Winter 2010





"For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Jeremiah 29:11

#### **Ashland Care Center**

119 Sloan Ave. , Ashland, OH 44805 (419) 281-1111 www.ashlandcarecenter.org

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# Partnering for USG

Ashland Care Center's 4th Annual Fundraising Banquet

March in Ohio is about the time when thoughts of warm sunshine, sandy beaches and tropical breezes begin to cross our minds, as we dream of warmer days. To help nurture those dreams, and the life God so values, the Ashland Care Center will be hosting their FOURTH annual fundraising banquet "Hawaiian luau" style.

This year's banquet will be held at Mozelle Hall on the Fairgrounds, Thursday, March 25 at 6:30 pm. The banquet will feature a luau-style pig roast catered by Port-a-Cook. David Bereit, our guest speaker, will share his experiences as the national leader of the 40 Days for Life Campaign. Due to the generous support of local business and individuals, the banquet is free and every penny raised at the banquet will go to support the Center's ministry: promoting the sanctity of life and God's grace here in Ashland County. Though there is no cost to attend this fundraising dinner, RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED. (No children, please.)

- Invite your friends and family who may be interested in "partnering" with ACC!
- For individuals interested in helping to underwrite this year's banquet, please call 419-281-1111. Underwriters donating \$250 or more (or in-kind services) are invited to a special VIP reception with the speaker.

### David Bereit



David Bereit led the groundbreaking 40 Days for Life campaign that united 89 cities in 33 states for the largest simultaneous pro-life mobilization in American history. 40 Days for Life is an intensive pro-life campaign focusing on prayer and fasting, peaceful vigil, and grassroots outreach and education.

David first became an outspoken pro-life advocate after Planned Parenthood announced plans to build an abortion clinic in his Texas town in 1998. As a volunteer, he helped to start and build a local coalition that rallied 60 churches and thousands of people together for life and slashed abortions in the area by more than 40%. Planned Parenthood recognized the effectiveness of David's efforts when it labeled his town "the most antichoice place in the nation."

His work has been featured in the media hundreds of times, including coverage on Fox News, HBO, ABC, NBC, and CBS television stations, numerous radio programs, and in over 100 newspapers across the country including USA Today, The Washington Post, and the Los Angeles Times. He has debated top abortion industry insiders including Gloria Feldt, former president of Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Vicki Saporta, president of the National Abortion Federation, and Kate Michelman, former president of NARAL.



## A note from the Executive Director...

#### Three thing we can do - TODAY - to create a culture of life?

Let's not kid ourselves...today, we live in a culture that hardly celebrates life. Politically, life is clearly on defense from the presidency through the congress and in many cases our courts as well. Our society still views abortion as a viable option for unplanned or difficult pregnancies.

We can complain, we can philosophize about where this will lead our county and our culture......Yet at some point we have got to **do something**. I'm reminded of our early church leaders in the Book of Acts and their continued focus on the mission of sharing the hope of Christ - regardless of circumstances or consequences.

Take for example the newest Super Bowl ad starring Tim Tebow and his mother (sponsored by Focus on the Family). All the controversy that this ad has stirred up is hard to understand when all it does is celebrate life. How about all the heat that Sarah Palin has to fend off just because she chose life for her beautiful baby boy who happens to have downs syndrome. These individual chose to **do something** - regardless of circumstances of consequences - much like Peter, Paul, James, John, Mark, Luke, and many others in the Bible.

They all had an opportunity to **do something** - and did it. So can we. Here are three simple ideas:

#### We Can Pray

This goes without saying, or does it? What would happen if each week each of us prayed just five minutes for ACC, for pro-life legislators to be bold, for all of us to look for and take any & all opportunities that cross our path to stand up for life affirming truth. Sometimes people say talk is cheap but when talking to God it's the most valuable commodity in the world. Will you join in that commitment?

#### We Can Reach-out

Some of us can volunteer here at Ashland Care Center. We've got more opportunities than you can imagine and some can be done during off hours. Interested? Let us know and we'll get you started.

#### We Can Give

Without being too aggressive here, let's put our money where our mouth is. If each of us who believed in life said, "I can **do some-thing** financially," I think we would be stunned and amazed by the results. My guess is, ACC and other centers like us would soon become the first choice of women in our area facing an unplanned pregnancies. More and more abortions clinics would close their doors. All this because we decided to step up and **do something!** 

As pro-life, syndicated columnist, Star Parker said in her most recent article "the enabler of human brutality is dehumanization. Pro-abortionists know that our existing legalized abortion regime can only continue as long as we keep the human face off abortion."

