

Spring, 2009

From the Director's Desk

Martha Evans

She walked in thinking we were an abortion clinic. She said a couple of years ago, she saw a girl from school walk in here. Later, she heard the girl had an abortion. She thought she must have had it here.

I explained we are a medical pregnancy help center – we don't perform or refer for abortions. I shared that while abortion in an option women have, we don't believe it's one that serves them well. I listed the services we could provide for

her – a pregnancy test to confirm her suspicions, a limited ultrasound to confirm she's dealing with a viable or living pregnancy, and someone to talk to. She agreed to stay.

After she left, her volunteer told me this young woman cried through most of the session. Truly hers was a heart hurting over her circumstances, desperate for understanding and support. Praise God that He led her here, instead of where she *thought* she wanted to go.

Each week, nearly 200 women have an abortion in Cuyahoga County. That's 200 women or couples every week who might have benefited from the services available at Alternaterm and area pregnancy help centers like ours. They either don't know we're here, or they don't know they need us.

The leadership team here at Alternaterm sees this as our personal challenge. We know that God is honored when one life is impacted for

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Project VOICE Memorial Gift Plan

Each year, more than 10,000 innocent lives are willfully and legally destroyed in Cuyahoga County by abortion. That's approximately **200 abortions each week**, within a few miles of our center. Through the Project VOICE campaign, our desire is to give these children whose lives have been sacrificed a powerful voice, so that others of their generation are not lost to abortion.

Please consider partnering with us through a regular financial gift given in memory of these precious babies. Together, we can give them a way to speak life to abortion-vulnerable women and

couples, and healing to those who have already been wounded by abortion.

Suggested Project VOICE memorial gift amounts:

- ♥ \$200 in memory of the lives lost weekly in Cleveland-area abortion clinics
 - ♦ give \$200 as a one-time gift
 - ♦ make a quarterly pledge of \$50
 - ♦ pledge to give \$200 each month or quarter
- ♥ \$40 in memory of the lives lost on an average business day in Cleveland-area clinics
 - ♦ pledge to give \$40 each month or quarter
 - ♦ give \$40 as a one-time gift



Use the enclosed response envelope, or visit our website at www.alternaterm.org and click on the "Donate Now" link.

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Meet Our New Medical Director

Alternaterm's new Medical Director is a woman with compassion and passion, with patients and patience. Patients because, after all, she is a doctor, and patience because she repeatedly must confirm that yes, Doctor Doctor is her real name.

Dr. Marguerite Doctor was born and raised in Cleveland and received her medical training at Case Western Reserve School of Medicine. She has served as a lieutenant commander in the United States Navy, retiring in 1999, and has practiced medicine in South Carolina, California, Pennsylvania, and Ohio. She is currently employed as a staff Obstetrician/ Gynecologist for NorthEast Ohio Neighborhood Services, and is affiliated with Huron Hospital of the Cleveland Clinic Health System.

Dr. Doctor's compassion for hurting women is what motivates her passion to be an instrument in God's hands through the ministry of Alternaterm. She longs for them to know that He

truly sees what they are going through and more so, really cares. As Medical Director of one of the few free clinics in the Cleveland area, Dr. Doctor has opportunities to come alongside women in difficult pregnancies and reach out to them with the love of Christ, providing hope and encouragement along with medical care.



Accepting this position at this time, by God's direction, she says, also gives Dr. Marguerite opportunities to participate in the growth and development of Alternaterm. She sees the increasing need for the ministry and hopes to exhibit the faith and commitment that will attract and inspire other providers to join in this worthwhile mission of helping hurting women and caring for their innocent children.

"I love Alternaterm," says Dr. Doctor, "because I am free to be all of me – Christian, physician, teacher, sister in Christ, confidante." Directing the medical clinic is a labor of love for this professional woman who desires to represent God in everything she does. By His grace she hopes to open doors for more effective and life-giving service to more pregnant women and girls in the Cleveland area, their unborn children, and the fathers of those children.

