

Learn ways to cultivate LIFE for babies, families and communities.

theVine

A PUBLICATION OF THRIVE WOMEN'S CLINIC

ISSUE 1 • SPRING 2020

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Coronavirus
update

Netta's
baby bump!

ALSO:

PG. 3: We're hiring!

PG. 4: Saving babies amidst
the pandemic

PG. 8: Annual report 2019

Vine
keepers
Supporting Thrive
Women's Clinic



Letter from the Executive Director

Dearest Vinekeepers,

Coronavirus restrictions led us to close our clinic doors for 6 weeks, but we want you to know **YOU never stopped saving babies!** Your support helped us make a quick pivot to serve clients virtually when they needed us most. **Through phone and video appointments, we counseled more than 200 clients considering abortion.** As of April 29, three of our four clinics are open to bring face-to-face Gospel hope to women experiencing unplanned pregnancy in these



uneasy times. (Well, through our face masks, anyway!)

We can't thank you enough for continuing to support us during these strange times. We know so many of you have felt the impact through your health, your families, or your jobs. Know we are praying for you. Really, we are. And despite all that, we are amazed at how you're backing our ministry.

Amidst all the heart-breaking news of death, know **we have seen God is still at work saving lives.** We hope the stories in this edition leave you inspired by the work you are supporting.

Here are some of the silver linings we've celebrated during this unusual time of Thrive's operation:

- Abortions in Texas were halted for a full month when Governor Greg Abbott declared them non-essential March 21 at the height of the pandemic. We fielded many calls from clients who couldn't reach abortion clinics during that time, and many chose life!
- I've enjoyed many lengthy conversations with you, our donors, and our current clients. It has been a blessing to have time to visit and extend the love of Jesus to you with compassion, hope, and prayer. Relationships are the heart of the Thrive Family!
- We found innovative ways to carry on the ministry, which will strengthen our operations beyond this pandemic. That includes online coursework to empower our clients and virtual OhKnow education for students in public schools.
- Thrive Staff members answered calls and helped connect clients with all the resources they needed, from medical care to grocery store gift cards.
- Our team is planning for Thrive's future and strengthening our programs because they have the time to dream and be innovative in their thinking.

We celebrate the many silver linings during this time in our lives, the ministry, and with our Thrive Family. **THANK YOU.** 🌱

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mary Jayne Fogerty". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Mary Jayne Fogerty

Executive Director, Thrive Women's Clinic

Jan-Apr
2022
Statistics

New client
visits:

461

Babies
saved:

43

New
believers:

13

We are OPEN

Three of our four clinics reopened April 29 after being closed for 6 weeks to prevent the spread of coronavirus.

Until social distance recommendations are lifted, clinic staff will pre-screen clients by phone to ensure they are not exhibiting virus symptoms and prioritize abortion-minded callers. Our staff has carefully drafted guidelines to ensure safety, including mandatory face masks, regular disinfection intervals, and limited lobby capacity.



We're hiring! Want to work for Thrive?

We'd love to have you join our professional team on the frontlines of life! As our staff needs evolve, we have positions open for a variety of professional levels in office administration and client services. Job needs are updated at vinekeepers.org/jobs.

Meet some little ones you helped save!



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Medical Director

Mary Jayne Fogerty

Executive Director

Meredith Hall

Director of Clinic Services

Kontessa Kiel

Director of Client Services

Wade Souza

Men's Coordinator

Vinekeepers are the supporters of Thrive Women's Clinic, which has four locations in Dallas County that provide services at no cost for women and their partners experiencing unplanned pregnancy. Our non-profit outreach ministry extends Christ-like compassion that values the family and empowers them to choose life.

For clients:

ThriveWomensClinic.com

For supporters:

Vinekeepers.org



Facebook:

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FB.com/thrivewomensclinic



Instagram:

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A photograph of Nurse Joy Delzer, a woman with long dark hair, wearing a blue scrub top over a pink long-sleeved shirt and teal earbuds. She is smiling and holding up a printed document titled "Fetus's Development" which displays several sonogram images. She is seated at a desk with a laptop in front of her. The laptop screen shows a virtual video consultation with a woman. A blue folder and a yellow box are also on the desk. The background shows a window with blinds and a wall outlet.

