

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



A PUBLICATION OF THRIVE WOMEN'S CLINIC | FALL 2025

# THE VINE



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VINEKEEPERS  
SUPPORTING THRIVE WOMEN'S CLINIC

# Letter from the Executive Director

## Dear Vinekeepers Family,

If you're from the great state of Texas, you know we rarely enjoy the luxury of four distinct seasons. More often, the temperature shifts from 85 degrees to 35 in just a few hours—ushering in fall and winter in a single day. **Seasons of change can arrive suddenly and shake us**, while others are anticipated yet still require faith to embrace.

**At Thrive, we know these seasons well**—both as a ministry and through the eyes of our clients who face life changes for which they never planned. Over the past 25 years, we've been blessed by the steady leadership and clinical excellence of **Dr. Steven Harris**, whose humble service and reliance on the Lord have guided and cared for countless clients. As Paul reminds us in Galatians, "Let us not grow weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." Throughout **Dr. Harris's faithful service, Thrive has witnessed an incredible harvest—over 4,000 babies as well as 1,700 souls saved!** Behind each of those numbers is a mother who found courage, a child welcomed into loving arms, and a family forever changed by God's grace through Dr. Harris's leadership and care. What a legacy of life and hope.

As Dr. Harris enters a new season, our gratitude for his decades of service is infinite. **We are equally excited to welcome Dr. Adrienne Browning as our new Medical Director.** Also in practice at Baylor University Medical Center, Dr. Browning is a member of Northwest Bible Church and brings a heart rooted in faith and a spirit of compassion that will help Thrive continue to grow and reach more clients in need. Her desire to serve women with excellence and grace

reflects the very heartbeat of Thrive's ministry.

As we rest in the constancy of God through every season, we hold close the words of Isaiah 40:8: "The grass withers and the flower fades, but the Word of our God stands forever." **We find comfort in knowing that God is with us in every season of our work. We are deeply thankful for the healing hands and faithful**

**hearts of Drs. Harris, Browning, Kight, and Garner, along with our nurses and client services staff and volunteers**—each playing a vital role in helping women and men embrace new beginnings.

Every day, our team walks alongside clients amid unexpected change—young women facing unplanned pregnancies, a mom surprised by another child, and many moms and dads struggling to imagine how they will provide. **Yet, through each**

**visit and prayer, God strengthens them to move forward**—to embrace a new season that may feel as sudden as a Texas cold front but filled with His purpose.

Your continued partnership allows us to meet women at the crossroads of fear and hope, showing them that every life—mother and child—is precious to God. **Because of your prayers, support, and generosity, we enter this fall with hearts full of thanksgiving for you.** Your partnership helps each client we serve find courage in their season of change—and discover the abundant blessings God has prepared for them.



*Lisa Freeman*

**Lisa Freeman**

*Executive Director, Thrive Women's Clinic*

Jan-Sep  
2025  
Statistics

New client visits:

1,136

Babies saved:

117

New believers:

29

Babies Vulnerable to  
Abortion/Protected:

532



# Calendar of Events

**Nov 22:** Cookies with Santa

**December 6:** Men's bag event (see pg. 6)

**Dec 22-26:** All clinics closed

**Jan 18, 2026:** Sanctity of Human Life Sunday

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

## HELP WANTED:

• Director of Clinic Services

Visit [vinekeepers.org/jobs](https://vinekeepers.org/jobs) for more information



## North Texas Giving Day

This year our theme, "We Stick Together," highlighted clients, staff and supporters who have stuck with us to share the lasting impact of Thrive Women's Clinic. Together we raised almost \$100,000! **Thank you!**

# THRIVE

## WOMEN'S CLINIC

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Browning  
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Director*

Lisa Freeman  
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Mary Craft  
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Arri Evans  
*Men's Ministry  
Coordinator*

Vinekeepers are the supporters of Thrive Women's Clinic, which has three locations and a mobile unit in Dallas County that provide services at no cost for women and their partners experiencing unplanned pregnancy. Our nonprofit ministry extends Christlike love in a compassionate manner that values the family and empowers women and their partners to choose life.

