

Director's Report

At the time of the writing of this report, we are already two-thirds of the way through this year. It has been amazing to see what God has done here at Bethany in the first eight months of 2006. To date we have seen 139 pregnancy counseling clients. Thirty-two of these clients received material resources. Eighty-three of them had ultrasound examinations. Twenty seven of the women who had ultrasound examinations were either abortion vulnerable or seriously considering abortion as a solution to their unplanned pregnancy. To date, not one of our clients has chosen to abort her child though one of the birth mothers probably would have done this if the ultrasound had not shown that her baby had already died. Two birth mothers have made the life affirming decision of making an adoption plan for their children.

Also this year, we have had nine families receive the gift of a child through domestic adoption and three families have welcomed four international children home. We anticipate that several more families will bring home children from other countries before the end of the year.

We are so grateful to you, our faithful supporters, who make it possible for us to minister in Christ's name to "the least of these". Please be praying with us as we consider how to expand our services here in Fredericksburg. We have been exploring ways in which we can support and encourage women who are planning to parent their babies so that these little ones can have a good beginning. We have also been looking at the possibility of adding testing for STIs, sexually transmitted infections. This would allow us to minister to men as well as to women. We are looking for new ways to have an impact in our community for good; ways in which we can bring the message of the gospel to bear on the lives of the people we see.

Will you pray with us that God would provide the funds to expand His work here in Fredericksburg? Pray with us also for wisdom with regard to any additional services God may want us to add to better serve the needs of children and families in our community.

Joan Richwine, Director

Prayer and Thanksgiving

Pray that God would continue to send us birth mothers who need our services.

Continue to **thank** God for sending **Bethany** many abortion minded and abortion vulnerable women.

Thank God that Kathy Richards, foster mother and Advisory Board Member appears to be in complete remission. Doctors are recommending that she have some further treatment that will require her to be hospitalized for approximately three weeks. Please continue to **pray** for Kathy's complete healing and for strength for her husband Jack and their children.

Thank God for some recent generous donations and **pray** for **Bethany's** ongoing financial need.

Bethany's current lease runs out April 30, 2007. **Pray** that God would provide expanded physical space in a good location. This will allow us to increase medical services which are needed in the community.

Pray for the anticipated beginning of Bethany's Life Skills and Parenting program that is scheduled to begin in October. Several young ladies have expressed interest in learning how to be good parents to their children

WISH LIST

Bethany needs the following items:

1. Gift cards to be used as incentives for women participating in the parenting/life skills program
2. New copy machine
3. Color laser printer
4. Book shelves in good condition
5. Nice floor and/or table lamps

Date to Remember

In 2006 the Fredericksburg office of **Bethany Christian Services** is celebrating 20 years of service to the greater Fredericksburg

community. A group of pastors led by Doug Kittredge of New Life in Christ Church decided that there needed to be a pro-life response to the abortion issue in Fredericksburg. We are grateful for his vision that allowed this office to open in 1986.

Please join us at the Fredericksburg Country Club to celebrate what God has been doing. This gala event will take place on October 17, 2006. Tickets for the celebration dinner will be \$50.00 per person. Plan to arrive at 6:30 p.m. Dinner will be served at 6:45. Jackets and ties are required. You will have the opportunity to rejoice with us in what God has done as he has blessed, grown and expanded **Bethany's** ministry in this community. You will also have an opportunity to financially support this work. We hope we will see many of you there!

Legacy for Life, Final Report

To date we have received \$42,500 as a result of our Legacy for Life Golf Tournament and Power Walk which took place on May 18, 2006. The following people earned trips for raising the most dollars:

Sonya Dodson, \$1765
Colleen Geyer, \$1766
Debbie Hill, \$3,385
Diana Layne, \$1511
Louise Motsko, \$2067
Katherine Nolt, \$3,630

We thank all of you who participated and helped to make this event a success. Our thanks also goes to Fred Weber and Champion Events for helping us organize this event which was both fun and profitable.

FAIRY GODMOTHER

Psalm 127:3, 5: Lo, children are a heritage from the Lord...Blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them.

It is truly a blessing to work with prospective parents to help them expand their families. It doesn't matter how the child comes to you. God views all children as a blessing and a reward.

I have the opportunity of calling a family to let them know there is a special child waiting to join their family. One of my clients has fondly nicknamed me his "fairy godmother." When a woman makes an adoption plan, we have the awesome responsibility of placing a child with a family that best represents the wishes of the birthmother. From a human perspective, I have the opportunity of playing the role of fairy godmother. However, as Christians, we believe that Jesus Christ is the sovereign God of the universe who makes no mistakes. Ultimately, God is the one who places a child in the home that he has already selected. I merely have the wonderful privilege of being the facilitator of what God has already purposed to do. I'll be a "fairy godmother" any time!!

Louise Motsko, Adoption Social Worker



Erica and her "Fairy Godmother"

