I am what you might call a ‘Jill of all Skills’ at PACN. I just tend to work wherever the need is greatest on my days at the center. This past Tuesday, I decided to tackle a pile of client files that needed to be closed out. A consultant would normally close out a file if the client had a miscarriage or chose to terminate the pregnancy or if the client is no longer eligible for services at the center. A file will also be closed out if a consultant has tried several times to contact a client without any success. In this case the outcome would be unknown. The first pile I picked up was that of a client, Joanna Smith*. Joanna had visited the center exactly a year ago. She stated that she was in a very abusive relationship and that the father of her baby, who was also present during the visit, was adamant that she terminate the pregnancy or else he would leave her.

The consultant who met with Joanna had decided to close out Joanna’s file because she had been unable to contact her in the year since she had visited the center. In her notes, the consultant had stated that every time she called the number on file she was told that Joanna was not allowed to talk on the phone. My heart ached as I read this file. I wondered what had happened to Joanna. I hoped that she had gotten out of this terrible situation. It pained me to close her file out without knowing what had happened to her. After I had closed her file, I placed my hand on it and I prayed for her. Even though we did not know what happened to Joanna, I knew that our ever-knowing God did, so I asked Him to take care of her. Our volunteer receptionist had to leave early that morning, so she asked me if I could cover the front desk for her. (I did say I am a Jill of all Skills, right?) It was a rather busy morning with a steady stream of clients coming in and out of the center. A little after noon, a young lady walked in. I greeted her and asked if I could help her with anything. She said she had been online searching for women’s shelters and was looking for a particular one she could not find. She asked if I had any information on that shelter. I asked her to have a seat while I found her the information. I gave her the list of shelters that we had and asked if she would need any help contacting the shelters. She asked if she could use our phone to contact the shelters and I told her to wait while I found a private room with a phone. As I walked out of the room I turned and asked her, “Is it ok if I ask your name?” “Joanna Smith,” she said. I was almost floored! I asked her to follow me into a consulting room and I told her that very morning I had prayed for her. Joanna told me that she was in a very bad situation that she was trying to get out of but declined to discuss it further. I took her to our medical office, which was empty at the time, so she could use a phone. After she contacted all the shelters on our list, she thanked me and left.

I still don’t know what happened to Joanna, but I find great peace and comfort in knowing that I know Someone who does. Even though we do not have any way of contacting her directly, God does, and I know that He reaches her because that morning I asked Him to and He did.

*Name changed to protect client confidentiality.

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**Letter from the Director**

The wait is over! Hot off the press – PACN’s Spring/Summer newsletter.

If you like pictures, you will love this newsletter. Also, everywhere you look you will see God in every detail – from His abundance in our expansion and fundraisers to His Love, Mercy and Grace in our lives and our clients’ lives. We kicked off our new journey at a banquet; jump on board as we travel together toward PACN’s horizon.

ALL ABOARD...

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**Save the Date for PACN’s 3rd annual Superhero Flight to the Finish!**

On October 19, Superheroes from all around the Houston area will take over Northshore Park for the third annual Superhero Flight to the Finish Fun Run/Walk!

Online registration instructions for individuals, families and teams will be available soon on pacncommunity.org, as well as details about sponsorship options. Even if you’re not a runner or a walker, you can still be a Superhero! Groups such as the NCL Magnolia Chapter have helped the past two years by doing face painting and encouraging walkers and runners along the course, thanks to President Janice Freet. We always need volunteers to assist with set up, take down, registration, promoting the event to churches and other groups, and with getting food/drinks donated. More details to come soon!

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**God is always watching**

Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father’s care. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don’t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows. Matthew 10: 29-30

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**By Penny Maina**

PACN Volunteer
Thank you

TO OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

The following provided baby food, diapers, wipes, baby quilts, baby blankets, knitted baby caps, mother’s gifts, gift cards, Bibles, baby toys and monetary donations:

