

Catching Up on Everything

New Place – New Hours!



We moved into our new place July 1 and are loving it! **538 Breeze Street** – it's almost twice as much space as we had on Victory Way, and is a perfect floor plan for us. We also started new hours this month: **Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays noon to 4 PM**, or by appointment.

Grants & Funding

Getting grant funding is becoming more challenging. Many foundations are becoming reluctant to fund “religious organizations”. I am waiting to hear from one we recently applied to whose guidelines say they won't fund any non-profit that has “religious or political intent.”

I have received grant funding that supports our practical needs and *Earn While You Learn* program, but our monthly donations do not meet our monthly operating expenses. We have two grants for operating expenses that are helping us meet the shortfall, but we can't apply for either again for three years.

We have several giving options available (see *Be Part of the Blessing* on page 2). The City Market and Amazon Smile programs are “passive” giving options – they won't take money out of your pocket!

Our online giving is very secure. We just completed a comprehensive security application with Give Savvy, our online giving provider. If you want to donate but haven't yet, please consider setting up an online regular monthly donation. As little as \$5 or \$10 a month will make a big difference to us!



I will keep applying to as many trusts and foundations as I can, and believe the Lord will bring in the funding from whatever source He has chosen!

Volunteer Opportunity

We are overrun with clothes to sort! Our community is incredible and so supportive of what we do, but the blessings are piling up! If you are able to spend one or two hours a week sorting clothes when we are open **we could use your help!** Call Vicki at the Center 970-824-5204 for more details.

Car Seats



The Public Safety Center has lost its grant for car seats, so have given us permission to accept donated car seats but they have to meet the following criteria: Less than 8 years old, single owner, never been in a car wreck. If you have a car seat you are no longer using that meets that criteria, please bring it by when we are open, or call for an appointment. If you know anyone who needs a car seat, we please tell them to come see us.

Vicki's Vantage Point



What an amazing summer! Left shoulder surgery in June, moved the Center in July, right shoulder surgery in August and saw my son and daughter-in-love leave for England in September. Talk about life changes!!!!

I couldn't have managed without our wonderful board and volunteers who helped with the move and have kept me “honest” about what I can (and mostly can't) do until both shoulders are healed (end of October).

It all brought my strong sense of independence into focus. I've always seen myself as a team player, and I am, but it's a lot easier being a team player when I'm helping someone else than when I'm the one needing help! Bumped right into my “don't want to be a bother to anyone” issue.



So, the Lord has given me many opportunities to “bother” people the past three months, because I've needed a lot of help. The BEST PART – no one ever made me feel like I was bothering them! Everyone has responded with love and joy. Matter of fact, one volunteer even challenged me to keep asking so as not to “rob the rest of us of a blessing.”

And so it goes – give to get to give – whether finances, time, energy or other resources. Sometimes we give, sometimes we need to get, but the Lord is the Provider of all we need. And we are never a bother to Him!

Why We Do What We Do The Way We Do It

Reprinted from the May issue...just in case you missed it!

Why We Do...

Well, mostly because Jesus told us to when He was here on earth. "Make disciples" (Matthew 28:19) ... "love one another just as I have loved you" (John 15:12) ... "freely you received, freely give." (Matthew 10:8), and finally, because "[The Lord] doesn't want anyone lost. He's giving everyone a chance to repent" (2 Peter 3:9).

What We Do...

So, we love others like Jesus loves us: unconditionally and too much to leave anyone the way they are without Him. We just can't help it – we want to model Jesus' love so everyone in Craig can come to know what it means to be forgiven of every sin, accepted, loved and valued...just as you are. It's the belief system undergirding our offer of **HOPE**:

- **Help** – whatever anyone raising infants and toddlers needs to care for their little ones. It's meeting them where they are with what they need; given freely and without any strings attached. It's the open door to building a relationship so we can share our faith and God's love with people who don't know anything about God and His great love.
- **Opportunity** – we encourage our moms and dads to grow, learn, and get the help they need by taking classes with us and take advantage of the many programs other community agencies offer.
- **Practical Needs** – the backbone of our ministry is our Practical Needs Store and Loan Item Program. Funded primarily by grant money, we are able to provide almost anything a family will need for their little ones.
- **Education** – our *Earn While You Learn* lessons provide a solid foundation of parenting and life skills as well as the stages of pregnancy and early infant care – all from a biblical perspective

The Way We Do It

We will help anyone who comes to us. I've been told that we are foolish because it so easy for people to take advantage of us, or that we aren't being "good stewards" of what we have unless we make sure the people we serve aren't abusing the system and us.

Here's our take on that: *Give, and it will be given to you. They will pour into your lap a good measure—pressed down, shaken together, and running over. For by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return.*" (Luke 6:38) That's the first Bible verse that came to mind after HOPE.

We practice magnanimous giving because the Lord is our Provider and our Provision, and He has been absolutely faithful to make sure we have everything we need when we need it – to give away or to use for our own needs. Many years ago, one of my pastors said, "Our purpose in life is to give to get to give more to get more to continually give...we cannot out-give the Lord." That has consistently proven to be true here at the Center!

Current Needs

- Gently used winter toddler clothes
- Larger sized diapers (4,5,6)
- Wipes (regular, not sensitive)
- Regular monthly donors

Be a Part of the Blessings

If you'd like to be part of our mission and ministry here, but don't have time to volunteer or resources to donate, please consider these options:



Amazon.com will donate a small portion of their

profit on most items to us via the **Amazon Smile Program**.

City Market has a similar program called City Market Community Rewards.



Both require online sign-ups. We've posted instructions for each on our website: yvpfcenter.org, click on Financial Giving Options.



You can also bring your used laser and ink jet cartridges to us. You can leave them at the front or back door if we aren't open.

Online Giving

We also have an online giving option on our website. It's easy and completely secure. To get started, simply "Click **HERE** to make a donation" in the turquoise box in the sidebar on our home page.

