

Learn ways to cultivate LIFE for babies, families, and our community.



THE VINE

A PUBLICATION OF THRIVE WOMEN'S CLINIC | WINTER 2023

Babies Change Everything



VINEKEEPERS
SUPPORTING THRIVE WOMEN'S CLINIC

Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Vinekeepers Family,

As former Thrive client Rachel recently shared with us regarding the birth of her baby girl, Avianna, **"It was God's plan and Thrive's work"** that helped her choose life. In hindsight, she cannot imagine life without her, yet she struggled with this decision at that sobering time when she learned she was pregnant. In God's mercy, she was led to Thrive where she was welcomed and felt an openness to share her true feelings about her pregnancy.

Thrive clients often say their visits with us provide hope and relief; they feel they are not alone in their circumstance. The dictionary describes relief as an alleviation of pain; reassurance following release from anxiety or distress. The Psalmist says in Psalm 4: *"Answer me when I call, God of my righteousness. Give me relief from my distress. Have mercy on me and hear my prayer."*

David knew the source of his relief was Almighty God and on many occasions, he sought relief through the prescription of God's mercy at times of disobedience, trauma or doubt. **At Thrive our mission is to act as God's agents of mercy as we meet each woman and man with responsive, Christ-like compassion to point them toward God's love and special purpose for their lives.** At Christmastime, we think of gifts tangible with pretty wrappings and bows; the gifts shared at Thrive include gifts of understanding, time, compassionate guidance, medical expertise, and prayer. These gifts bring a sense of relief, even for a moment, from the distress of an unplanned pregnancy. In the case of Rachel, the relief was transformative as she understood the truth about the life in her womb and her choice to protect it.

Throughout scripture we read about - and we often sing about - the mercies of the Lord:

"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." -Lamentations 3:22-23

It is beyond human understanding that God chose to send his son as a baby, born in a manger, to live a sinless life to die for us. It is through this act of love that is his connection to man so that we may find eternal relief. **The special story of Christmas is the ultimate story of God's mercy; his tangible visitation that brought grace to the world.**

As we wrap up the recognition of our 40th year, **we celebrate YOU as God's divine agents** enabling our staff and volunteers to provide relief and mercy to our clients each day so they may choose a path once unimaginable: life for their unborn and often the sweetest relief and joy of eternal life for themselves.

God bless you and your faithfulness to our mission and merry Christmas to you and your loved ones!



Lisa Freeman
Executive Director
Thrive Women's Clinic



Jan-Nov
2023
Statistics

New client
visits:
1,419

Babies
saved:
151

New
believers:
127



Calendar of Events

JAN. 21: Sanctity of Human Life Day

MAR. 25: Festa della Donna

May 20: Golf Fore Life

See more at Vinekeepers.org/events

WE NEED YOU!

- Nurse/sonographer for mobile sonogram unit
- Event volunteers/Auction Committee
- 2 OB/GYN Doctors
- More client advocates and trained mentors for Earn While You Learn

For more information, contact us at vinekeepers.org/jobs

THRIVE

WOMEN'S CLINIC

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Elizabeth Viney, <i>Chair</i>	Peter Hajek
Mark Turman	Lexie Graben
James Cole	Laura Thornton

THRIVE LEADERSHIP

Dr. Steven Harris <i>Medical Director</i>	Kontessa Kiel <i>Director of Client Services</i>
Lisa Freeman <i>Executive Director</i>	Arri Evans <i>Men's Ministry Coordinator</i>
Mary Craft <i>Director of Clinic Services</i>	
Cathy Lawson <i>Director of Development</i>	

Vinekeepers are the supporters of Thrive Women's Clinic, which has three 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](https://www.facebook.com/thrivewomensclinic)



Instagram:

[/vinekeepers](https://www.instagram.com/vinekeepers)
[/thrivewomensclinic](https://www.instagram.com/thrivewomensclinic)

Merry
Christmas
from
THRIVE WOMEN'S CLINIC!





THRIVE CELEBRATION DINNER 40 YEARS OF LIFE

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Guests gathered at the Omni Dallas Hotel on the evening of October 8 for our 40th anniversary Celebration Dinner. VIP guests had the opportunity to enjoy a private reception and photos with our keynote speaker, Mike Pompeo. Mr. Pompeo served as the 70th Secretary of State of the United States, Director of the CIA, and was elected to four terms in Congress. He referenced Psalm 139 and encouraged us to be bold in our defense of such a fundamental truth about the sanctity of life.