Sts. Simon and Jude Catholic Parish
Legacy PCA
Lord of Life Lutheran Church - Kids-of-the-Kingdom Preschool
Children of The Woodlands
Nourishment for the Needy
Living Water Church
The Climbing Tree
Paul Stege Ministries
Interfaith Food Pantry
West Conroe Baptist Church and Crafty Crafters and Quilter’s Group
Funeral Directors Life Insurance Company
Magnolia Bible Church
Johnnese Alexander
Oak Ridge Baptist Church Ladies’ Ministry
April Sound Ladies’ Association
National Charity League - Magnolia Chapter
Just Between Friends
Knights of Columbus
Trinity Lutheran Church and Piecemakers
North Harris County and Pinney Woods
Chapters of Thrivent Financial for Luthers
Montgomery County Right to Life
Montgomery County Drive and Drop
The Ark
Kid-2-Kid
Barbara Lord
TWUMC Spanish Renew Class
LifeWay Christian Bookstore

THOSE WHO PROVIDED SERVICES TO OUR CENTERS

Church at Alden Bridge
Faith Bible Church – The Woodlands
Crossroads Baptist Church – John Fogg’s Adult Bible Fellowship and Beyond the Walls
Ken and Tracy Cassady
The Woodlands United Methodist Church – Discovery Class
Grace Presbyterian Church
Chuck and Pamela Schlembach
Church Project
Montgomery County Community Foundation
St. Anne Society of St. Anthony of Padua
Carl Voelkel
Bill Epps
Sheila Herreid
Sue Hetrick Delahanty
Bruce and Scottie Brown
Cindy Johnson and her art class

TO THE FOLLOWING FOUNDATIONS

Ayco Charitable Foundation
National Christian Foundation
Exxon Mobil Foundation
The Newfield Foundation
The Greater Houston Community Foundation
Montgomery County Community Foundation
Also thank you to the families, who wish to remain anonymous, who provided grants through their family foundations.

PACN’s Annual Banquet
Our Journey: New Beginnings

Wow! That is an appropriate word to describe our 2013 banquet. If you were one of the over 700 people who attended, you would probably agree.

Karen Gould, Spring/Woodlands Center Director, gave an update on PACN; two of our moms told how they were helped through PACN; Cindy Sunday Powell, Executive Director, shared the vision for growth at PACN; and Senator Rick Santorum was the Keynote Speaker.

Senator Santorum is passionately pro-life. He called everyone to action, to not sit on the sidelines and to not be silent. He challenged us all to stand up for life and to be vocal about our values.

The banquet was a huge success! We raised $328,000 from individuals, the silent auction and raffle.

We hope to see you at next year’s banquet as we continue on our journey. With God, it is always an adventure!

If you were unable to join us this year, our client testimony video is available at pacncommunity.org.

Updated websites add functionality for clients and donors, volunteers

PACN recently updated the look of both of our websites: pacn.org and pacncommunity.org. It was time to add new functionality for clients on pacn.org and for volunteers, donors and others on pacncommunity.org.

PACN.org makes it easy for visitors to learn more about pregnancy, STDs and HIV, as well as the dangers associated with the Morning-After Pill and RU-486 (commonly referred to as “the abortion pill”). We also included information directly from the Texas Department of State Health Services about medical and surgical abortion procedures. This section explains these procedures and possible side effects and risks.

Education is a key component of what we do, and many women considering abortion who visit our centers are not aware of the risks associated with termination at any point in pregnancy.

Potential clients can access a full list of services on the new website, view quotes from others who have been helped at PACN, and learn more about our centers. They can also submit appointment requests online, access our blog and share personal stories of overcoming challenges through our Share Your Life Story page.

Our donor and community site, pacncommunity.org is designed to help the community learn more about PACN and why our services are so critical to the women, men and babies we serve. Visitors can see a list of board and staff members, stay up-to-date on PACN in the media and follow our blog.

Detailed information about our services and volunteer opportunities are available, as well as a list of upcoming events. The new website simplifies online donations, allows visitors to join our mailing list and view maps of our locations. Volunteers who have been inspired through working with clients or supporting PACN financially can share how that experience affected them through the Share Your Story page.

Both websites are completely mobile-friendly and allow visitors to connect with PACN on Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, Google+ and LinkedIn.

Our client site, pacn.org
Our donor and community site, pacncommunity.org
nurses’ corner

When *Katie came for her ultrasound, she brought three friends, her boyfriend and her aunt. Besides the nurse, Katie did not want anyone in the ultrasound room with her. Her “entourage” stayed in the ultrasound waiting room.

