

Care Net Pregnancy Center of Albuquerque
Keeping Connected

Celebrate at the Annual "Walk For Life"

July 2006
Volume 2, Issue 4

Every year Care Net supporters, volunteers and friends celebrate the sanctity of the life of the unborn and at the same time raise funds for the ministry by taking a brief Saturday morning stroll. This year we will have four walk locations on Saturday the 9th of September. The theme for our walk is "Exercise Daily, Walk For Life".

As you probably know, there are many people who want to help women choose life. Unlike you, they don't feel that they have the time to become actively involved. Maybe they feel they don't have the financial resources to make any difference. The Walk For Life is an opportunity for everyone; youngsters, teens and those with limited time or resources to contribute to the life saving work of the Care Net ministry. All it takes is a little planning and the courage to ask people for a pledge. Last year one walker collected pledges and contributions totaling over a thousand dollars. None of her pledges were over \$50. Her key was asking a lot of individuals to support the needs of single women raising children. Another example is the year that a man in a wheel chair raised a large sum of money.

The pledge forms are available now at your local center. Pick up several and hand them out to the people who encourage and pray for you in your ministry with Care Net. Ask the teenagers or youth pastor from your church if they would like to be involved in supporting your ministry by participating in the Walk For Life. See if your Sunday School Class would take this on as a one day project. Some people are sympathetic but the walk conflicts with other commitments. They can still participate by filling out the form and collecting pledges. The forms can be turned in to their local Care Net office at their convenience. Your involvement makes a huge difference. Thank You.

Church Liaisons the key to Walk For Life success

Of the many champions and heroes who support the ministry of Care Net, it is our church liaisons who make the biggest impact during the Walk for Life. Yes, the Walk For Life takes planners and walkers and helpers. But without church liaisons promoting the walk, there would be very few walkers. These men and women promote the cause of Care Net and our clients to their local church body. They sign up walkers and encourage participation. They are the ones who explain our work and mission. They recruit prayer and financial support. Please find out who your church liaison is and offer them your thanks and help.

Special points of interest:

- ☺ "Together Forever" Premarital mentor training Friday, July 28th, 5:00 to 9:00 at Main.
- ☺ Volunteer Orientation, Thursday, August 3, 6:30- 9:00 at Main
- ☺ In Service Training: August 17, 10:00 and 6:30.
- ☺ Walk for Life, Sept. 9th at various locations.

Forgiveness-Why is it so hard to receive? Article series

Over and over we hear women say "I know God forgives me but..." Many of you may have felt like this at one time. So do your clients, your neighbors and co-workers. In this series of articles we will be looking at some of the reasons why people refuse or distort the forgiveness of God.

Every normal person will at some point sense the need to seek forgiveness from God and from someone whom they have wronged. It is a feeling of guilt or a break of relationship that motivates this desire. Yet in overwhelming numbers, a lack of forgiveness clouds their relationships. This sense of separation can go on and on for years. Recent studies show that the vast majority of siblings have unresolved conflicts that inhibit their adult relationships.

Often the parties involved desire for a restoration of relationship they cannot achieve. For instance, people ask God to forgive them, yet spend their life expecting the wrath of God to descend. They can not enjoy grace. They may feel the compulsion to earn God's favor. Or they consider themselves to be second class Christians, the wall flowers of the kingdom. We hear the expression, "but I can't forgive my self". Why is forgiveness so hard to receive? The answer varies according to the individual. At the heart of each person's resistance to forgiveness is a theological problem within their belief system. For Christians, these faulty beliefs are disguised in many forms.

In this new series we will examine issues such as: the sin nature and sin, assuming responsibility, repentance versus remorse, the roles of grief and guilt, the role of abuse, the "merit" system, the blame game, shame, salvation by self improvement, pain avoidance and "Christian" humanism. Finally, we will look at applying biblical truth.

Care Net Notes-People and Places

With deep appreciation and a twinge of sadness we say goodbye to Sue Freeman. Sue has been the director of Clothe Us In Grace, the main center's clothing closet located at Heights Christian Church. She is leaving to devote more time to the start up church where she and her husband, Steve are serving. Sue, we will really miss you.