We were honored to have Thrive Women's Clinic founder, Jim McKee, and hear his heart and passion for supporting the unborn and families in need. The band concluded the evening for us with the song "Mom" by Garth Brooks, that was beautifully timed to the entrance of 5 former clients accompanied by their children, spanning over 13 years.

Guests enjoyed viewing and shopping the Silent Auction. 144 items were donated for a total of 104 packages. The evening was a hallmark success. We've heard from so many who thought the program was powerful and the "best yet"! 🍷





SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR DINNER SPONSORS

CHAMPIONS OF LIFE

Anonymous
Lisa & Kenny Troutt

GUARDIANS OF LIFE

Anonymous
Betsy & Cary Newman
Kyle & Thomas Renard
Rowling Foundation
Thomas Foundation

DEFENDERS OF LIFE

Anonymous
Mary & Edward
Crawford
Jack & Patti Denman
Andi Frisbie
Cindy & Pat Hawkins
Caroline Hunt
MacArthur Blvd
Baptist Church
Becky & Bob McCamey
Sandy & Charles
Raymond
Janet & Orlando Salazar
Elizabeth & Marshall
Viney

SUSTAINERS OF LIFE

Anonymous (8)
Matthew & Amy Borne

Cornerstone Christian
Church
Julie & Ryan Franks
Lexie & Andrew Graben
Gina & Doug Gunn
Glenna & Peter Hajek
Meredith & John Hall
Ruth Ann & Eric Janson
Paula & John McLeod
Leslie & Nick Merrick
Andrea & Jerry Rooker
Ann & Jeffrey Swope
Brittani & Brandon
Travelstead
Anne & Walte Waldie
Emily & Scott Wilding
Kelsi & Zach Wolf

PATRONS

Anonymous (4)
Carol & Steve Baker
Julie & Ken Dean
Mary Jayne & Bruce
Fogerty
Jeff & Christine Forbes
Jim & Sandi Granberry
Linda & Mark Montie

**Thank you silent
auction contributors.**

Babies

Danielle felt empowered to choose life for her baby and became part of the Thrive family.

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Change Everything

It was the summer of 2020 and Danielle was scared, pregnant and nervous about how this would affect her future. **Considering abortion, she did a quick search online** for pregnancy clinics near her. She followed the first click, unsure she wanted to become a mother and she made an appointment for a sonogram that would end up changing her life forever. Entering the clinic, she instantly felt welcomed and was treated like family. **“I felt comforted and less nervous after hearing the heartbeat,”** Danielle said when seeing images of her baby for the first time. “They prayed with me and were really nice.” From that day, Danielle felt empowered to choose life for her baby and became part of the Thrive family. She was provided with a Life Box – a gift to all our clients who make choices for life – that gave her some of her first baby items, pieces she would use again with her second pregnancy in 2022, this time with **twins**.

Danielle knew exactly where to go this time. “Wherever you need help, they’re there,” she said as she recalled all the time the nurses prayed for her during her visits or client services reached out to offer resources. She highly recommends attending Earn While You Learn classes as a great tool for education and the opportunity to shop the closet with baby bucks. **“They’re like a second family,”** she continued, “I wasn’t really religious, but they re-lit a spark with God and the need for a relationship for me.” Thrive has walked closely with Danielle and supported her growth into motherhood.

We had the pleasure of spending time with Danielle, Cameron (dad), and the twins recently to catch up and capture precious moments. Missing from our photoshoot is her oldest son, who was in school. Danielle, now 20 weeks pregnant with **triplets** (you read that right!), is full of joy, exuding patience and an all-around pleasure to spend time with. The twins, just over a year old, expressed unique personalities between smiles and giggles and were happy to play with everyone in the room – but had a special fondness for sitting in Cameron’s lap. When we asked Danielle if she had anything to share about her story, she responded: **“If you are scared or unsure about moving forward [with an unplanned pregnancy] they’ll going to educate you and give you the facts** and they’re going to support you whichever way you go, there was no pressure...they’re very supportive, a second family.” We are excited to continue our walk with Danielle and her family as they prepare to welcome 3 new lives. Cameron has recently connected with our men’s mentoring program, and Julie our resource specialist continues to provide support as their needs grow. 🍷

If you would like to make a difference as a client advocate or trained mentor, please reach out to Kontessa Kiel at kkiel@thrivewomensclinic.com.