Thanks to the generosity of Montgomery County Community Foundation, who provided a grant to furnish our new medical wing, there is a flat screen TV in the waiting room. The image of the ultrasound can be projected onto that TV. As Katie’s baby showed up on the screen, the nurse heard astonished voices in the waiting room saying, “Look, it’s a baby!”

After viewing an ultrasound, a couple wrote: “I now know why we’re so crazy!”

Taken from the Relationship Class evaluation, a couple wrote: “I now know why we’re so crazy!”

When a client was asked, “Why not marriage with your partner since you have three children with him?” The client responded that she is not sure he is the right person.

Client Quips

*Name changed to protect confidentiality

If you are an RN, NP, PA or a sonographer and would like to volunteer to perform ultrasounds and STD testing, please call: 936-441-7755. We also invite LVNs who would like to perform STD testing to call.

reasons to celebrate!

January 1 through December 31, 2012

Client Visits 7,165
Ultrasounds 1,003
STD Test Clients 832
Gospel/Spiritual Discussions 4,404
New Believers 62
Rededicated Lives 11

84 percent of our at-risk clients chose LIFE!
I have two reasons for volunteering at PACN. First, I truly feel called by God to be here. Second, there is no greater joy than to tell a young woman or man that they are a special creation of God’s and they deserve true love, adoration and respect. When a client hears those words, I almost always see tears. Those tears are precious reminders that so few of us ever hear those words. This ministry is a way to remind people that they are loved and valued far more than they could ever imagine.

For Volunteer Training dates, see On the Horizon on the back page. Go to pacncommunity.org/share-your-story/ and tell us why you give your time or money to PACN. Maybe we’ll feature your story in our next issue!

By Tracy Cassady
PACN Volunteer

CARE program helps women and men

What do 33% of people have in common? They have experienced an abortion in their lives. These women and men could be your friend, sister, brother, co-worker or the person sitting next to you in Sunday School. Regardless, post-abortive women and men are in pain, but you may never know it.

At PACN we have a ministry called CARE (Confidential Abortion Recovery & Education). CARE provides a group setting for a bible study called “Forgiven & Set Free” for women and “Healing a Father’s Heart” for men. These studies are small group settings that allow participants to begin a journey of healing and feel God’s love and forgiveness. Many have been silent because they are filled with shame, grief and guilt and are afraid of condemnation and judgment. Few realize that peace is attainable through Christ. Please, if you know of anyone in your life or congregation who could benefit from this study, contact Genette at 713-819-8663.

By Genette Stanton
CARE Program Director

Update on PACN’s Relationship Class

A couple who had been co-habiting on and off for 12 years found out last year that they were expecting a baby, so they came to PACN for help. In addition to our other services, the couple learned about the Relationship Class that George and I teach and decided to give it a chance. Their relationship was not doing well at all. She said to him, “If you want to stay together, then come to these classes with me!”

Reluctantly, he went with her to the first class. But after the second class, he said to her, “Come on, let’s go! We are gonna be late for the class!” They said the classes really helped them! After the baby was born, they called us and said, “We want to get married!”

George officiated their wedding, and they also rededicated their lives to the Lord! Also, during the last session of classes, four people committed their lives to the Lord.

By Valerie Oberdorf
Co-leader of Relationship Class & PACN Volunteer

Baby bottle campaign kicks off for Mother’s Day - Father’s Day

PACN’s Change for Life baby bottle campaign kicked off its annual Mother’s Day-Father’s Day bottle drive. We’re excited that 28 churches are participating in the drive, and so far this year we’ve raised $4,862.94 in Change for Life donations. It’s easy to get involved with a Change for Life baby bottle campaign, and they run all year long. PACN has thousands of baby bottles to distribute. We will deliver any number of baby bottles to you; you can then hand out the bottles and fill them with checks, cash and/or coins. When you’re ready for us to pick up the bottles, all you have to do is call.

Our three most popular Change for Life campaigns are: January – Sanctity of Human Life Month; May-June – Mother’s Day-Father’s Day; July-August – Heartbeats of Summer campaign. Our bottles are available year round, so you can participate during these campaigns, or any time you want!

Learn more at pacncommunity.org/baby-bottle-campaign or email changeforlife@pacn.org.