



Summer 2006

Riverside Life Services

Where "Life" is our middle name

WALK FOR LIFE

This year, The WALK FOR LIFE started at Shamel Park. We had over 100 walkers and collected over \$12,500.00, which is \$5,000.00 less than we collected last year. We hope next year to collect more than we did in 2005.

Thank you to everyone who walked and donated to our Walk for Life. We want to give an extra thank you to the walkers who collected the most donations: Father Ben Alforque, adult walker and Taylor Joris, youth walker.

Thank you to Our Lady of Perpetual Help for having the halfway point at their church. A special thank you to Margaret Moses and her volunteers for giving of their time!

Unfortunately, again this year we had quite a few walkers who did not list the church they attend. However, from the walkers that did let us know, below is a recap of the total raised:

Arlington Church of Christ	80.00
Campus Hill SDA Church	10.00
Christ the Redeemer	40.00
Crest Avenue Baptist	263.00
Faith Community	508.00
Grace Community	721.00
Hope Community	435.00
Immanuel Lutheran	75.00
Magnolia Avenue Baptist	1,682.00
Our Lady of Perpetual Help	398.00
Queen of Angels	20.00
San Antonia de Padua	318.17
St. Andrew Orthodox	905.00
St. Catherine of Alexandria	2,623.00
St. Christopher's Church	25.00
St. Frances de Sales	215.00
St. George—Fontana	10.00
St. Ignatius of Antioch	210.00
St. Thomas the Apostle	65.00

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS EVERYONE WHO HELPED AND PARTICIPATED IN OUR WALK! SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!

Thank you to the following companies and people for their generous donations for our WALK FOR LIFE:

- Anchos
- Berean Christian Store
- Cask 'N Cleaver
- Castle Park
- C28
- Coco's
- Disneyland
- Fiesta Village
- Gardener's Cottage
- Gelato Di Roma
- Hometown Buffet
- In-N-Out Burger
- Los Angeles Zoo
- Marie Calendar's
- Old Spaghetti Factory
- Palms Day Spa
- Parkview Nursery
- Pat Reid-handmade lap blanket
- Pharaoh's Lost Kingdom
- Regal Entertainment Group
- Margaret Moses-Sees Gift Card
- Six Flags Magic Mountain
- Sizzler
- Starbucks
- Stater Bros
- Trader Joes
- Ultrastar Cinemas
- Heather Warner-basket of Candles
- Water Store



*It is good to give thanks to the Lord,
and to sing praises to
Your name, O Most High.
To declare Your loving kindness in the
morning, and Your faithfulness every night.
Psalm 92:1-2*

MOTHER'S DAY

This year we asked churches to take a second collection on Mother's Day to be donated to Riverside Life Services. We are still receiving Mother's Day envelopes but so far we have received \$3,608.71 in donations! There were also churches who participated in the Mother's Day Rose Sale. We received \$2,288.31 in donations for the Rose Sale. Thank you to the following churches for their participation in these programs:

- Arlington Church of Christ
- Calvary Chapel Jurupa Valley
- Corpus Christi
- Crest Avenue Baptist
- Faith Community
- Fellowship Baptist Church
- Grace Baptist Church
- Grace Bible Church
- Hope Community Church
- La Sierra First Southern Baptist
- Our Lady of Perpetual Help
- St. Andrews Newman Center
- St. Anthony's Church
- St. Catherine of Alexandria
- St. Patrick's Church
- St. Thomas the Apostle
- Wesley United Methodist Church
- Wind of the Spirit Worship Center

THANK YOU TO THE CHURCHES FOR PARTICIPATING AND EVERYONE WHO DONATED!