TEAMWORK

Makes the Dream Work

— Bruce & Carla with Faith & Finances —

On August 31st, Men's Ministry Coordinator, Arri Evans, and Thrive Resource Specialist, Julie Smith, launched a pilot of a six-session class called "Faith and Finances." Upon completion of training for the program, they recruited Thrive clients, Bruce and Carla into our inaugural class.

The class focused on two key themes: Jesus is making all things new, and He has chosen to use money to accomplish His work in the world. Week by week, Bruce and Carla followed the story of a fictional couple facing real world problems including a variety of topics such as overcoming financial challenges, setting savings goals, creating a spending plan, giving joyfully, and managing debt. "Everyone was transparent," Arri said.

At the end of the six weeks, **both Bruce and Carla expressed how much the class had increased their faith.** In fact, before taking the class, Bruce said that he considered himself to be an atheist. **The "Faith and Finances" course completely changed his heart towards God though, and he said he desires to have a relationship with God.**

Bruce said that he could see the goodness of God through the love and kindness shown at Thrive and especially through the blessing of his daughter, Scarlett. **"You might not expect a financial class to plant the seeds of Christ, but it did!"** Arri concluded.

The couple celebrated with a personal graduation ceremony and a financial gift to begin putting their lessons into practice. Bruce and Carla have offered to be alumni references for future couples who might go through the class. Bruce and Arri are beginning a Bible Study together next month. 🌱



Thrive Men

Interested in becoming a male client advocate? Contact Arri Evans, aevans@thrivewomensclinic.com.



Blessings Abounding!

See a need, meet a need

Park Cities Presbyterian Church (PCPC) took our West Dallas clinic under their wing recently to begin a much-needed clinic refresh. They provided the manpower, shelving, furniture, plants and so much love to brighten the clinic for our clients. We are so fortunate to call PCPC friend and partner to reach women in need in West Dallas and across our community. We're excited to share our new look with you in early 2024 when the project is completed.



Thank you PreBorn!

We are beyond grateful for our recent gift of FOUR brand new Mind Ray Sonogram machines from PreBorn!, a pro-life organization that supports life-affirming Pregnancy Clinics in their mission to reach women considering abortion, particularly in areas with high abortion rates. As timing would have it, our founder, Jim McKee was in town to see the machines unveiled in our Greenville clinic. These machines allow us to provide a first glance and personal connection with a mother and her baby, encouraging choices for LIFE. 🌱



SAVE THE DATE!

Festa della Donna

March 25 | Dallas Country Club

Speaker: Amy Hannon

Learn more about Amy at:
amyhannon.com

Chair: Emily Gonzalez

Underwriting opportunities
will open in January, more
details to come.



Festa della Donna
WOMEN'S BRUNCH

A Wealth of Wisdom

*W*e are blessed to have loving and committed members on the Thrive Team. Hear from some of our nurses who have seen generations of clients come through our doors.



Beth Allen
3 years as a volunteer,
18 years on staff

What made you want to join the Thrive team?

I wanted to do something worthwhile in nursing and a friend recommended it.

What is your favorite Thrive-related memory?

I had an abortion minded client pregnant with twins who changed her mind and carried the babies!



Vicki Germer
10 years on staff

What made you want to join the Thrive team?

I liked the idea of working in a Christian pro-life ministry.

What is your favorite thing about working here?

Doing a sonogram on a mom who is 10-14 weeks and seeing the wonder in her eyes as she sees her baby move and hears its heartbeat



Gina Gunn
4 years volunteer, 14 years on staff

What is your favorite Thrive-related memory?

There was a mother of two, considering abortion. After counseling and a sonogram we prayed. Later she returned and had completely changed her mind because "Gina prayed down heaven." Never underestimate the power of prayer.



Lisa Roberts
1.5 years volunteer, 23 years on staff

What is your Favorite thing about working at Thrive?

