

YAMPA VALLEY PREGNANCY & FAMILY CENTER NEWS

What's New at the Center



Kid's clothes racks in the Practical Needs Store



A superb storage shed



New name – new window sign!

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What's New at the Center

We've been arranging, rearranging and re-rearranging things ever since I became the Executive Director in May last year, and our use of the space we have keeps improving.

We are SO grateful to the **Yampa Valley Community Foundation** for the funds to improve our *Earn While You Learn* (EWYL) and Practical Needs program. We purchased two years of updates and new material for our EWYL program and the clothes racks for our Practical Needs Store.

Thanks to **several very generous donors**, we were also able to purchase a new storage shed from **The Barn Yard**. It just arrived, so we are excited to begin moving shelving and STUFF into it. The shed has given us a lot more options for displaying items in our Practical Needs Store. We will display photos of the changes in our next newsletter!

We also have a new window sign from **Identity Graphics** to display our new name!



EWYL Curriculum

Vicki's Vantage Point



Just for the record, this is the first time in my life I've been "the boss" – so to speak – of a whole ministry, organization or business. I've always been part of the support team of someone else's ministry, organization or business. I am excited and humbled to be the Executive Director of the wonderful work the Lord is doing at the Pregnancy & Family Center.

The first thing I want to share is the Scripture the Lord has given us for 2016. The first verse came as part of our Chili Super: Celebrating New Beginnings. It was on the placemats. The second came while I was thinking about what to say at the Chili Supper. The third came after the new year.

- Revelation 21:5 *Behold, I make all things new.*
- Luke 6:38 *Give and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, they will pour into your lap. For by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return.*
- Matthew 25:21 *"Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master. (cf: Psalm 16:11 You will make known to me the path of life. In Your presence is fullness of joy; in Your right hand there are pleasures forever.)"*

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Meet Our Staff

Another part of the new life is our volunteer staff. Everyone is new since May 2015, and everyone is a unique blessing to me and to our work at the Center. We have become family, and it is spreading to everyone who comes to the Center...our family keeps growing and growing!

Carol is a SPED aide at one of our elementary schools, volunteers at her church (also working with kids), loves to clean (hooray!!) and loves all our little ones. We know if someone brings their kids with them, Carol will be the first to stop what she is doing and go play with the kids! Babies are her specialty. She will take on any task or project with joy and enthusiasm. She is also an incredible prayer warrior whose faith is not easily shaken.



Carol Morton, Tuesdays



June Ritchie, Tuesdays

Just after becoming Interim Director, the Lord prompted me to ask June if she would consider volunteering at the Center. The timing was definitely His...she was wondering what she might do next after completing a commitment elsewhere. She came every time I needed someone at the Center throughout the summer and into the fall. June is a bundle of energy and creativity. She wants to understand all aspects of the tasks and projects she is involved in, which makes her ask very good questions! Her creativity and sense of color and design is transforming me (she gives me great advice on clothes!) and the entire atmosphere of the Center. June also volunteers at her church working with the kids and designs all their bulletin board displays. June's strong faith and love of Jesus motivates her to be a great encourager for all of us - staff and clients - at the Center.

Terri came in one day asking if we needed volunteers, so we "hired" her!! She has been an aide at the elementary schools and also facilitates a recovery class at her church. Terri loves working with our *Earn While You Learn* clients and their children. She is a wealth of practical information and willingly does anything (especially the repetitive or complex tasks) with dedication and joy. Her love of Jesus and heart for healing people's hurts is evident in her interaction with our clients.



Terri Winey, Thursdays

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Tracy came to help with the Chili Supper in November and stayed to volunteer! She handles payables and financial matters for an organization in Steamboat Springs and comes to the Center as often as she is able! Tracy is a walking human resource for our clients who have kids with any kind of special need and enjoys being with the children as much as the adults. She is great at organizing – paper, things and thoughts – which makes her a huge blessing for me and our clients, as we have a lot of paper, things and thoughts! Her love for the Lord shines from her eyes and blesses all of us.



Tracy Sheldon, Saturdays

We will have a photo in the next edition

Kailee was the first person to volunteer in May 2015 and has been faithfully with us ever since. Besides being a single mom who is pursuing her BA degree to become a preschool director, she works at one of our elementary schools as an aide for special needs and other kids and helps with the youth group at her church. Kailee is incredibly creative, very organized, and has an innate sense of what needs to be done in any situation. Her love for the Lord is evident in her actions and attitudes towards children and adults. She always brings the kind of comfort and information that improves each situation she is part of.