Virtual Counseling.

Nurse Joy Delzer shows a client the progression of her pregnancy through sonogram pictures on a virtual video consultation. From their own homes, Delzer and the rest of Thrive's staff members continued communicating with abortion-minded clients throughout the coronavirus pandemic.

Combating abortion virtually

You are still saving babies amidst coronavirus

When nonessential businesses in Dallas County were ordered to shut down in March, Thrive Women's Clinic closed the clinics March 21 for in-person visits to protect the safety of staff and clients. Immediately, staff began working from home to relentlessly continue compassionate services to women facing unplanned pregnancies.

For six weeks, your support allowed Thrive to quickly pivot to innovative virtual strategies to continue saving lives.

Brenda* called asking for an abortion. Coronavirus was starting to get serious and she was anxious to take care of her situation before things got worse and more places were closed. She searched the internet and

discovered through online ads, funded by your support, that Thrive Women's Clinic was still open to counsel clients. She called the clinic phone number and reached one of our staff members working from home. Brenda's story unraveled to reveal she was very active in her local church and was too ashamed of her unplanned pregnancy to tell anyone.

Typically, this client would sit down in a face-to-face counseling room with a trained advocate and experience a sonogram of her preborn baby. But armed only with the phone and the power of the Gospel, our Thrive staffer took time to listen and remind Brenda of God's grace. Brenda cried. She said she knew abortion wasn't the right thing to do. She thanked Thrive for speaking truth into her life and reminding her of God's love for her. She chose life.

This is just one of the examples of your support at work during coronavirus.

With your support, Thrive continued serving clients through:

- **Private text/chat discussions on our website.**
- **Phone appointments.**
- **"Tele-doc" video sessions with our nurses.**

All of these appointments provided counseling, consultation about fetal development based on the baby's presumed gestational age, and education about pregnancy options.

All 30 members of our staff continued working from home. When not serving abortion-minded callers, staff followed up with their former and current clients to offer a listening ear and find out their needs while hunkered down at home.

Through six weeks of virtual services:

- Thrive nurses and staff took more than **846**

incoming calls, including 204 from women considering abortion.

- Our team called to check in on more than **850 of our current and former clients**. They took time to offer compassion, counsel, job resources, referrals for medical services, and gift cards for groceries and diapers provided by YOU, our Vinekeepers.
- Thrive **launched the BrightCourse online mentoring** platform to equip new parents. By taking classes, clients earn gift cards toward baby supplies.
- **OhKnow education materials** on fetal development are now available online for school districts to use in distance learning curriculum.

"Our staff has made an amazing shift to employ these strategies and we are so grateful that our Vinekeepers provide the resources we need to keep our services relevant," said Mary Jayne Fogerty, Thrive's Executive Director.

"The video appointments connected with these clients on a personal level," said Thrive nurse Joy Delzer. Since she couldn't perform sonograms, she showed clients fetal baby models and sonogram diagrams to help them understand the life they are carrying. "A lot of abortion-minded callers were relieved to have someone answer questions and help them know where to start. The medical options they have are changing every day as certain clinics are closing or changing services, so we are able to offer them the most current referral options to continue their pregnancies."

That's exactly what Amber needed. She called Thrive while standing outside of a Dallas abortion clinic that had just been shuttered by the state's edict declaring abortions "nonessential". She reached nurse Gina Gunn, who counseled her and helped her find a faith-based clinic to get a free sonogram..

During the conversation, Amber's demeanor transitioned from hopelessness to positivity. "You have been a light in a dark tunnel," Amber said. "I don't know how I let abortion enter my mind. You have no idea how much you helped me today." 🌱

**Client names changed to protect privacy*

Your grocery fund is going far!

