## Reflections of His Heart

Late Fall 2023

**Newsletter** 

Happenings at Ramona Pregnancy Care Clinic

### **Our Bountiful Harvest**



## From the Director



When we started this ministry in 1989 our mission was to prevent abortions by helping women with counseling before they made their decision and offering practical support, like friendship and baby supplies. We would show pregnant women the plastic models of preborn babies to demonstrate their humanity, and many women would change their minds and go forward with their pregnancies.

Over the years, it became obvious, to see a plastic model of a baby wasn't enough, to help the women who came to us in the 2000's, they needed to see THEIR OWN baby to be convinced to choose life. We added ultrasound to our medical services in 2003 and were able to intercept many women before they went to the abortionist's office, whether it was for a surgical abortion, or a chemical abortion accomplished with a regimen of two pills prescribed by a doctor, this is commonly called the abortion pill.

One time our sonographer was showing a woman her ultrasound and said, "See that dot? That's your baby." That woman called back the next week to say she decided to go forward with her pregnancy. She was going to keep the dot, because it was her dot! Now that child is about 15 years old.

Our opposition seized the opportunity during covid to have women skip the visit and omit the doctor when they got approval to send this abortion pill regimen in the mail. Then last year with the overturn of Roe vs Wade, they were in the ideal position to send the abortion pill anywhere, even into states outlawing abortion.

Last year I wrote about our struggle with marketing platforms like google and yelp. This is still a struggle causing it to be more and more difficult to attract a pregnant woman before she makes that fateful decision to end her child's life. Because the abortion pill is so accessible and doesn't require medical personnel to be present, its easy for women to deceive themselves that its not really an abortion, but just "causing themselves to miscarry."

Its becoming more and more difficult, but we are still pursuing our original mission, protecting women and babies from the trauma of abortion. We don't apologize for our desire to save babies' and mothers' lives.

The numbers we hear say that abortions are going down, but the truth is women are aborting earlier in their pregnancies and many go unaccounted for since the abortion pills may be sent from China, Canada, India or another country.

# In the 55 Spotlight

Beverly Hubbard has officially been a volunteer with RPCC for 30 years, but in reality she's been coming to our fundraisers since the very beginning in 1989. She has served as Chair of the Board of Directors much of that time. Under her leadership the center began utilizing the Walk For Life and the Banquet as part of the annual fundraising plan. She has



provided much stability and humor along the way.

Cindy Barth moved to Ramona and began volunteering at RPCC right away 20 years ago. During that time she has served in many positions when needed., including front desk, crisis counseling, ultrasounds, teaching classes and supervising other volunteers. Many of the mothers we've helped over the



last 25 years were helped in some way personally by Cindy.

Scan to watch the video (10 min) we showed at the Banquet





There were over 250 folks very happy to attend our 2023 Fall Fundraiser Banquet. We couldn't be more pleased with the results as our supporters gave \$104,000 in gifts and pledges to be received in the next 12 months to support the ministry of RPCC to women and families from our community. The speaker and the mother who shared her testimony, both had us spellbound.

### **New Volunteer Orientation**

We are holding our next New Volunteer Orientation

Wed, Dec. 13 ~ 12 noon-3:00 pm

- We will discuss basic facts surrounding the abortion issue-legal issues, number of abortions performed in the U.S., stages of development of unborn babies, methods of abortions, reasons for abortions.
- We will cover procedures at our clinic for caring for the clients, for safety of the volunteers and staff, and in cases of an emergency.
- We will finish with spiritual training for clearly explaining how to become a Christian and begin to grow.

The sessions will be held at the RPCC Office



#### By Gissell

As a small child I longed for my parents' love and attention. My father was an alcoholic, and my mother was a victim of domestic abuse. Although my dad was a mean drunk, I loved him very much and I couldn't imagine my life without him. I knew he hurt my mom, but as a child I just wished they got along.

Unfortunately, my dad passed away in 2010, I was 9 at the time. You would think my mother would be there for me, comforting me through this painful time, but she did not. As I got older, I got into trouble. I skipped school and ran off with my friends, I wouldn't come home for days, weeks, even months. I was 13 at the time. So many things happened at this age. I got into fights that led me to be put on probation. I would then go to different stores and steal bottles of alcohol. This led me to being detained in juvenile hall. This was an ongoing cycle from when I was 13 till, I was 17.

After I graduated from high school, I went to UEI college to train in criminal justice. I wanted to change my life around and help people like me. I wanted to make a difference and my mom was so proud of me. Unfortunately, I fell back to my old habits and I was running away again, drinking again, doing drugs, getting into fights-I was a long way from home.

Then one night I was with a friend, I didn't know him very well, but I knew we both liked the same things. He offered me some beer, so we drank together. As it got dark, he offered to take me home. We walked to his house so his parents could give me a ride, but nobody was there. I sat in the living room and waited for his parents to arrive.

As the front door opened, I quickly stood up, but it wasn't his mom, it wasn't his dad, it was his friend holding a case of beer. From there everything was a blur. All I can remember is lying down in a bed, hearing them laugh and feeling pain in my lower body. I managed to get away from them. I felt so alone, so hopeless. I thought this was it. I tried to hurt myself, so if someone found me, they would take me to the hospital and contact my mom. At the time I felt like that was the only way, I tried to hurt myself in the stomach. Even though I tried very hard, it didn't work.

I made my way to a McDonalds, connected to the internet, and called a friend who took me home and wished me the best in life. Weeks went by and I started feeling so sick, I couldn't eat, I was throwing up every hour. I took a test to see if I was pregnant and it came out positive. I took a long pause; I was in disbelief. I was very scared to tell my mom. I kept thinking about how I got pregnant and felt disgusted, and I didn't want the baby.

At that time, I didn't know who the father was, but I knew he was bad for us. I finally told my mom and she was in denial. She asked questions I was ashamed to answer.

The date of my first ultrasound arrived and my mom came along. When I heard my baby's heartbeat, I cried with joy. I fell in love at first sight when my baby was the size of a peanut. I knew I wanted this baby. This was my baby, and nobody could take her from me. My baby saved my life, she made me change for the better.

The Clinic helped me with parenting classes, clothes, diapers, and other great resources and supplies for the baby and me. They helped me grow into a mature, loving, fearless mama. My daughter Alina is now 3 and has 2 siblings and a stepdad getting ready to adopt her. My husband, Sergio, came into my life when I was 5 months pregnant with Alina. He then stepped up as her father. When she was born, he also fell in love.

I don't want my kids to ever feel alone like I did growing up. My family means everything to me, I broke the cycle of abuse, addiction, and neglect. I thank the Clinic for supporting me to be the best mom that I could be.

### Ramona Pregnancy Care V Clinic

Making the Choice of Life Possible Since 1989 1530 Main Street, Suite 6, Ramona, CA 92065

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You can make Christmas special for a Ramona Pregnancy Care Clinic mother. Stop by the Adopt-a-Mom Christmas Tree (at several local churches and also the RPCC office) to send God's love to an expectant or new mother and her baby: Simply take an ornament off the tree with specific information about one of the mothers, or material items distributed to the mothers throughout the year.

- Select an appropriate gift
- Return it to the RPCC office by December 11th