

## What's New at the Center

### *The Value of a Volunteer*

Last month I highlighted a new volunteer, Carrie Holton. This month I want to highlight the Value of a Volunteer!! One of the benefits of the recent Rural Philanthropy Days was finding out I can include volunteer hours into our budget, thus having a larger budget **which** gives us the ability to ask for more grant money! (Foundations usually give no more than 10% of the current budget.) The State of Colorado values 1 volunteer hour at \$25.97!! In 2016 our volunteers gave us 598 hours for a total value of \$15,530. This year we have exceeded 400 hours as of September 30!

There is no way to measure actual value of those 598 hours to our moms, dads, grandparents and foster parents, but we can see what it means to them when they walk out with bags full of whatever they needed for their little ones, or pregnant moms find clothes that fit perfectly and make them feel pretty. They are always smiling, frequently tearful, and often amazed that we had exactly what they needed.

The benefit of a volunteer is great for the budget...the benefit to a parent or grandparent – priceless!

## Fundraising Updates

### *Online Giving*

We are SO close to having online giving on our website! We have signed on with a company called Star Financial that has an online giving program and a heart for pregnancy centers! All the paperwork is complete and we have a General Contributions page. I just have to figure out how to get the link onto our website! I'm working on getting help for that, so watch FaceBook, our website and the newspaper, as I will let everyone know when everything is set up!

### *Storage Wars - Craig Style*

Our summer event was SO successful – and so much fun, we will have another one in 2018. Big Bar storage unit so we can accept next Storage Wars. The unit is of mouth, so I thought I'd get  Storage has given us our own donations that will be part of the already 1/3 full just from word the word out here, too. We currently can't accept large furniture, and do not want clothing unless it is really special. If you have something you'd like to donate, please call Victoria at the Center 970-824-5204.

### *City Market Community Program*

THANK YOU to everyone who has signed up for City Market's Community Program! We get a check from Kroger (the parent company) every 2 months, and the amount has been increasing with every check to the point where this month's check is nearly double the amount we received in January! We haven't yet reached the best we ever got from City Market (\$300+ per check) but we are 1/3 of the way there! If you'd like to sign up, go to our website for City Market link.

## Vicki's Vantage Point



Yikes!! It's the last two months of 2017!!! Honestly, it seems like we were celebrating the New Year just a few weeks ago and here we are at the fringe of what I hope will NOT be a frantic holiday season!

The end of the year has challenges of its own – for me it's preparing grant applications, reports for our annual board meeting, and the annual report to our donors...none are difficult, they just take time to do when so many other once a year things have to be done!

My goal for the end of the year is to eliminate stress by remembering

- people are more important than To Do Lists
- the Lord has helped me to get the really necessary "to dos" done every year in the past
- just take it one task and one holiday at a time
- and finally, but most importantly, keep my mind and heart fixed on the Lord and praise and thank Him for who He is and all He has done and is doing.



# Yampa Valley Pregnancy & Family Center News

October 2017

## Something to Think About

Recently, one of my pastors said something that was obvious, but very profound: As a Christian, we wear Christ's name and represent Him in all we say and do.

It's an expression defining family. Parents use language that defines family usually in answer to, "But all the kids are....", or "Billy's dad is letting him...." The answer is always something like, "That's not how we do things in our family; and there would be consequences for not behaving as expected.

These words are a simplified version of how our heavenly Father has defined what we are all about in our family:

love one another  
work hard & have faith  
be grateful  
use your manners  
BE RESPECTFUL  
always tell the truth  
do your best  
give without expectation  
forgive everyone  
use kind words  
SAY YOUR PRAYERS  
look for opportunities to serve  
count your blessings

We know we are God's children because we believe Jesus is God's Son and He died for our sins and rose – because the Bible tells us so!

*See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God. (1 John 3:1)*

*Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. (1 John 4:7)*

And we know God wants everyone to know Him as Father (1 Timothy 2:4) and we are His witnesses (Acts 1:8). I'm so grateful God's love is unconditional and His forgiveness always available, because there are days when what I do and say is not the best witness of Who Jesus really is. On those days, I am reminded of the Lord's words to the apostle Paul: *My grace is enough; it's all you need. My strength comes into its own in your weakness.* (2 Corinthians 12:9, The Message) Hallelujah!

## Current Needs

(blue text = new)

- Gently used larger sized winter maternity clothes
- Winter toddler clothes up to size 6
- Regular monthly giving partners

For more info on any of our needs, please call Vicki at the Center 970-824-5204.

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### "Passive" giving options

You can be a financial partner even if funds are tight! Check out our website to learn more.



Amazon.com has a program called **Amazon Smile** –

they will donate a small portion of their profit on most items to the non-profit of your choice.

City Market



has a

similar program. **NOTE:** If you were part of City Market's program in the past **but have not signed up online**, you are no longer part of the program and whatever organization you supported has not been getting any donations based on your purchases! Once they set up their app and online program **everyone has to sign up again**. Visit our website for the City Market link.



You can also bring your used laser and ink jet cartridges to us, Community Budget Center, or Cornerstone Realty.

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### Online Giving Still in the Works

See Updates page 1