THANK YOU, Vinekeepers, for stepping up with special gifts of more than \$4,000 to our coronavirus grocery fund! While working from home, we called to check on our recent clients and send grocery store gift cards to those in need. Here's where your help went:

A Drive-Through Difference

By Meredith Hall, Thrive Clinic Director

Netta came to Thrive a few months ago considering an abortion. "I am just not financially or emotionally ready to be a mom," she said. "I don't want my body to get fat and I am scared to tell my mom because it goes against what our family believes about waiting until you're married."

Devonte, the father of her baby, is her boyfriend of several years and wants to marry her. Both love Jesus and were raised in the church. When they returned for another sonogram, they had decided to move ahead with the pregnancy and were eager to prepare for parenthood. Before they could come back for Earn While You Learn courses, coronavirus arrived in North Texas.



Soon after, Thrive Clinic Services Director Meredith Hall was driving through a restaurant near her house for breakfast one morning and discovered Devonte was working the window! He greeted Nurse Hall warmly and said they both work at the restaurant together, the baby is developing well, but they feel a bit overwhelmed about their finances.

"I got to bring them back a note of encouragement and grocery gift card," Hall said. "They were so thankful to Thrive and wanted to take a photo to show off the new baby bump."

Just in time for homecoming

By Jan Cassidy, Thrive staffer

Samantha* came to Thrive last fall considering an abortion because she felt overwhelmed with the idea of another pregnancy so soon after the birth of her first child 8 months earlier. Her advocate presented the gospel and she was ready to trust in Christ. She welcomed a New Believer's Packet which included a Bible. She was encouraged to reach out to her Christian parents, grow her faith through prayer, Bible reading, and finding a church family. A sonogram revealed twins! Seeing the babies' heartbeats changed her mind about aborting. Despite attempts to reach her, we never knew the outcome of her pregnancy until we called her during coronavirus stay-at-home orders. She finally answered. She had delivered her twins 2 months early, but they were just about to come home from the NICU. She was thankful to receive a gift card from Thrive, just in time.

Nesting blessing

By Gina Gunn, Thrive nurse

Erica* came to Thrive strongly considering an abortion three months ago because she was unsure of the father. Her sonogram revealed a healthy heartbeat. She left the clinic well-informed about abortion and her options and encouraged by our staff, but she was still considering abortion. Coronavirus prevented her from coming for a follow-up sonogram.

Nurse Gina Gunn called her during the coronavirus outbreak and Erica explained that she has decided to parent and has been seeing her doctor. She reports she is "nesting" during this coronavirus time at home. She is now about 20 weeks along and is having a girl! She was thrilled. Thrive mailed her a Tom Thumb gift card and Erica expressed sincere thanks for our help and support. 🌱

**Client names changed to protect privacy*

Virtual coursework launched just in time

You're equipping clients online

Before closing due to coronavirus, Thrive was preparing to launch BrightCourse online curriculum to equip new parents who choose life. Thanks to your support, the cloud-based program was ready just in time for clients to access this education and earn baby supplies while homebound.

This presents a new era of our long-running Earn While You Learn program, which provides one-on-one mentoring coursework to help clients thrive in pregnancy, parenthood and faith. By taking classes, they earn “baby bucks” to spend on diapers and essential baby supplies in our clinic stores. Many of our clients rely on these supplies as they gain financial stability.

Through BrightCourse, clients are earning Amazon gift cards that can supply crucial deliveries they may need during these trying times. While three of our clinics have re-opened to serve abortion-minded clients, our parenting courses will remain online until social distancing recommendations are lifted.

Since coronavirus closed our clinics, 20 clients have already begun learning through BrightCourse, and more are expected to log on.

Client Greg Mendoza (at right) sits with Baby Xiomara as he works on his BrightCourse fatherhood lessons about “Quality Time with Family” and “Anger Management.” “We are doing excellent thanks to Thrive and the awesome staff at hand,” Greg said. “Thank you!” 🍀



2019 Annual Report



2,674

Calls came from women considering abortion.