A BIG thank you to Sheila Banks and the women and youth of Montgomery Church of Christ and Trinity at the Market Place church for taking on the yard sale. We sold over \$500. It was a very memorable morning as we got "baptized" together in the sprinkler system.

We are delighted that Kathy Mancini has agreed to join the staff as an assistant to Carol. She has been a faithful volunteer in the accounting office for many years. Her new duties will also include data entry. Lisa Constantineau now will be assisting Joan Douglas with administrative duties.

"Open" relationships in today's culture

In recent months I have talked to numerous young people who are struggling with the pain of a failed "open marriage". In open relationships the couples allow each other to date. These couples believed that the freedom to date provides them with happiness and would some how enhance their relationship. Commitment was seen as a long term nonexclusive partnership. Instead they find them selves alone and hurting.

During the 70's they were called "swingers". The concept didn't work then and it doesn't work now. What is different now is that the failure of "open" relationships seems such a shock to young people. They honestly thought this was a good idea. Sabrina Weill, former editor of Seventeen magazine says "What worries me... is what I call the "intimacy crisis". Increasingly teens' belief about love and sex-beliefs that set the stage for their behavior as adults-are alarmingly misguided."

This crisis of intimacy culminates in the failure of open marriage. Ultimately our emotional systems cannot handle casual sex. Humans have a deep need to experience intimacy in the context of an exclusive, loving relationship. Clients need to know "open" relationships always end poorly.

Congratulations: Wedding Bells are ringing for Lisa Constantineau. The big date is September 30th.

Client Nutrition In-service-August 17th

When we think of pregnancy we often think of nutrition. "She is eating for two" is a common statement. One concern for the client is about her food intake. What is healthy? What is not? How much should she be eating? Many of our clients sign up for WIC, the government sponsored food supplement program.

But what exactly does WIC provide? And more importantly does your client know what to do with the products provided? A quick list of provided items are fresh milk (about 5 gallons a month), canned milk, powdered milk, cereal, fruit juice, eggs, cheese, and beans. The program provides a check which the clients take to an approved store (Wal-mart, Smiths etc.) and redeem for specific brands and sizes of product. The WIC office provides a list of the approved items. The clients must attend one class (several topics of interest to family health and nutrition are available) every month to obtain their checks.

WIC is intended as a supplemental source of food. It does not provide enough to live on. Clients sometimes struggle adjusting to use the commodities provided. This is particularly true if they are not accustomed to cooking.

At our August 17th in-service we will be learning about pregnancy nutrition and how to encourage our clients to eat properly for their baby's and their own health. We will also look at using WIC food effectively. The in-service times are Thursday at 10:00 am and 6:30 pm. RSVP with your center director.

Albuquerque Child Loss Memorial Service

With over one quarter of all pregnancies ending in miscarriage and one and a half million abortions annually there are millions of Americans who have lost a child. In fewer but very traumatic instances families suffer the loss of a child through still birth, illness, accident, suicide or violence. No matter how the loss occurred, parents, grandparents and siblings all must deal with the loss. For many the grief and sometimes the guilt doesn't seem to go away. For those who have lost an unborn child there is no funeral, no formal recognition of the loss they have suffered. Many attempt to stuff the emotion, preventing true healing.

A city wide memorial and healing service for those who have lost a child is now in the planning stages. Nancy Querubin first conceived of the idea to help parents and grandparents of children lost to abortion. But she soon realized that parents and family members of children lost to miscarriage, suicide, murder, accident, etc. were struggling as well. The planning committee has chosen to hold the memorial service after the Care Net Walk for Life on September 9th. It will be at New Life City at 2:00 on Saturday afternoon. The church is located at 4830 Pan American Fwy NE. The service is open to the public. All who have lost a child are encouraged to attend. Call Nancy at 294-8957 for more information.

Program News

Volunteer Orientation on August 3rd at Main, 6:30 pm. Let your friends know.

Stand By Me Mentoring:

Mentor Ice Cream Social and program update will be held at the home of Sue Travelstead on Wednesday, August 2nd at 7:00. Call Sue at 271-6904 to RSVP and get directions.