Three simple steps to take help the human face of abortion emerge and shed the light on this - our greatest holocaust. We can just give it lip service, or we can roll up our sleeves and get the job done. One of the easiest things for you to do is come to our Banquet "Partnering for LIFE" on March 25th (see the front cover for all the details). Better yet host a table and invite people you know to come so they can catch the vision and have an opportunity to give to this ministry. Or you may want to help underwrite the banquet so that every penny collected that evening can go directly to helping our clients.

If you're with me, drop me an email at DuciaH@AshlandCareCenter.org or call me at 419-281-1111. I'd love to hear from you. Together, let's turn the culture of Ashland and Ohio toward life. It all starts with each of us looking for and then taking the opportunities that present themselves. *It only takes one match to start a forest fire...will you be that match!* 

In it for Life.

Ducia Hamm



# Ashland Care Center - 2009 Year-at-a-Glance

2009 was a year of many new beginnings...2 new staff members, Nicole Patterson and Kristen Tobias, our newest Board member, Maryanne Wise, new volunteers, our first ever community based parenting classes at the Kroc Center in October, new walls in the basement to mention a just few of our blessings.

What a privilege it was to be able to have **909** client visits in 2009 - that's a whopping 20% increase over the previous year! The most exciting thing is that the Gospel was shared with all who were willing to hear.

Our biggest blessing was seeing abortion minded clients choose life especially after seeing their baby during an ultrasound. All in all 55 ultrasounds were performed.

Boutique Manager, Janet Bright continues to be busy as she ministered to clients 383 times in our Boutique. The number of clients needing material support is in high demand. Yet another blessing is that these clients all received fact and faith based parenting education.

Keep ACC in your prayers. We are excited to see what 2010 will hold!

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#### From the Desk of Missionary Mike Williams (2009 ACC Banguet Speaker)

life. Often it is a combination of the three. I'm sure there are other reasons too.

As I sit and watch CNN and FOX share news updates of the Earthquake it rips at my heartstrings. Anytime you hear of 150,000 people dying it can't help but touch your heart. It can't help but touch the heart of the world. In these times people give money... sometimes lots of it. They give it for three reasons. One, because they have compassion for the people in need. Secondly, because they are thankful that their family and their world was not at the epicenter. And thirdly, because they subconsciously just want the world to get back to normal so they can get on with their

I am not estranged from what is going on. I was on the ground January 12, 2010 across the border in the Dominican Republic when the shaking first started. Many of my best friends were at the mission I serve which is located only ten miles from the epicenter... much closer than the city of Port-au-Prince was. We lost 25 of our 54 buildings... we lost way too many lives. All four of our medical clinics are beyond repair. So please understand that what I am about to say comes from a heart of concern for everyone and everything that happened.

I have a fear that in the wake of this tragic disaster that many good ministries that are saving lives every day will be forgotten because the news headlines will simply "out shout" them. I doubt that there will be any nationally televised concerts for Life. Please remind your donors that abortion takes 42 million lives every year around the world and over a million in the United States alone. I hope and pray that those who support your work will not be sidetracked from an issue that stops the beating hearts more children every day than the earthquake and its aftermath will this year.

Please understand my heart. I lost friends in this Earthquake. I cry every day. People I know lost entire families. My heart hurts for the people of Haiti. But one tragedy should not cause another. The Pregnancy Resource Center movement "IS" saving the lives of children every day. The Pregnancy Resource Center movement is saving more lives every year than we lost on January 12, 2010, and they are doing it nationally on less money than we are raising to help Haiti.

Please help Haiti, and please help rebuild the mission I serve. But please do not forget to save the lives we can save right here in our own towns and cities. Thank you for saving lives every day. Thank you for making a difference. Thank you for thwarting the earthquake of abortion in millions of hearts every year. Keep saving the children of the world.

#### Mike Williams

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Missionary to Hispaniola (Haiti and the Dominican Republic) www.ToWhomMuchlsGiven.com



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If you prefer to receive your newsletter via email, or are receiving a duplicate mailing, please call us at **419-281-1111** so that we may more efficiently utilize God's resources.

# Save the Date: March 25, 2010 4th Annual Fundraising Dinner September 25, 2010 LifeWalk @ Ashland's Corner Park



# Give the Gift of Life ...Online! www.firstgiving.com/accmedical



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#### MISSION STATEMENT

Ashland Care Center is concerned Christians equipping people to make healthy choices consistent with God's gift of life. Through outreach, education and support to women in unplanned pregnancies and to the community, we promote choosing life, chastity and healing with God.