Combining nursing with ministry

What is your favorite Thrive-related memory?

Early training for ultrasounds when we did not know what we were doing! 🌸

SPECIAL APPRECIATION

Dr. Steven Harris

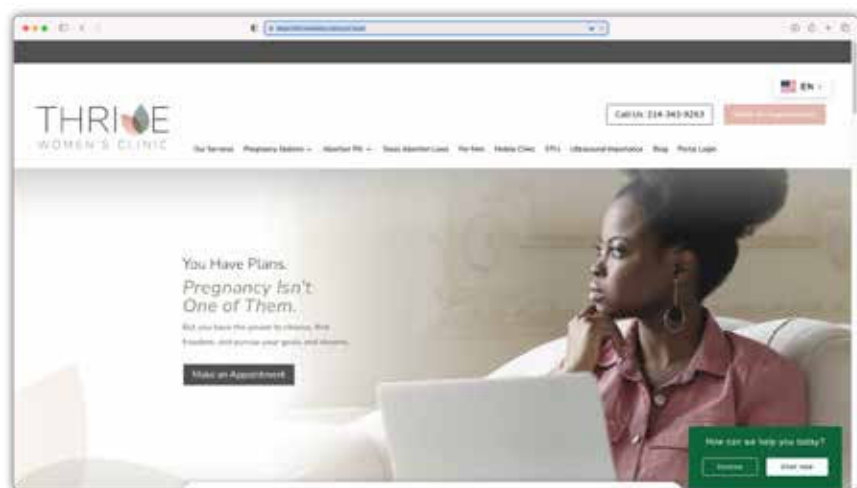
Dr. Harris has served Thrive as our Medical Director for 23 years. He is a board-certified obstetrician and gynecologist with a successful practice at Baylor Scott and White Dallas. We are so thankful for how he has ministered to our women through his expertise and wisdom, as well as his kind demeanor and prayerful heart. He has been a wealth of knowledge to our medical team and worked alongside our nursing director to make important decisions for the clinic and patients. We are so incredibly fortunate to have a servant who loves the Lord and cares about the lives of both mother and baby. 🌸



New Year, New Website!

Get excited, an all-new website is rolling out for Thrive Women's Clinic. Enjoy the refreshed look, clear resources, and current information to help further empower our clients. Now, more than ever, people are researching medical information online before seeking consultations in person. Thrive Women's Clinic strives to **reach her first**. We believe our website will be better optimized for searching and still be beautifully designed. Our new pages will feature fresh blogs, a wealth of resources and FAQs, and a featured tab "for Men."

Thrivewomensclinic.com



3 out of 4 people search for medical care online before choosing where to go.¹

Women are more likely to seek health information online than men (85 percent compared to 75 percent) and younger consumers are more likely to research health topics online.” (*The Pew study*)²

AGES 18–29 The age range among women of reproductive age, the highest proportions at risk of unintended pregnancy.³



¹<https://www.patientpop.com/blog/internet-new-ways-patients-find-physicians/#:~:text=In%20fact%2C%20three%20of%20four,to%20attract%20and%20retain%20patients.>

²<https://www.nbcnews.com/id/wbna3077086> ³[https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK232124/#:~:text=Not%20surprisingly%2C%20among%20women%20of,\(Figure%20%2D3\)](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK232124/#:~:text=Not%20surprisingly%2C%20among%20women%20of,(Figure%20%2D3))

Dallas Life, Inc.

6500 Greenville Ave. Suite 600 • Dallas, Texas 75206

Vinekeepers.org

Client website: ThriveWomensClinic.com • 214-343-9263



This Christmas, choose how **YOU** can help bring hope and **LIFE** to your community. Your contributions support our clients and the services we provide daily! Because of you, moms and dads will enjoy Christmas with the best gift of all, their children!
Will you make a year end gift?



GIVE ONLINE

LOCATIONS:

Central Dallas Clinic*

6500 Greenville Avenue • Suite 600
Dallas, Texas 75206

This is our corporate and mailing address.

West Dallas Clinic

3901 Holystone St.
Dallas, Texas 75212

Irving Clinic

1111 W Airport Fwy • Suite 229
Irving, Texas 75062



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