

FROM THE DIRECTOR

When a client comes in and it's fairly evident she's abortion-minded, the peer counselor may get a little knot in her stomach coupled with self-doubts, such as "Am I adequate for this today; am I sufficiently capable to deal with this?"

The answer to that is, "No, I'm not!" But hold that thought for now. One thing for sure, she will definitely send up prayer before she joins her client in the counseling room.

That happened recently when a young woman came to us distressed over the fact that she was pregnant. The counselor asked gentle questions, listened carefully and agreed that the young woman's situation appeared overwhelming.

Sometimes a client's story is such that, if it were possible, we ourselves might be tempted to see an abortion as the best alternative, in fact that thought may be fleetingly entertained, though quickly rejected. This really puts us in her shoes and she senses that we understand.

She wanted to hear about abortion procedures and risks, stopping her counselor to ask questions every now and then. The client's spiritual beliefs were examined and she was willing to listen to the other side if what she believed wasn't true.

When a client is asked if they believe there is a heaven and a hell, a minority will say they believe in heaven but not hell, as was true in this case. Some time ago, a girl said that she didn't believe in hell because she knew she would go there if it were true. This presents a wonderful opportunity to share why Jesus came to die.

The Holy Spirit opened up opportunities to share scriptural truth with this client and the Gospel was presented. She was very open and allowed her counselor to pray for her at the end of the session, making an appointment to come back in a few days to see *After the Choice*, a video in which post-abortive women share their experience.

It's very unusual to have a client like this willing to come back again, and though we thought she might not show up (oh we of little faith), she kept that appointment and decided to carry her baby to term (our joy cannot be expressed on this page!). Each time she came she wanted prayer (and a hug) and she signed up for the parenting program which she is now faithfully attending.

The wonderful thing is that we had two clients like this within days of each other and they *both* changed their minds. Praise and thank the Lord with us! Which leads us back to our starting point: We thank the Lord because it is He that does this work, both in the one who is *servicing* and the one who is *searching*.

Listen to II Corinthians 3:4-6 - "Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God, who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life." He alone is able to change the clients' hearts in a given situation.

Our task is simply to humble our hearts before Him, pray and then trust the Lord's Spirit to fill and guide us, loving our client-neighbor, leaving the results to Him as we keep them in prayer. Our boast is in Him alone, for we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us. Our own strength is most certainly inadequate.

Maranatha,
Diane Clark

PRAISE BE TO
THE GOD AND
FATHER OF OUR
LORD JESUS
CHRIST!
IN HIS GREAT
MERCY HE HAS
GIVEN US NEW
BIRTH INTO A
LIVING HOPE
THROUGH THE
RESURRECTION
OF JESUS
CHRIST FROM
THE DEAD...

1 PETER 1:3



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NEWS & NOTES

Coming soon...

The center will soon be promoting our Spring Fundraiser, Changing Babies, set to begin on Mother's Day and end on Father's Day. This is a fun and easy way to support the pregnancy center. Colorful baby bottles are distributed to supporting churches, then are taken home by individuals or families as "piggy banks" to catch loose change or cash. This will benefit the women and babies we serve here at the Center. The bottles can be returned to the church to be collected by CPC, or brought directly to the Center after Father's Day.

If you would like your church to take part in Changing Babies, you can check with your pastor and give us a call.

Two churches, **St. Brigid's** and **St. Peter's**, chose to participate in Changing Babies in fall instead of spring and between the two, over \$2,000 was given by their generous-hearted people. We are very grateful for their efforts.

Many Thanks...

For infant, toddler and maternity items given to the Center. **Catholic Daughters of America** hosted a baby shower for the Center and, boy! was it a shower! Our moms & dads have lots of neat baby items to spend their dollars on.

The Mommy Store

could use the following items:

Boppy Pillow/s

Breast pump

We certainly appreciate the items that are donated for the Mommy Store. I wish you could see the faces of the new clients entering the parenting program when they see the store for the first time. They are blessed.

CHANGING BABIES



DOCTORS ADVISED ABORTION; BABY BORN HEALTHY

"A Wales couple is enjoying their healthy 5-month-old son after they defied doctors' recommendation to abort him.

"Before Brandon Kramer was born, doctors diagnosed him, via an MRI scan, with a rare brain disorder that reportedly would cause deafness and blindness. Becky and Kriss were told their son would probably survive only a few hours. Just weeks before Brandon's birth, doctors recommended abortion.

"The couple ignored the doctors' advice and welcomed a healthy boy on October 1, 2007. He is now teething and attempting to talk."

It seems that an abnormality in a scan doesn't mean your baby will turn out abnormally, according to the British Paediatric Neurology Association. Prenatal diagnoses often are wrong.

Some years ago we had a client whose doctor ordered an ultra-sound when she was about five months along. He told her that her baby had anencephaly; part of the baby's brain was missing, he said and then pressured her to have an abortion.

She came to the Center in tears to speak with her peer counselor. They spent quite some time talking and praying together. She and the baby's father chose to trust the Lord for the baby's future and ignored the doctor's advice. She ultimately gave birth to a completely healthy baby boy. Everyone rejoiced!

The mother from Wales was quoted as asking, "*How many other babies are killed who would have turned out to be completely healthy?*"

That's our question. But it is encouraging that many parents in this situation recognize and affirm the life of their unborn child, despite dire warnings of supposedly serious health complications. DC

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NOW.”

MEDICAL JOURNAL:

ADULT STEM CELL RESEARCH TRUMPS EMBRYONIC IN HELPING PATIENTS

Washington, DC (LifeNews.com) – A new article in the Journal of the American Medical Association makes it clear adult stem cell research is leading the way in providing tangible assistance to patients with a variety of ailments. The article validates bioethicists who have said the use of adult stem cells can treat a wide variety of diseases already.

Richard K. Burt, M.D., of the Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine and colleagues conducted a review of articles on both types of stem cell research. They found dozens of applications for adult stem cells appearing to justify the famous list Dr. David Prentice of the Family Research Council produced showing the cells working with over 70 diseases.

They reviewed clinical trials involving adult stem cells during the past ten years and found they are helping patients who have a variety of diseases and even heart trouble.

Some scientists and political groups wanting to force taxpayers to fund embryonic stem cell research discounted the list and claimed Prentice had overstated the usefulness of adult stem cells.

The JAMA article appears to validate the list, he told LifeNews.com.

"This new review emphasizes the fact that adult stem cells are helping patients now," Prentice, a former Indiana State University biology professor, said.

"We've heard so many times that adult stem cells can't treat diseases, or only treat a few blood diseases, and those who have pointed out the truth, that adult stem cells are already helping patients for over 70 diseases and injuries, have been scorned," he explained.

"But the truth is hard to suppress. The evidence continues to mount that adult stem cells truly are lifesaving, providing real treatments for real patients now," he told LifeNews.com.

According to the JAMA article, adult stem cell therapy has become a standard of care when treating several types of cancer.

"Burt and his colleagues at Northwestern University reviewed the outcomes of about twenty-five hundred patients who had stem cell transplants," the paper indicated.

"They found the cells appear to be putting some patients with autoimmune diseases into remission and are offering some improvement in heart patients who have suffered heart attacks."

Wesley J. Smith, a noted attorney and bioethics watchdog, commented on the news. "With the exception of the Missouri media and perhaps, the New York Times, it is now clear that adult stem cells offer tremendous hope for treatments for a wide variety of ailments," he said.

"Remember when embryonic stem cells were going to be a huge issue in the 2008 election? Where are the critics now?" he asked.

by Steven Ertelt LifeNews.com Editor February 27, 2008



He is Risen!