Stand By Me mentor training for new mentors will be held on Tuesday, September 19th at 6:00. Meeting at the Main Center.

The Purity Ball is set for November 3rd. It will be held at the Inn Of Albuquerque, near Old Town this year.

Earn While You Learn is a vital link in our strategy to interrupt the cycle of early unwed pregnancy and childhood poverty. Encourage both parents to come. Include the father of the baby in your conversation. Ask relationship questions. Offer the "Together Forever" premarital mentoring. To sign them up, call the main office or speak to your director.

Occasionally we add supplemental information to the EWYL lessons. A recent example is a list of medications that Presbyterian Hospital says are ok during pregnancy.

Wants and Needs and Thanks

Thanks: A special thanks to all of you who participated in the Yard Sales and the South Valley clean up day.

Thanks to a supporter who was aware of our needs we were able to replace all the main center computers with newer (surplus) machines free of charge. Several of the satellite offices will also receive these computers.

Needed:

Couples to mentor and facilitate premarital discussions with our clients and their boyfriends. We will provide Marriage Savers training. This is a great way for married couples to minister together. **Training date is July 28th from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm.**

Sunday School classes; adult, youth or children, to do either the Walk For Life challenge or the Baby Bottle campaign.

Paper towel rolls needed at all centers.

Several **small fans** would help cool off the hot parts of the building at the Main Center.

As always we are in need of your **prayers**. During the summer months we especially need prayer for operating budget funds. This year is particularly slow. Also we have many volunteers and staff with health problems or family illness.

Phone: 505-880-8373

Fax: 505-881-8220

Email: mlequieu@carenetabq.org

Care Net Pregnancy Center of Albuquerque

9809 Candelaria NE, Building 1-A

Albuquerque, NM 87112

Providing a safe place for those facing an uncertain future.

Care Net Pregnancy Center of the East Mountains

**150 State Rd 344
Edgewood
281-5408
Lisa Constantineau, Director
Clothing Closet: Sue**

**Our hours: Mon—Thurs 1:30 to 5:00 p.m.
Counselor schedule: Monday: Linda
Tuesday: Rose, Mary, Gabriella & Donna
Wednesday: Cindy
Thursday: Janet, Lisa T., Denise & Zo**

Prayer Warriors Needed!

As we serve God in this ministry with your support, we are constantly made aware of how vital prayer is. Several of our volunteers and staff members have suffered illnesses, personal, financial and/or professional setbacks and feelings of discouragement.

One volunteer counselor was threatened with bodily harm outside our Center recently when she came upon a man trying to break into her car as she left after an evening counseling appointment.

Knowing we have warriors beseeching God on our behalf makes such a difference in this battle we face. We welcome you to join us any time at the Center between 1:30 and 2:00, Monday through Thursday, which is when we usually start our ministry time with prayer.

Be a Friend for Life

If you would be willing to make a monthly contribution to Care Net using your credit card or by having your bank account debited electronically, you can be a **Friend for Life**. Just call Lisa mornings at the Main office at 880-8373 or afternoons at the East Mountain office at 281-5408.

It takes only minutes to set up, but your gift enables this ministry to **change lives!**

Walk For Life

This year's Walk will be start at Valley View Christian Church, 170 State Road 344, Edgewood, on Saturday, September 9. We will be walking to Calvary Chapel of the East Mountains and back. You should be hearing more details soon, so be ready!

East Mountain Wish List

Consistent monthly support from area churches (in June we received \$133.59)
Volunteers
Diapers in sizes 2, 3 & 4
"Stylish" maternity clothes for young mothers
Baby wipes
New infant car seats
Used or new copies of What to Expect When You're Expecting

Pregnancy Center of Valencia County

601 Main Street, Suite 26
Tina Sishc, Director

Los Lunas, NM 87031 505-565-3838
Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Remember: "Speak the truth in love" - that is what Care Net is all about.