STATISTICS

January 2006 - May 2006

- Clients: 843
- New clients: 249
- Pregnancy tests: 109
- Positive tests: 50
- Negative tests: 58
- Inconclusive: 1
- Abstinence counseling: 48 (some of the negative tests were for married women)
- Abortion minded / undecided: 27
- Babies Saved: 3
- Crisis pregnancy counseling: 18
- Adoption counseling: 23
- Friendship counseling: 109
- Baby clothes bundles: 550
- Baby food jars approx.: 1,428
- Baby furniture/equipment: 79
- Diapers approximately: 12,345
- Formula: 182
- Layettees: 89
- Literature: 226
- Maternity clothes approx: 345
- Bibles: 40
- Bible promise books-approx: 129

Smile... Your Mother Chose Life...

SHARING FROM THE HEART

Here are a couple of counseling stories
(names have been changed to protect client's privacy)

by: Amy Stirbis

I would like to share about what I consider a success story. Bethany came to our center to get information and decided to sign up for Earn While You Learn. During her first appointment she shared how very hard this was going to be since she was just in her first year of college and she had really not planned on this pregnancy. She watched an ultrasound video with a live birth at the end. When the video ended, she sat in silence. She said that she could not believe that a baby that small was really a baby and how very active the baby was. She continued to come to the class and each time voiced how she was finally realizing that she was going to have a baby. Every time I tried to reassure her. I called her a couple weeks ago to see how she was doing, and was told by the person who answered the phone that they were sorry due to the fact that she was in labor she could not come to the phone. A few weeks later she came in with the father to show us the baby. I asked how she felt now and she said very happy and blessed.

by: Tami Wessen

Julie came in for a pregnancy test last week. When it was positive she was very happy. Her and her husband wanted another baby very badly. She had a three year old boy who had been wanting a brother for quite awhile. She stated the other day her son put his head on her stomach and told her she was going to have his sister. She had not told him that she might be pregnant. We only had one diaper cake to give her and it was for a girl. I invited her to our Earn While You Learn program. I called her the next day and she said her husband and son were extremely happy. She said her son told her he knew she was going to have his sister. She told him it could be a brother but he insisted this is his sister. I will keep in touch with her to find out if her son gets a sister or brother.

*I came that they may have life,
and have it abundantly
John 10:10 ESV*

Adoption Myth

Taken from: Planting the Seed:
The Love Approach

MYTH: Birthmothers are uncaring and forget about their babies. A birthmother who cares about her child would not think of adoption; adoption is an irresponsible solution; pregnant women who choose adoption take the easy way out; a birthmother will eventually forget about the child she placed in adoption.

FACT: Birthparents make loving parenting decisions when they plan adoptions. Birthparents who make an adoption plan are fulfilling their parenting responsibilities to make sure their child's long-term needs are met in the most appropriate manner. This requires them to put their child's needs above their own, a sign of maturity, responsibility and selflessness. Adoption is by no means shirking responsibility or taking the easy way out. Young women especially need to be supported in this decision by their peers. Birth parents rarely forget about the children they so lovingly place with an adoptive family.

by: Naomi Huffaker

Rachel, a client of ours, came into Riverside Life Services with tear filled eyes, she filled out the necessary paperwork for a pregnancy test. While she was in the bathroom I could hear her saying, "Please, please God don't let me be pregnant." I was outside the bathroom saying, "Please, Lord give me the words, give me the words." I then took Rachel into one of our counseling rooms where she burst into tears saying, "Please tell me I am not pregnant." I was thinking with a lump in my throat, Lord help me, I can't do this alone. I asked Rachel what was wrong. She said that her husband was working part-time and that they could barely make it financially and they just couldn't have another baby, they just couldn't. As she is telling me this she keeps looking at the test, and shaking her head "no." I said to Rachel "Hasn't God provided for your family so far?" Rachel said "yes but I just can't have this baby, it is too hard for us now as it is, you don't understand." "Rachel" I said, "I understand, we are here for you, to help you with whatever you may need for this baby; from furniture to wipes. Think about what you're thinking of doing." I asked her if her children knew about this baby. Rachel said the older one knew. I asked her "how are you going to explain this decision to your children? Your husband may understand, but your children, how would you explain it to them?" "I don't know," was her response. Grasping for words, I asked her, "When you get to Heaven what are you going to say to this baby as to why you aborted him or her?" Rachel just looked at me and said, "I can't have this baby." I felt that I was losing the battle. All I could say was, "think about how you and your family are going to feel if you decide to abort this baby, it's something that all of you will always have to live with for the rest of your lives. We are here for you and your family, please reconsider." All she said was, "I'll think about it." and she left.