#### For clients:

[ThriveWomensClinic.com](https://ThriveWomensClinic.com)

#### For supporters:

[Vinekeepers.org](https://Vinekeepers.org)



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**VINEKEEPERS**  
SUPPORTING THRIVE WOMEN'S CLINIC

# Celebrating a Legacy



This year, Thrive's faithful Medical Director, **Dr. Harris**, stepped down. We are forever grateful for his time, efforts and energy donated to the care of our clients and the protection of our clinic. We know he couldn't have done it without his wife, Alicia, by his side and we are grateful for their dedication to Thrive's mission for 25 years. We wish them well on their next exciting adventures.

## Notes from Thrive nurses

**Gina Gunn** - "Dr Harris is one of the two incredible people who ignited my interest in serving at Thrive, almost 20 years ago."

**Meredith Hall** - "Dear Dr. Harris! It's been such a great 8 years serving alongside you at Thrive. You have taught me so much about women's health but even more so, I have learned from your kindness to the women and your willingness to give them the best care."

**Vivian Summey** - "He was truly the rock of our medical program and we could always count on him to keep us steady and out of danger!"

**Lisa Roberts** - "He finds a way to weave his faith into conversations so that there was no mistaking where he got his strength and love. I can say with confidence, my impressions of him remain the same after approximately 25 years." 🍷



**We are honored and excited to welcome Dr. Adrienne Browning into the Medical Director's position.** Dr. Browning is a former volunteer and carries a deep sense of passion for our clients.



# The Surrender of Seeds



I am a registered nurse, but I spend my days talking about seeds. Around the time a woman has a positive pregnancy test, an embryo resembles a poppy seed in size. By the time we detect a heartbeat via ultrasound (around six weeks after the last period), the embryo resembles a mustard seed. Without intervention, the seed-like embryo continues to grow and develop, eventually requiring a life outside the womb.

So, while I swirl an ultrasound probe and chat with the woman before me, we discuss seeds—their sizes, characteristics, and potential. The embryonic seeds pulsate with life, and the mother before me has a choice.

But, as it always happens, their choice becomes an invitation for me to examine my own heart. I cannot walk with women through these decisions if I am not willing to traverse the precarious ravines of my own heart. And so, as I continue her sonogram and we stare at her “seed,” the words of Scripture begin to resonate within me.

Two millennia ago, a carpenter also spent his days talking about seeds. Jesus compared His Kingdom to the size of a mustard seed. Buried first within the dark, damp earth, a microscopic mustard seed slowly grows into a place of refuge (Matt 13:31-32). Then He taught that our hearts must be willing to receive the message of the Kingdom, just as the fate of a crop rests on the soil that receives a seed (Matt 13:3-23). In fact, Jesus’ seedly invitations always require a difficult call for self-denial. Shortly before His death, Jesus taught His disciples that seeds must die before they bear

fruit (John 12:24). Death to self brings life for others.

Eventually, Jesus’ lifeless body lay in a dark, damp tomb. Death, it seemed, had defeated the carpenter. But three days later, His body began to pulsate with life, and He walked once again amongst His creation. With His resurrection, we know that death does not have the final say. He is the God who became an embryonic seed for you and for me, who lived a perfect life, who died the death we deserve, and whose resurrection gave life to all who might believe in Him.

His life, death, and resurrection beckon us all to embrace the transforming power of His Spirit within us. Sometimes, change feels like death, like a seed fallen into the deep, dark earth. But through the power of Christ, change becomes life, like a seed that grows into a lush, provisional tree.

So, tucked away off a busy Dallas street, tiny seeds make for sacred work at Thrive, and tucked away in the quietness of your heart, our Savior does His sacred work of transforming you. Will you surrender to the quiet, unseen work He does as He plants the seeds of His Kingdom within you? Jesus invites us into a life of lush abundance, and all we need is the faith of a mustard seed (Matt 17:20).

