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September-October, 2007

Fredericksburg Office

1616 Stafford Avenue
Fredericksburg, VA 22401
Director: Joan Richwine, MSW, LSW

540-373-5165: Bethany Office
540-370-1800 Pregnancy Center

Web Address:

www.bethany.org
www.bethanypregnancycenter.com

Hours:

Monday- Friday
8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 6, 2007

**Domestic Violence Seminar, Dr. Stosny, 6:00 p.m.
Registration required**

September 21, 2007

**Infant Adoption Awareness Training, 8:00 to 5:00
Registration Required**

September 25, 2007

Fredericksburg Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

October 2, 2007

**Domestic Adoption Information Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
All of the above events occur in the Fredericksburg
office, 1616 Stafford Avenue, Fredericksburg, VA**

October 9, 2007

**Annual Fund Raising Banquet, 6:45 p.m.
Grace Church of Fredericksburg**

Ministry Update

As of the third week in August, we had already seen 151 clients for ultrasound appointments. In all of 2006, we saw 156 women. At our current rate, we will likely see approximately 225 women in 2007, a 49% increase over last year. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve many women in our community. Our research indicates that almost 60 % of our clients have household incomes under \$15,000 per year. It is clear that our ministry reaches out to people who otherwise might not be able to afford this important service.

While we are very thankful that many of these women are finding us through the referral of health departments (45), other agencies (25), friends (24) and the yellow pages (14), we are also struggling to keep up with the demand for this service. Current giving continues to be substantially behind last year, making it increasingly difficult for us to meet our budgeted expenses. Please keep this in your prayers as you consider what part God would have you play in helping to meet **Bethany's** need.

We do want to thank all of you who faithfully pray for the ministry. As we strive to do the work God has called us to do, we often face obstacles. Right after we moved to our new location, our sign was stolen from in front of our building. There are definitely people who do not want this work to prosper in this community. We ask your prayers as we seek to make inroads into the UMW campus this year. We believe we have an important message of truth to share with the students there. Continue to pray that we will share the message of hope, forgiveness, restoration and reconciliation with the people God sends our way. ---

Joan Richwine, Director

Verse for the year: **“Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but to your name give glory, because of your mercy, and because of your truth.” --Psalm 115:1**



Partnering with clergy and human services agencies is essential in building the **CONNECTIONS** program. In August, **Connections** staff met with representatives from both groups. More than 40 persons attended a dinner and presentation that was held at the Fredericksburg Expo and Conference Center.

“Good things often happen, and new doors often open, when people sit around a table together and share more than a meal,” said Ron Gallagher, program manager for **Connections**.

Pastors from five Fredericksburg area churches, who attended, invited the staff to give presentations and/or announce upcoming events in their church publications. This is an important means of reaching potential coaching couples, Gallagher said. In addition, Head Start staff invited **Connections** to an event for the families enrolled in their program. Agencies such as Head Start are a valuable link to our client couples, said Louise Motsko, the case management specialist for the Fredericksburg office.

In addition to Gallagher's presentation, Spotsylvania resident Jack Bosworth and Colorado resident, Valentina Lan Craig, both students at the School of Film and Television in New York, performed a skit portraying an unmarried couple faced with an unplanned pregnancy.

Next month, **CONNECTIONS** is sharing its resources. Clergy and human services agency partners who deal with domestic violence in their work are invited to attend a seminar on domestic violence. On September 6, the Fredericksburg office is hosting domestic violence expert Steven Stosny, Ph.D. Stosny, founder of CompassionPower, is a consultant in family violence for the Prince

George's County Courts. Providing resources and training for dealing with domestic violence is a part of the training that **CONNECTIONS** provides to its coaching couples.

The **Connections** program offers relationship and parenting guidance to unmarried couples who are expecting, or who have an infant up to three months of age. For more information or to register for the seminar contact:

Louise Motsko at 540-373-6463 or lmotsko@bethany.org

Website: bethanyconnections.org

Celebrating God's Faithfulness

Please join us on Tuesday, October 9, 2007 for our annual fund raising dinner. This year we will be “Celebrating *God's Faithfulness*” to **Bethany**. You will have the opportunity to hear from families who have been blessed through **Bethany's** ministry, people we have been able to help because you have been generous in your support of this important work. A birth mother who now works in our **Connections** program will share her story. You will have the opportunity to meet a family who was blessed through adoption. We'll have a report on the **Connections** program, a ministry update and special music. There will be several presentations to people who have worked hard to advance the cause of this ministry. We hope you will put this date on the calendar and be with us for this special evening.

Seating begins at 6:45 p.m. at **Grace Church of Fredesicksburg** (Address 1141 Heatherstone Dr. Fredericksburg, VA) Dinner will be served at 7:00 p.m. You will have your choice of beef or chicken. The cost for the dinner is \$15.00 per person/\$25.00 per couple. This amount covers only the cost of the meal; all gifts that evening will be fully tax deductible. Invitations were mailed recently. If you did not get one, please contact our office at 540-373-5165. We will be happy to make an invitation available to you. We hope

you will plan to attend. We look forward to an evening of blessing and praise to our God for the way he continues to sustain and increase **Bethany's** ministry in the Fredericksburg area.

Wish List

1. Volunteer handy man who will give four hours (or more) a month to help with routine office maintenance—changing air conditioning filters, painting, installing locks, moving furniture, etc.
2. High capacity paper shredder.
3. Small, full size refrigerator (no more than 10 cubic feet).
4. Twelve padded folding chairs.

Prayer and Thanksgiving

Thank God for the provision of a new flat screen monitor and six padded stacking chairs.

Pray for the continued success of Bethany's **Connections** program. Pray for increased interest among all our clients and for committed, coaching couples in each of our Virginia offices.

Pray that God will send us additional birth mothers who have a heart for the needs of their children. Pray for two birth mothers who have made adoption plans in the last three months and for another who is seriously considering this plan for her unborn children (twins).

Pray for an additional nurse to “catch the vision” of the ministry here. We need to add another trained nurse for approximately 10 hours per week.

Continue to thank God for the blessing of additional space which allows us to better serve the greater Fredericksburg area.

Pray for increased giving to support the expanding opportunities and challenges we face