1,745

Sonograms displayed life.

2,125

New clients came and heard the Gospel.

64

people gave their lives to Christ at Thrive.

573

Parent classes and mentor sessions strengthened families.



6,852

Face-to-face meetings with clients and their partners helped them navigate unplanned pregnancy.

2019 Highlights

You infused public schools with LIFE culture.



Our OhKnow education program doubled its reach. Our nurses were invited to teach **6,216 students** in local schools about fetal development and sexually transmitted diseases. By educating students about when life begins and the consequences of risky sexual behavior, you infuse a foundation of God's vision for sex and family.



You reached her online.

Through online efforts such as keyword blogs, the

number of clients who found us through our website **increased by 10 percent.**

You displayed life.

Thrive secured funding from Focus on the Family for two new state-of-the-art sonogram machines, freeing your funding for the frontlines where you equip our staff and volunteers to meet face-to-face with women considering abortion.



You served in Spanish.

New bilingual staff and a Spanish website led to **82% more** Spanish-speaking clients in 2019.



You equipped fathers.

One-on-one mentoring sessions through our men's program increased **54%** in 2019.

Financial Highlights

Thrive Women's Clinic provides all services at no cost and accepts no government money. This is only possible with the generosity of our Vinekeepers, our supporters. We strive to be stewards with transparency, integrity, and impact.

2019 By The Numbers*

BUDGET:
\$2,115,537

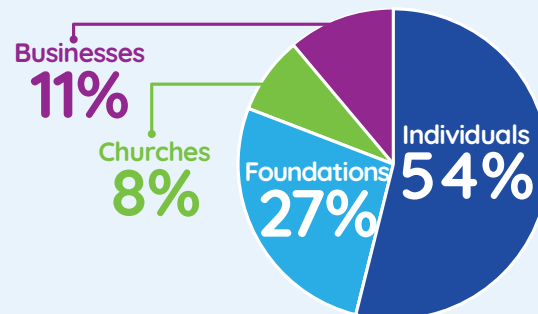
INCOME:
\$1,874,774

EXPENSES:
\$1,926,702

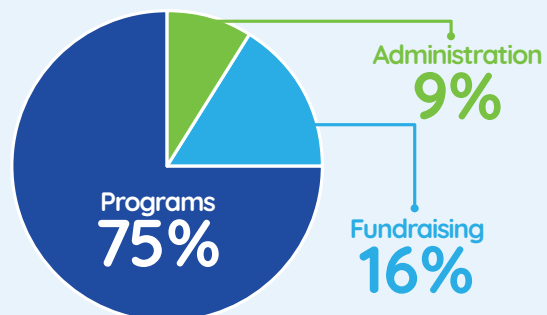
*Unaudited numbers

Due to new standards by Financial Accounting Standards Board, some program allocations have shifted and are reflected.