Alternaterm is grateful to Dr. Marguerite Doctor for her volunteer service as the Medical Director of our clinic. Her love and compassion for vulnerable women and children exemplify the overarching motivation for the very existence of the center. And we are confident that under her leadership the clinic will be the turning point for even more pregnant women, as the reality of the life within and the genuine concern of the medical staff and volunteers convince them that there is only one right choice.

Client Services Has Interim Director

Alternaterm is in the business of ministry, serving women in difficult pregnancies looking for a solution to what they can only see as a problem. We always pray to provide enough love and truth to persuade them to choose life for their unborn children. They are our clients, and we exist for them.

But as this ministry is a business, the day to day operations must be overseen by individuals with business skills, as well as a passion for the ministry. Client services require a Client Services Director, and that's where Lori Swanson comes in.

Lori is our interim Client Services Director, hired as somewhat of a consultant with the expressed purpose of identifying and developing key areas for which a future Client Services Director will be responsible. She has agreed to come on board for a limited time to use her education and experience in clarifying the position and es-

tablishing a fuller, more specific job description.

Lori has been involved in the pregnancy center movement for 11 years, beginning as a volunteer at a CareNet affiliated center in California. She was drawn to the work because it provided her with the opportunity to share the Gospel message with lost and hurting women. "As I spent time in the counseling room," she says, "my heart was stirred to bring the message of sexual integrity to our youth in the hopes of providing them good information to make better choices." She soon joined the staff and began to direct their Straight Talk program, speaking to about 15,000 youth a year.

A job move for Lori's husband Dale brought them to Cleveland last April. "My passion for this life affirming ministry followed me to Cleveland," Lori says, "and it did not take long for God

to open up a new door of service."

Lori and Dale have two children, Nichole, 23 and Seth, 20. They are members of Parkside Church where they serve on the Marriage Matters Ministry team. Lori also serves on the Board of Directors of a marriage ministry called The International Center for Reconciling God's Way. And she is currently pursuing a Master of Arts in Global Leadership degree from Fuller Theological Seminary.

We at Alternaterm are grateful for Lori's involvement regarding the Client Services Director position and are confident that her input will help us maximize the effectiveness of the position and be better able to attract the right individual to fill it.

Refining Our Ministry Focus

In 2008, our Board of Directors spent considerable time and energy reviewing the ministry of Alternaterm and refining our focus. We believe God has called us to consistently share the messages of life, Christ and sexual integrity with those making decisions about pregnancy. You'll find our updated mission and vision statements highlighted below.

Our Baby Bucks program is an area where major redevelopment is underway. This incentive program has been a blessing to our clients, but some days we feel like it's running us more than we're running it! Changes were needed to bring it back to its proper place of really validating our central messages and providing practical support for those who carry a pregnancy to term.

We have streamlined our client intake process. No matter what brings a client to our door, she and her partner will benefit from answering the same set of questions:

- Is she pregnant?
- Is she abortion vulnerable?
- Does she have medical care?

- And lastly, does she need practical support?

That's where the Baby Bucks program's new *Earn While You Learn* curriculum comes in! You can check it out at www.ewylo.com. We purchased and implemented the first segment of the program in March. It's incredibly easy to use and of great value to the clients.

Classes began in March. They are held off-site at Bethel Church of Cleveland Heights. This arrangement helps reduce traffic at the center, makes Baby Bucks more of a stand-alone program, and introduces new volunteer opportunities. Peer counselors are free to focus on counseling, mentors and teachers can teach and mentor, medical volunteers can provide medical services, boutique attendants can meet practical needs. And all volunteers will have opportunities to build relationships and share Christ with clients within the context of their ministry role.

Our Blessings Boutique will remain at the center, but is now open specific

hours. Separating shopping from counseling and learning helps take the focus off the stuff and puts it back on meaningful ministry. Our volunteers & staff are excited about the possibilities - for us, for clients and for future volunteers.

A special "Thank you!" goes to the leadership at Bethel Church of Cleveland Heights for opening their facility to the Baby Bucks program. We're excited about this new collaborative effort! Contact the center if you're interested in learning more or getting involved.