Hallelujah. 🌱  
– Sarah Rooker  
RN, BSN



# Growing Together Through Seasons of Change Playgroups!

**A**t Thrive Women's Clinic, we believe that empowering women means supporting them well beyond their initial decision to choose life through building and sustaining healthy families. Our playgroups provide a nurturing space where moms can build community, receive encouragement, and gain practical parenting tools—all while their little ones grow and thrive in a safe, engaging environment. These gatherings not only **strengthen the bond between mother and child** but also foster lasting relationships among families walking similar paths. Led by Sarah (Nurse) and Julie (Resource Specialist), clients and their families gather once a month to grow in parenthood together while hearing

from guest speakers.

Following our most recent gathering, Sarah shared, *"Two different mothers told me how much their children love coming to playgroup to be around other children and to just play! I've loved watching mothers (and fathers) have conversations with one another and just have fun with their kids. It's also been a joy to watch the kids grow and develop over the past year, and then [we get] to talk about their development with their parents. I've also loved the multi-cultural*

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aspect of the playgroup. Some playgroups have had four to five different cultures and countries represented! It's such a beautiful picture of the diversity of the people God creates.

Thrive created the playdates to help curate a space for moms to find **community and support**. Julie and I saw so many moms who needed connection, but didn't know where to find it in the vast DFW area. Thrive simply facilitates the place for those connections. Julie and I love watching parents connect with one another as they share stories, contact information, and parenting tips. **These moms have so much love and support to offer one another** – we want to help encourage that! Thrive is only one level of support for these mothers, but through the playgroup, we're introducing them to a variety of other levels of support- individual support, community support, and even church support.”

Your generous support makes these vital connections possible, helping our **clients flourish in**

**both motherhood and faith.** One client shared, “I've had so many accomplishments in my life; won championships, speaker for my class, seen most of the United States, but nothing compares to experiencing my wife's pregnancy and being there for my son's delivery. There's just nothing like it. I love him so much.” If you or someone you know would like to participate as a guest speaker or provide expertise in a specific area – or support in any way – contact Julie Smith at [jsmith@thrivewomensclinic.com](mailto:jsmith@thrivewomensclinic.com). 🌱

# Celebration Dinner:

## A beautiful evening!

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Guests gathered for a beautiful evening at the Renaissance Dallas Addison Hotel on October 19 for our Celebration Dinner. Our featured speaker, Kayleigh McEnany, was a former White House Press Secretary and current co-host of Outnumbered on Fox News. She urged each of us to stand “for such a time as this,” [Esther 4:14] and shared this information in reference to women who have chosen abortion, “They would have preferred to give birth if they had received more emotional or financial support.” The audience was captivated by her bold stance for the protection of life in the womb and the support of women facing the choice of abortion vs parenting. Ryan Frakes (event chair, with wife Julie) shared a “full-circle” moment when he learned that his hair dresser was a former Thrive client and how well she was doing because of Thrive’s care! We heard from Thrive supporters, received ministry updates and shared a brave testimony from client,



Mary. Over 100 items were donated to our Silent and LIVE auctions. Many guests enjoyed browsing and participating with a total of \$56,180 raised. Scan the code at left to view our client testimony. 🍷



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## Special Thank you to our Dinner Sponsors