How Thrive is funded



How Thrive uses your generosity



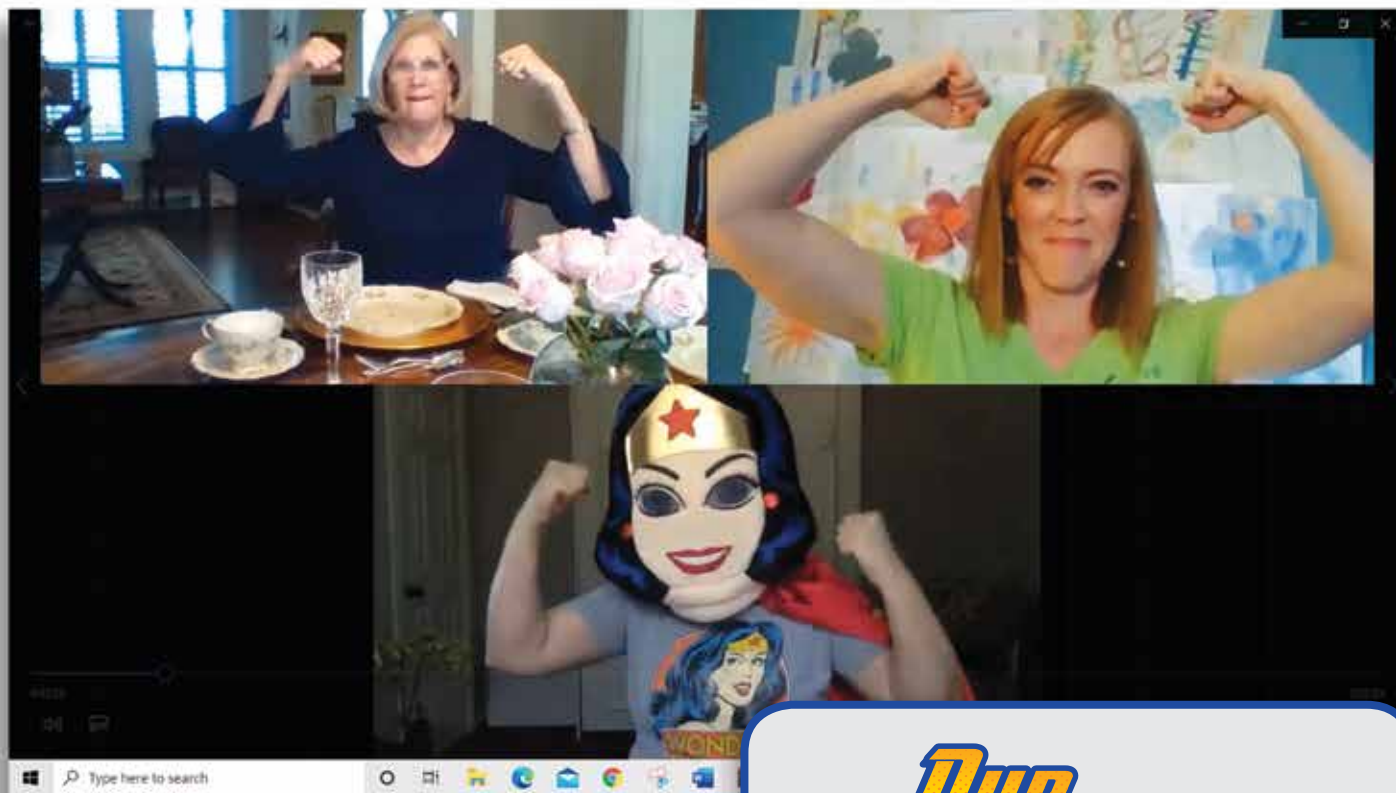
More expenses than income? In 2019, Thrive expanded into Irving with our fourth clinic, adding rent, insurance, furnishings, equipment, and staff. With this expansion, our budget increased 31%. Thrive's board anticipated this budget growth would take a few years to reach annual financial goals. Thank you for supporting growth and for being a light to women in Irving.



*We welcome anyone seeking services.
About one-third of our clients are at-risk for abortion.*



You made Virtual Festa a success



You laughed. You cried. You danced with Wonder Woman. You smiled at our playdough babies and your eyes got wide at our gigantic bubble gum bubbles. Most importantly, you got to see how we are still serving clients during coronavirus and learned ways you can be involved. We loved seeing more than 100 of you on our Facebook live stream April 2 for a virtual version of our annual Festa della Donna celebration of women. It wasn't the beautiful brunch we planned at the Dallas Arboretum, but it was an entertaining, interactive half-hour, straight from our homes to yours.

We pray you left entertained and inspired by the work you are supporting at Thrive Women's Clinic. Those of you who donated are playing an important part in God's work on the front lines of LIFE! Most of all, special thanks to our underwriters who supported our event despite the change of plans. Even without our brunch, we raised about half of our \$155,000 goal through underwriting and online donations. **THANK YOU!**



Watch it again here: bit.ly/VirtualFesta

OUR UNDERWRITERS

DEFENDERS OF LIFE:

Caroline Hunt
Interstate Batteries
Morningstar Family
Foundation
Kyle Renard, M.D.
Mayra Thompson,
M.D.