Six months later Rachel came in with a smile on her face asking for cribs, clothing and diapers; for twins, yes twins! ISN'T GOD GREAT?????



Kathy Nasluchacz has been a faithful volunteer since December 2004. We want to congratulate Kathy and her husband on their little addition to their family. They were blessed on Mother's Day with the news that they had been chosen to adopt Hannah. Congratulations to Kathy, Doug, Rebecca and Hannah.



I can do everything through him who gives me strength. Philippians 4:13

TREASURE HUNTERS WANTED

Do you like to go on treasure hunts at your favorite yard sales, garage sales or charity shops?

We want you to be on the look out for certain items that we can give our moms and babies in need.

All items need to be clean, have all the parts and be in good working order.

Items Needed:

Bibs

Baby blankets

Receiving blankets

Baby bath towels

Wash cloths

Baby T-Shirts (all types and sizes)

Strollers (any type)

High Chairs

Changing Tables

Cribs (all parts, nuts and bolts)

We have just put in a washer and dryer hookup.

We are now in need of a good washer and dryer in good working condition.

If you go on your hunt every other month just think of the TREASURES we could give to the women and babies we minister to everyday.

Thank you for your tax-deductible donations and your participation.

**As of January 2005, we cannot give out used car seats because of liability issues.

He answered: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind"; and, "Love your neighbor as yourself."
Luke 10:27 NIV

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Do you speak Spanish? So far in 2006 we have served 540 Hispanic clients and some of those are Spanish speaking only.

Do you have a sympathetic ear and want to help girls and women who feel they have no other choice but abortion? We have counseled 18 women in crisis pregnancies, 23 women about adoption and 4 women about post abortion.

Do you want to help high school students and the community to understand the truth about STDs and teach about abstinence? We have a community outreach program that travels to high schools to tell the truth about STDs and tell them about the virtues of abstinence.

Are you a stay at home mom and could help with laundry? We have given 639 layettes and baby clothes bundles to moms from donated clothing, and all donated clothing must be washed.

Please pray for what God would have you to do to help.

Please call Amy Stirbis at 951-784-2422 if you are interested in volunteering.

Thank you for caring.



The Board of Directors took a hard look at how efficiently and effectively Riverside Life Services was being run and if we were being good stewards of the money we are given by our dedicated donors. The conclusion was to reorganize the current staff and have our volunteers used as effectively as possible. Our mission is still and always will be the women and babies that come to Riverside Life Services in search of our help and comfort.

Because of this reorganization two of our staff members have received promotions. Naomi Huffaker has been promoted to Front Desk Coordinator and Amy Stirbis has been promoted to Community Outreach Coordinator. Tami Wessen continues to be our Office Coordinator and Dorothy Vickers continues to be our Bookkeeper.

Naomi started as a volunteer in October 2004. She was a faithful volunteer, great with our clients and bilingual; which we really needed. When we decided to have a Receptionist on staff we asked Naomi to join our staff and she did in June 2005. As the Front Desk Coordinator some of Naomi's duties will be training and scheduling volunteers and assisting our clients in many ways. We are so thankful to have Naomi here.

Amy first came to Riverside Life Services as a client. She felt very comfortable here and decided she wanted to help out. Amy volunteered here for a few months before being hired on staff, she was the Coordinator Assistant. We had an opening for a Community Outreach Coordinator and when we saw how Amy has a gift of going out in the community and talking about us and our services we knew Amy was the person for this position and was promoted.

Amy goes to schools to talk about abstinence, dating and STDs, she recruits volunteers and she attends Chamber of Commerce meetings and community events. She will be going to Church boards for financial fundraising.