Prior to retiring from her full-time job, Penny came to the Center wondering if we might need volunteers since she would have more “free” time soon. Of course I said YES! and asked her when she wanted to start!! Very shortly after she started coming our volunteer bookkeeper said she needed to stop helping us. Penny was the one God sent to do that job – even before we knew we needed her! She is very detail oriented and is a great blessing to all of us “non-number” people at the Center. She has a great personality, strong commitment to the Lord. There’s always a lot of laughter at the Center when Penny is around!



Penny Nelson, Bookkeeper

Our Staff continued



*Vicki Van Cowering,
Executive Director*

Prior becoming Executive Director, I was a board member for about two years, and volunteered at the Center for one summer. Before moving to Colorado I did administrative work for two pro-life organizations in California and was a leader in a post-abortion healing ministry at my church. I have a BA in Behavioral Science, and am certified as a biblical counselor by the American Association of Christian Counselor. Besides my work at the Pregnancy & Family Center, I also do biblical counseling at my church, and spend time with my special needs grandson.

Vicki's Vantage Point continued

We are a new...well, renewed...ministry. We have

- A new name: Yampa Valley Pregnancy & **Family** Center.
- A new website: yvpfcenter.org
- And new life for our *Earn While You Learn* program in the community
- A renewed mission: We offer **HOPE** – **H**elp, **O**pportunity, **P**ractical Needs, **E**ducation
- A revitalized board with two new members

Why we changed our name

We have not changed our mission – we still

- care for pregnant teens and women
- offer free pregnancy testing
- do not perform or refer for abortions
- all our services are free to anyone and everyone who comes to the Center

So what has changed? Our vision for those serve. Thanks to collaboration with GOAL Academy and a growing relationship with Bear River Young Life, we are reaching more teens with our *Earn While You Learn* lessons. We will also explore getting on the CNCC campus. Our prayer is that we will reach young moms with help and the door will open to speak to them and other teens and young women about abstinence.

We also want to serve *anyone* raising infants and toddlers: single parents, couples, grand parents and foster parents. We have a growing relationship with Moffat County Department of Social Services and will make our *Earn While You Learn* curriculum available to foster parents, respite foster parents and emergency foster parents for their certification and recertification requirements. We will offer the Life Skills lessons at Love INC's budgeting classes starting in the summer or fall.

We are not just about pregnancy tests and diapers anymore. It's nothing new, but it seems like everything is new!

Some Closing Thoughts

We have come a long way from wondering if we needed to close in April/May 2015. The Lord has been blessing us greatly, but we will continue to need help from our churches and the community. Here are some of our current needs:

Finances: Our regular monthly donations are about \$900 short of meeting our regular budget. If you can give any amount monthly, that would be great, but we know everyone can't do that, so we also have these "passive" giving options:

Amazon Smile Program: a portion of the purchase price of everything you buy at Amazon.com will be sent to the YVPFC when you designate us as your chosen organization. Here's how to participate:

- a. Go to Smile.Amazon.com
- b. Click on "Spotlight Charity"
- c. In the "Choose your own charity" bar type in Yampa Valley Crisis Pregnancy Center Inc
- d. Then, whenever you shop, log in to Smile.Amazon.com to do all your shopping instead of the regular Amazon.com website. Then shop as usual.

City Market Community Rewards Program: City Market will also donate funds to YVPFC when you choose us as your designated organization. Here's how to participate:

- a. Go to citymarket.com
- b. Scroll down to the black link area at the bottom. Choose "Community" in the first column
- c. Click on "Learn More" on City Market Community Rewards
- d. Click on "Enroll now"
- e. If you already have a City Market login account, use that. If not, follow the prompts to sign up and choose Yampa Valley Pregnancy Center.

Printer Cartridge Recycling Program: Save your used printer cartridges and bring them in to YVPFC (25 W. Victory Way), Cornerstone Realty (508 Yampa Avenue) or The Community Budget Center (555 Yampa Avenue) or, if your business wants to recycle, call us and we will bring you a collection box and come get the cartridges when you call.

Practical Needs Items: We need high chairs and strollers (have a waiting list for both), a specific request for a double stroller, and 2T-4T toddler clothes.