January 2006 through June 2006 Statistics:

Clients seen: 203

Pregnancy tests: 30

Number of bibles given: 9

Earn While You Learn Clients: 135

Once again thanks to all our volunteers and supporters for their time, skills, donations, and most of all their hearts for the Lord.

Consider having your church do a baby bottle campaign either thru your Sunday School or your youth group. This is a great way to raise funds so we can become self supporting.

Open House

The Open House celebration at our new facility was well attended. Doc Schneider, who provided a home for us until we found one of our own, was given a plaque of appreciation and named *Mr. Care Net of Valencia County*.

Garden Party

The annual "Thank You" garden party for all Care Net volunteers was held on June 10. Along with great fellowship and elegant food service, an additional treat was the acappella harmony performance.

Wish List

- ❖ Monthly church pledges to help make us self- supporting.
- ❖ Designated contributions of \$250 for training videos, so training can be held in Valencia County.
- ❖ \$200 designated contributions for more Earn While you Learn education videos and homework to further our education program.
- ❖ A Digital camera for use at events and to take pictures of babies and moms.

Friends in High Places

Vice President Chaney recently paid a visit to the troops where Micah's Dad was serving at his home base in South Carolina, When asked if he would allow them to take a picture, the VP was very open to the idea and the result is the photo above (not available in text only version). **Micah's Mom was Care Net Pregnancy Center of Valencia County's very first client!**

Micah's Dad is now serving in Iraq and will be home to resume his Air Force career in September. Please remember this family and all our service families in your prayers.

News from Rio Rancho Care Net

1700 A Southern Blvd.
Phone: 896-2305 Fax: 896-2306

Rio Rancho, New Mexico 87124
Cindy Naranjo, director

"Have not I commanded Thee! Be strong and of a good courage: be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest." *Joshua 1:9*

Greetings from Rio Rancho! As always we are excited to let you know what we have been up to.

At this time we are in the process of organizing our Walk for Life. We have been equipped and blessed by God with a coordinator, Lisa Juslisa, from Calvary Chapel of Rio Rancho. Please pray for her protection and health as she organizes our Walk.

Our 1st organizational meeting had 18 interested people from different area churches and businesses that are willing to help with this endeavor. Please pray that the Care Net Walk for life, at the four different locations, will be a blessing to our communities and will bring much "Glory To God", as we unite for a common cause.

WALK FOR LIFE SEPTEMBER 9TH FOR LOCATIONS CALL: 880-8373

As always there are many plans in the works to bring community awareness, fellowship of the Body, and much needed funding.

Juliet Tross (Arms of Love Foursquare) coordinating a beautiful baby contest starting August 1st ending December 31st.

John and Teresa Stephens (Destiny Center) coordinating the motorcycle run, September 23rd.

Grace Outreach Assembly of God will host our "Young at Heart Concert" in September. "Young at Heart" is a group ranging in age 55 to 102. They give a wonderful show for all age groups.

Amos and Donna Gutierrez (Ekklesia) hosting our Care Net Basketball Tournament in October.

As you can see we try to include every aspect of our community from the very young (Beautiful Baby Contest) to the very "Young at Heart". We include the Church community as the Body of Christ and we provide events to include the secular community as well. We hope that as the Body of Christ through Care Net, we can bring an awareness to the life of the unborn and a realization of the call that God has placed in all of us (as Christians) to save the unborn and to heal and restore the hurting,

MAY GOD BLESS AND PROTECT EACH OF YOU

PRAYER REQUEST:

PROTECTION ON OUR CENTERS, EXEC. DIRECTOR, BOARD MEMBERS, DIRECTORS, VOLUNTEERS, AND THEIR FAMILIES.

HEALING FOR MANY OF OUR VOLUNTEERS, STAFF AND THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS

GODS WILL AND WISDOM IN ALL ENDEAVORS

BLESSINGS UPON OUR WALK FOR LIFE AND COMING EVENTS

UNITY WITHIN THE BODY OF CHRIST FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD

FOR CARE NET TO BE A BEACON OF LIGHT TO THE LOST AND HURTING

THAT WE MAY SHINE GODS LOVE ON EVERY PERSON WHO WALKS IN OUR DOORS