Alternaterm Pregnancy Services is dedicated to preserving life now and for eternity by preventing abortion, promoting sexual integrity and presenting the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Our vision is to provide spiritual, emotional, medical and practical support to individuals as they deal with issues relating to sexual responsibility and pregnancy.

Ministry Opportunities for Volunteers

There are many ministry opportunities currently open, as you can see! Some of the positions listed below are to fill existing roles, and some have been recently developed. Please consider the following list, and if the Lord is prompting you to be a part of what He is doing at Alternaterm, contact us to request an application packet and learn about training opportunities.

Peer Counselors – Meet with women & couples making decisions regarding pregnancy. Promote sanctity of life and share the gospel of salvation with those coming for services.

Boutique or Maternity Closet Staff – Provide support in the Blessings Boutique or Maternity Closet before, during and/or after shopping hours. Sort and display donated items. Encourage and assist clients who are shopping.

Incentive Program Mentors – Facilitate weekly or bi-weekly client classes using Earn While You Learn DVD curriculum. Teach, encourage and share the gospel.

Childcare Workers – Provide childcare during Incentive Program classes. If you are certified to provide childcare in your church, you are the ideal candidate. Background check required.

Client Data Manager – Enter client data and maintain database. Provide staff support in generating statistical reports and monitoring client trends. Attention to detail is required.

Change for Life Volunteers – Help manage this ongoing fund raising effort. Duties range from arranging bottle drop-off or pick-up, to preparing bottles or processing donations.

Additional opportunities exist for
**Administrative Support Volunteers,
Receptionists,
Cleaning Team Members,
and Facility Renovation.**

Call us at 216.371.4848 or visit our website at www.alternaterm.org today for more information!

"Intimacy Before Impact" Volunteer Training Seminar

New training format
Thursday evening, Friday evening, all day Saturday
May 14, 15 & 16, 2009

Call for an application or more information.
216.371.4848

Changing Faces

In December, 2008, the Board of Directors gathered to celebrate a new arrival with long-time member, **Sara Eapen, MD**. By God's grace, Sara was able to finalize her adoption of Maria, a beautiful, precocious 6-year-old from an orphanage in India. We pray God's continued blessings on this family, and great wisdom for Sara as she embarks on the adventure of parenthood! With this new development, Sara has stepped down from the Board, on which she had served for nearly 16 years. We are deeply grateful for the time she has given and the prayers she had offered on behalf of this ministry during those years.

Thank you and God bless you, Sara!

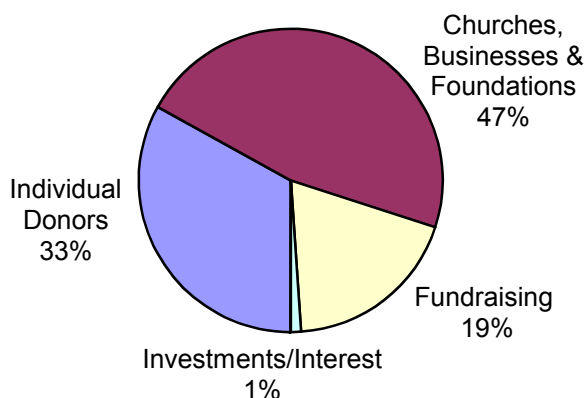
In February of this year, we welcomed **Kevin Culp** to the Board of Directors. Kevin and his family are members of Cornerstone Community Church in Lyndhurst, where Kevin serves as a small group leader. Kevin's involvement with Alternaterm began several years ago with a simple workday, painting, cleaning and making small repairs. Kevin currently works as a Relationship Manager in the field of institutional real estate capital. We are excited about Kevin's vision for growth here at Alternaterm, and we look forward to what the Lord will do in and through

him as he puts his considerable skills to work on behalf of the ministry.