If you would like to have Amy come and speak to your group or event or if you would like to volunteer with our new community outreach, the hours would vary since some events are in the morning some are in the evening and some are on Saturday, please contact Amy at 951-784-2422.

We are always looking for volunteers.

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men.
Colossians 3:23

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Joyce Labrie was recognized as our Volunteer of the year with the Volunteer Center of Riverside County. Joyce has been a gracious, caring and faithful counselor for over 13 years! Joyce has helped countless women with unplanned pregnancies. We estimate that she has volunteered approximately 2,925 hours in those 13 years. Thank you Joyce for your caring heart.

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

Marie Gray is our volunteer of the month for May. Marie volunteered 24 hours in May. Thank you for your hard work and dedication.

IN THE NEWS

Sources: American Social Health Association www.ashastd.org & Ladies Home Journal

In an expected move, the FDA approved an HPV vaccine on June 8th. In a press release the acting FDA commissioner said, "This vaccine is a significant advance in the protection of women's health in that it strikes at the infections that are the root cause of many cervical cancers."

The vaccines may be our best weapons against human papillomavirus (HPV), a virus transmitted primarily through sexual activity that currently infects 20 million Americans and leads to almost 10,000 new cases of cervical cancer each year. Condoms offer little protection against this virus; therefore, health advocates say in order for the new vaccines to work, they must be given to virgins—preferably girls ages 8 to 13 and possibly to same-age boys who could get warts or spread cancer-causing HPV to female partners.

Recent data indicates both vaccines are able to sustain a robust immune response for several years. It will likely take several more years of follow-up; however, before it is known just how long protection lasts with either vaccine, though, and it is still not clear if booster shots will be needed.

Riverside Life Services believes that abstinence is the only way to prevent HPV and all other STDs.



SAVE THIS DATE!
Saturday, October 21, 2006



STATEMENT OF FAITH

The counseling and assistance offered at Riverside Life Services will be Christ centered.

All counseling and assistance will be consistent with the statement printed below:

We believe in the triune God Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

We believe that Jesus Christ is the only divine Son of God, who died for our sins and arose from the dead.

Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior.

Banquet for Life

We are asking local businesses to sponsor tables.

We would like to thank Farmer Boys for agreeing to purchase a table.

If you sponsor a table you may attend our

Banquet for Life and invite co-workers to attend and enjoy a meal and an inspirational speaker.

We will have raffle prizes.

We will include your company name as a sponsor on our program book and in our newsletter.

Individual or couple seating may also be purchased.

100% of your donation is tax-deductible.

100% of your donation goes to Riverside Life Services

For more information please contact:

Amy Stirbis or Tami Wessen
951-784-2422

Place: Teen Challenge's
Benedict Castle
5445 Chicago Avenue
Riverside, CA 92507

MISSION STATEMENT

Riverside Life Services strives to create a safe, confidential, loving and caring Haven in which sound alternatives to abortion may be provided to women experiencing a crisis pregnancy.

Through counseling, we hope that women will make positive decisions for themselves and their children.

We will provide practical services relating to a woman's pregnancy, child rearing and relationships.

Our main goal is to exemplify and promote sanctity of life principles and responsible behavior in the community through education.

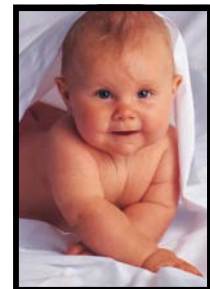


*Riverside Life Services
Pro-Life Pregnancy Counseling Center
3727 McCray Street
Riverside, CA 92506
951-784-2422*

A PRO-LIFE ORGANIZATION



*For You created my inmost being;
You knit me together in my mother's womb.
I praise You because I am fearfully
and wonderfully made;
Your works are wonderful,
I know that full well.
Psalm 139:13-14 NIV*



Abortion...
One heart stops
Another heart
breaks

www.riversidelifeservices.org