Comments/concerns: outreach@assistcpc.org

Assist Pregnancy Center

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5101-D Backlick Road
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Let Us Celebrate!!!! — Sanctity Of Human Life Sunday *by Carrie Brightwell*

PLEASE CELEBRATE SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE SUNDAY, JANUARY 22, 2012.

This is a day to remember that God, in His sovereign choice, created human beings *"in His own image and likeness – male and female He created them."* Genesis 1:27. This means that God has a plan and purpose for EVERY HUMAN LIFE regardless of the circumstances surrounding that life. God knew each human being BEFORE we were even conceived (Psalm 139:13-16) and in His eyes we are all unique, special and highly valued. *"Who is man that you should be mindful of him . . . and have made him a little lower than the angels?"* Psalm 8:4-5. The VALUE of our lives is not based on our physical condition, our age, our achievements, or our worldly popularity; it is based solely on the fact that God Himself created us and loves us. Human life is SACRED and the sanctity of human life applies equally to the pre-born, the elderly, the disabled, the mentally challenged, the poor, the sick and you and me whatever our circumstances. As we recognize the value that God has placed on human life, let us live our lives accordingly, treating every human being with respect and compassion – beginning with those precious ones who are still in the womb and extending to all people, regardless of age, sex, race, color, or circumstances.

Abortion Recovery

Bible Study For Women
Begins January 26, 2012
Thursdays 6-8pm
Call 703-354-7272 for more info
To sign up email
services@assistcpc.org

Congratulations

to new volunteers who have
completed training:
**Natalie Floyd, Katie Cowles,
Liz Clark, Beth Azer &
Adrienne Montanari**

Key Dates

December 19 - January 1 ~ Closed
January 22 ~ Sanctity of Human
Life Sunday
January 23 ~ D.C. March for Life
April 21 ~ Walk/Run/Ride for Life

Volunteer Interest Mtgs.

December 6 ~ 1-2 pm
January 10 ~ 1-2 pm
February 7 ~ 1-2pm, 6:30-7:30pm

Volunteer Training

February 7-28 (Tuesdays) and
February 11 (all day Saturday)

Liaison Coordination Mtg

March 1 ~ 7 pm at the Center

836 Babies

Reported in our 22
Years of Ministry!



WELCOME:

Darien, Samuel, Joshua,
Mikaela, Antony, Trinity,
Victoria, Bryan, Adrien & Rodney



Campaign code 8190 CFC #98301



Affiliate of CareNet
&
Heartbeat
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