

2023 - ISSUE 2 Salem, OR 97301 503.364.2464

www.hopeforsalem.org

### **Hope Growth**

Article one of a four-part series

As you may know, Hope has been growing steadily for a number of years. Patient numbers are up and more and more parents are taking advantage of the great opportunities in the Parenting Initiative. So what does this really look like and how does it feel here on a daily

There are more and more patient visits. Almost 800 women came through our clinic last year for pregnancy tests and ultrasound scans. The schedule for our two patient rooms is often completely full. Hope nurses are frequently ultra-busy, and the rest of us do whatever we can to lighten their load.

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Total Patient Visits	1,729
Ultrasound Patients	750
Parenting Initiative Participants	102
Spiritual Conversations	632
Staff and Volunteers	42

There are more women and couples participating in the Parenting Initiative. We recently charted a graph of our patient growth in the clinic over the past ten years and it shows a steady incline. Then, on the same graph, we charted the enrollment in our parenting classes for the three years since it opened. That line looked like the path

of a rocket ship, nearly completely vertical! The annual increase has been dramatic and surprising.

In response to these increasing numbers and expanded services, we now have more employees and volunteers. Somehow we keep squeezing more staff into our office space. At the clinic there are currently 11 employees and volunteers working in three not-very-big offices. (Fortunately, we love each other!) Hope recently added two new employees to help with our growing patient services. That makes 14 employees (both full-time and part-time). Additionally, we have a part-time Community Health Worker on loan from Catholic Community Services who specializes in connecting Hope patients to social services.

With this kind of growth there are more expenses. This is not surprising — it is a corresponding reality. However, God faithfully provides through our many generous financial partners (thank you), and every year we've kept pace with the growth in expenses. The Hope Board has forecast that our budget for 2023 will be \$780,000, a 19.7% annual increase since 2016.

Does this sound like a lot? It feels like a lot to us! But we love it. It is an honor to be part of this bustling ministry. As full and busy as it is, it's rewarding and inspiring to be helping so many women and families! Please come anytime for a tour to see for yourself all the goodness here in our Clinic and Annex buildings.

## **Hope Run Update**

The HOPE RUN has changed dates.

The Run will happen Saturday AUGUST 5th. Please be sure to update your calendars. We'll still be at Minto Brown Park, and will still be raising funds in support of Hope's patients and their babies.

Watch for more information to come. Registration opens May 15th.



## A Surprising Outcome

Chelsea\* came to Hope a number of months ago. She was severely nauseous, so her positive pregnancy test was no surprise. She was distraught because her boyfriend was completely unsupportive. She didn't want to parent alone, and abortion was a real option for her. She left undecided. When our nurse, Amanda, checked in 2 weeks later she did not respond to the call.

Then three months later Amanda discovered Chelsea was in our Parenting Initiative! She had decided to have her baby and was preparing (without her former boyfriend) in our parenting classes. When Amanda called again she was effusive with thanks saying, "If it wasn't for you, my baby wouldn't be here!"

\*name has been changed for privacy.

### Item of the Month

There's an item of the month club for almost everything these days — everything from wine and cheese to chocolates and coffee. But do those items serve the women in your community?



Women who are unprepared for pregnancy and in need of support, compassionate care and basic maternity and baby items? This year Hope for Salem is featuring one or two items every month that will be gifted to the women we serve.

We reveal new items the first Thursday of every month on our **Hope for Salem** Instagram and Facebook pages, so be sure to follow those accounts. While we accept these and other items throughout the year, this is a fun way to shop for specific items and familiarize yourself with the items our patients use the most.

Thank you for loving our patients through these gifts.

# **Baby Bottles for Hope**

The 2023 Baby Bottles for Hope campaign is quickly approaching! We're excited to work with returning churches and small groups this year, as well as partnering with some new friends. Salem Academy's elementary school (K-6) is one such group that joined us as a new partner this year, and they have raised nearly \$6,000 so far!

While returning their campaign supplies, some 5th and 6th grade students got to tour the Clinic and Annex. They blessed our staff and volunteers with their laughter, engaging questions, insightful comments and prayed for our patients before they left!



It's not too late to register your church or group for this event. Visit **hopeforsalem.org** for more information.



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#### **RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



We've changed the date of the 2023 Hope Run!

Check inside for more details and be sure to update your calendars.