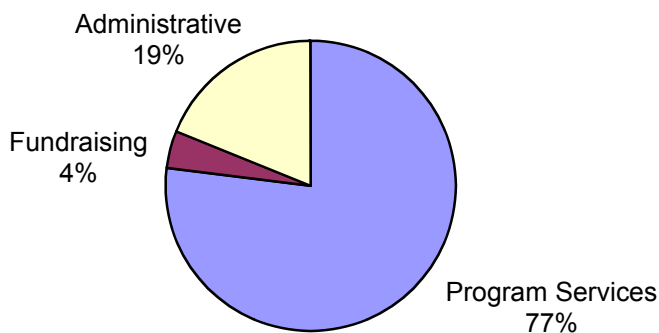
Do you have a sense that the Lord is calling you to a leadership role in the ministry of Alternaterm? Do you have a skill set that may be of use as the Lord leads us toward ministry growth, more effective marketing, and improved outreach to at-risk women (15-29 years of age)? If so, we invite you to explore the possibility of volunteering as a consultant or advisor for market research and ministry development. Call us at 216.371.4848 or visit us on-line at www.alternaterm.org.

Financial Report

Total Income for 2008
\$213,120.98



Total Expenses for 2008
\$210,781.42



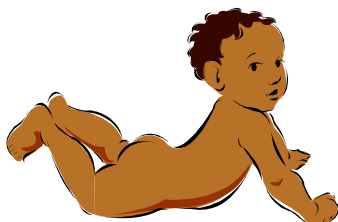
Alternaterm Pregnancy Services finished 2008 with a budgetary surplus of approximately \$17,500. Because of the generosity of God's people, we weathered a decrease in the value of our investments nearly equal to this amount, and were able to replace some of the reserve that was depleted by the deficit we experienced in 2007.

By God's grace, we have begun 2009 from a place of financial stability, with approximately 160 days' liquid cash reserve. We have set an ambitious budget for the year, and covet your prayers and partnership as we work hard to develop a base of financial support that will keep pace with the vision we believe the Lord is giving us for 2009.

Ministry Report

Services

Pregnancy test & decision making counsel	211
Positive tests	143
<i>118 chose to carry to term</i>	
<i>12 chose to abort</i>	
<i>13 decisions were unknown</i>	
Limited Obstetrical Ultrasounds	99
Prenatal care visits	98
STD screenings	52
Infant & maternity clothing visits	283
<i>Blessings Boutique</i> visits	231
Men's Ministry sessions	14



Demographics

Ages 19 & under	25%	African-American	83%
Ages 20-24	34%	Caucasian	12%
Ages 25-29	18%	Hispanic	2%
Ages 30 & over	23%	Asian	1.5%
No previous abortions	81%	Other	1.5%
1 or more previous abortions	19%		

Significant Outcomes for 2008

60 abortion-vulnerable women chose life for their children
45 chose life as a direct result of receiving an ultrasound
26% increase in the number of pregnant women served
100% increase in the number of STI screenings performed
70% of abortion-vulnerable women visiting the center chose life
82% of abortion-vulnerable women receiving an ultrasound chose life
4 women embraced the message of salvation while in our office
 Countless others were challenged with the Gospel
 Launched client-focused website www.northcoastphc.org in collaboration with Cleveland-area pregnancy centers



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From the Director's Desk

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eternity or spared from abortion. But we also know that His heart breaks for the thousands of babies who are dying and women who are being wounded by abortions performed within a few miles of us. Our hearts break for them as well.

We believe that *together*, we can reach many more of these precious women and couples. Even if we only succeed in reaching a small portion of these women – say, 10% - that would be over 1,000 women per year. What

if we reached 15%? Or 20%? Or, by God's grace, 100%? Can you picture an abortion-free county with me? It brings tears to my eyes to think about it.

Will you consider taking your involvement with this ministry of LIFE to a deeper level? The opportunities abound! Together, we *can* make a measurable impact on the culture of death that seems to be gaining ground in so many ways. After all, the giver of life Himself is leading us!

Continue reading for additional information on how to be involved, or visit us on-line at www.alternaterm.org to explore the possibilities.

We are pleased to announce the launch of a new client-focused website in conjunction with Cleveland Pregnancy Center and Cornerstone Among Women. By collaborating on this project, we're dramatically increasing the internet-generated traffic in our respective centers. Please check us out at www.northcoastphc.org

Contact us . . .

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Affiliated with:

CareNet
Heartbeat International
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