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# CLIENT HIGHLIGHT

Mary came to Thrive in 2020 with a heavy heart. She had planned a trip to visit her family in her home country in January, but as health concerns for COVID grew around the world, her 3-week trip grew to 3 months. In that time, she became the victim of a vicious assault. Her visit to the



authorities was only met with disheartening responses and shifted blame. During a follow up appointment for her healing, she learned she was pregnant. “I was so disappointed ... in my home country, you cannot be keeping kids if you are not married at all. They gonna make you go to jail and they punish you so badly.” She was

scared, hurt, and ready to put everything behind her. She planned to schedule an abortion as soon as she was back to the U.S. and reached out to a friend to find a clinic. By God’s grace, her friend encouraged

her to visit Thrive for advice and help with her next steps. There, Mary was met warmly with open arms and for the first time, saw her healthy baby through a sonogram. Fear crept in still, “I cannot deal with this newborn baby,” she said, and they began the discussion for adoption. Mary continued her appointments and was soon weighted with grief; the idea of becoming a mother felt overwhelming but she wanted the best possible life for her child – one that might not include her. Suddenly, becoming a mom felt like a selfish choice. After weeks of debating her options, and through much encouragement, not only did she choose life for her son, she chose parenting. “Jan called me every week when he was born,” she said, “she always pray for me. She so nice.” Mary joined parenting classes and today, her son is energetic, bright, and full of laughter. She goes on to say, “I’m so happy keeping him...I’m so happy he’s, you know, not abortion. I’m a mom now.” Mary and her son are often present at our client celebrations, donning well-coordinated outfits and smiles all around, it is a joy to be part of their journey together. 🌈

## EMPLOYEE HIGHLIGHT – Jan Cassidy



Jan holds a special place in our hearts as she tenderly touches the hearts of many clients who come through our doors. Jan has served with Thrive for 18 years, dedicating countless hours and changing countless lives. We are thankful for her compassion and steadfast support.

**Q&A How long have you been involved with Thrive?** *On Sanctity of Human Life Sunday 20 years ago, Kay Morton, former Clinic Director, handed me a baby bottle at church and said, “I think you would be interested in this!” Kay was right!*

*I gained a precious friend and a place at Thrive!*

**What is a story that stands out to you?** *These past 20 years are filled with memorable stories. My weekly phone calls to Earn While You Learn clients who were afraid to go outside during Covid were valuable and encouraging. The most precious gift I have received was a beautiful prayer written for me by a client. I carry a copy of that prayer in my Bible.*

**Why is serving women with unplanned pregnancies important?** *I have always had a heart for serving others. Sometimes God lets us go through such hard times that we are finally willing to listen to Him. The greatest joy is to share the gospel and offer the hope to clients who are willing to listen.*

# WHAT'S THE LATEST?

## Golf Fore Life

Our 14th annual Golf Fore Life tournament returned to the Omni PGA Frisco Resort. Golfers and sponsors were eager to play at the PGA venue and helped us raise more than \$78,000 for Thrive. This year's winners were the Mercy Culture, David Grant, Baker Brother's, Files & Baxter Teams, and a surprise Hole in One by Jack Snider! Longest Drive went to Jen Svoboda and Closest to the Pin to Jay Verdoorn.



## Irving Open House

We had a great time at our Irving Open House, June 23, visiting with guests and supporters while exploring the vibrant updates to our new location inside the **Baylor Scott & White Medical Building**. We are so grateful to God for this incredible provision to better serve our Irving clients.



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## ThriveMen "It's in the bag!"

For the 3rd year in a row, the ThriveMen team and volunteers are gearing up to prepare ThriveMen Bags. These goodies are given as a gift to each father who chose life for their unexpected pregnancy with their partner. Arri (men's ministry coordinator) along with Kyle Fischer and the involvement of 2 churches, will gather to assemble the bags and spend time encouraging those involved. Much like our Life Box – which is gifted to every mother who chooses LIFE for her baby – the ThriveMen

Bag is filled with essentials to **support the father** on the day of their baby's arrival, practically and spiritually, including a handwritten note of encouragement.



*If you would like to learn more about how to be involved with ThriveMen, please contact Arri Evans at [aevans@thrivewomensclinic.com](mailto:aevans@thrivewomensclinic.com).*

## 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

2021 N MacArthur Blvd. • Suite 540  
Irving, TX 75061



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# Gifts of COMFORT & Joy

12 days of Christmas  
12 client stories

***This Christmas, unwrap a new LIFE***



*scan  
here*