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Gina Gunn
Julie Smith



We want to extend special thanks from the bottom of our hearts for those of you sharing some or all of your stimulus stipends with our ministry. We are humbled by your generous and sacrificial giving. THANK YOU!

Stimulus package stretches your dollars

Did you know the new Coronavirus Stimulus Package bill can boost your donation to Thrive Women's Clinic and ease your tax burden? For individuals, larger gift deductions have been raised from 60% to 100% of your annual gross income for the year 2020. For businesses, the giving limit has been increased from 10% to 25% of the taxable income, making charitable gifts much more attractive for corporations.

Got questions?

Let us walk you through it.
Contact Mary Jayne Fogerty at
mfogerty@thrivewomensclinic.com

Give at
[Vinekeepers.org/donate](https://vinekeepers.org/donate)

Read full article here:
<https://bit.ly/3a89gKs>



A FACE ON THE FRONTLINES



Thrive staffer Kontessa Kiel has been appointed to a new role as Client Services Director. Let's learn more about her.

From Nacogdoches, TX and attended Baylor University.

In 2011, Kontessa began as a volunteer at Thrive and was hired in 2014 as an administrative assistant at the Central Dallas location. She has been promoted to various roles, including

Director of Operations. (And toddler mom!)

Since 2011, Kontessa has counseled 600 clients and 102 babies have been saved when their moms changed their minds and chose life after meeting with Kontessa. (That includes 2 sets of twins and 1 set of quadruplets.) She has also led 5 clients to Christ.

Why Thrive? "God led me to volunteer at Thrive in 2011 after I had been seeking an avenue of healing for my own abortion experience. I was seeking a way to speak with women who were experiencing the same troubles that I had as a young girl. I grew up in church, loved the Lord and loved ministry, but did not feel worthy of God's love or forgiveness. It wasn't until I began to serve at Thrive and went through post-abortive counseling that I truly felt healed and delivered from the pain, shame and guilt from my past. Little did I know that it would ignite my purpose and passion for breaking the cycles and generational curses for women in unplanned pregnancies."

Her message: "I enjoy working at Thrive because it gives me the opportunity to minister to women outside of the church walls. I get to share my personal story of abortion: the harsh realities, and God's grace. The difference is, I never had an opportunity to come to a place like Thrive that could have helped me in making a life decision. I often share that with clients." 🌱

Mark your calendar!

August 8 and 22

Oct. 17 and 31

Volunteer Trainings
Attend two Saturdays.

September 24

Celebration and Fundraising Dinner
featuring Jim Denison

Learn more at [Vinekeepers.org/events](https://vinekeepers.org/events)





Dallas Life, Inc.

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Vinekeepers.org

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SAVE THE DATE!

Thrive Celebration Dinner September 24, 2020

The Statler Hilton

With special guest
Dr. Jim Denison



Dr. Jim Denison is the founder and visionary behind

the Denison Forum. His podcast and Daily Article reach more than 200,000 subscribers seeking to discern daily news from a biblical perspective. He is a trusted voice that equips believers to navigate even the most polarizing current issues and share God's word with a changing culture. He has written many books, taught philosophy and apologetics at several seminaries, and pastored churches in Texas and Georgia. Join us to hear his relevant and empowering message on the life issue.



To underwrite this event:
Vinekeepers.org/dinner

LOCATIONS:

Central Dallas Clinic

6500 Greenville Avenue
Suite 600
Dallas, Texas 75206
*NOTE: This is our corporate
and mailing address.*

East Dallas Clinic

12959 Jupiter Road
Suite 260
Dallas, Texas 75238

West Dallas Clinic

3901 Holystone St.
Dallas, Texas 75212

Irving Clinic

1111 W Airport Fwy
Suite 229
Irving, Texas 75062



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