



Mission:

Immokalee Pregnancy Center, Inc. is a Christ-centered ministry committed to upholding the sanctity of human life by demonstrating the love of Christ to women facing unplanned pregnancies through the provision of spiritual, physical, and emotional support and by proclaiming the Gospel, to the end that women are empowered to choose life for their babies and themselves.

Thank you!

Supporting Churches and Community Organizations

- Calvary Chapel, Naples
- Church of the Ascension, Knights of Columbus, Council 10318
- Diocese of Venice
- Family Prayer Center, Immokalee
- First United Methodist Immokalee
- Golden Gate Assembly of God, Naples
- Naples First Church of the Nazarene
- Ocean Church, Estero
- One By One Leadership Foundation Immokalee
- Our Lady of Light, Knights of Columbus, Council 10498
- The Springs of Bonita, Bonita Springs
- St John the Evangelist Church, Knights of Columbus, Council 11281
- St Leo Catholic Church, Knights of Columbus, Council 8877
- St. Vincent DePaul Parish, Knights of Columbus Council 9618

For the Least of These...

SUMMER 2020

LOVE in the Time of COVID

By David Hanson, Chair, Board of Directors

The global COVID pandemic has certainly taken center stage in a majority of discussions and media communications today. Public health and safety has dominated much of our activities.

The inner malaise and fear being experienced by many is also indicative of being exposed to extended periods of “bad news”: restrictions, social turmoil, and in some cases illness. So, what does this have to do with our title?...

LOVE in the Time of COVID

A book written by Columbian author Gabriel Garcia Marquez in 1985 and entitled “*Love in the Time of Cholera*” tells of a love between Florentino and Fermina during a period of cholera outbreak. Fermina’s father discovers their relationship and forces his daughter to leave Florentino; eventually moving to another city to separate the lovers.

They continue to write but eventually Fermina feels that their relationship is only a dream and marries Dr. Juvenal Urbano, a physician devoted to science and the eradication of the dread disease Cholera, which provides the backdrop for the story.

Dr. Juvenal’s passion though, is his research. Fermina’s old flame Florentino, while pledging to remain true to Fermina engages in numerous sex-

ual relationships with numerous women over many years. Dr. Urbano himself was not a faithful husband and ultimately he and Fermina separate.

Fermina and Florentino do reconnect in their old age and discover the deeper committed love they had initially longed for.

COVID-19 and Crisis Pregnancy

Love in the Time of...uncertainty and stress, may manifest in an unhealthy response: increased sexual activity and resulting pregnancies. This behavior was also documented in WWII where Jewish prisoners on the trains headed for concentration camps sought relief and a sense of comfort in engaging in sex even in the jammed box cars!

People like our clients are also desperate for security and comfort in these desperate times!

Immokalee Pregnancy Center is STILL here through the fear and despair; ministering the “Gift of Listening”, Compassionate Counsel, and Life Affirming resources to our clients.

Many are getting pregnant and are **disproportionately abortion-minded and even abortion-determined....**

.....Continued on page 3

TRUE NORTH

“And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.” 1 Corinthians 13:13



Diane M. Hanson,
CEO & Founder

YOU Can Make a Difference!
Please Consider a One-Time Gift Or Give a Monthly Gift of \$30 \$50 or \$100 to Support Ministry in the Time of COVID.
You can give by Mastercard, Visa, Discover, American Express or Directly from Your Checking or Savings Account; Use the Enclosed Envelope Or go to partner.immokaleepregnancy.com/donate



LOVE in the TIME of COVID Means.....

As many other organizations and ministries have found, meeting client needs during this season means that we need to be both **Flexible and Responsive**.

Although we were closed for about two weeks at the beginning of the virus event, we used that time to develop a delivery system which would keep our staff and clients safe while still delivering our services in an effective way.

You know, God always prepares us for what lies ahead if we keep our ears and hearts open. At just the right time the Lord has provided the *new technologies* and *new operating procedures* that have enabled us to effectively meet client needs.

We made plans to start meeting with clients in the office again...keep the client flow down to one at a time, sanitize between each one, very limited access to the office, no children, no toys. The very first day, the very first client that came was abortion minded with a child in tow. While she waited outside we quickly rearranged the reception area so she and her daughter could come into the office. *This client did decide not to abort her baby!* Next a very pregnant client stopped by who only spoke Creole. We were able to help her with some community resources. Then another client showed up for parenting classes and supplies!

Flexible and Responsive: Since opening, we are employing some new ways of meeting the clients where they are...on their phones.

Launching... HopeSync is a new mobile technology that allows us to provide counsel, encouragement and resources by text to our clients where and when they need it. We are able to reach her in the moment of need with accurate and up-to-date videos and fact sheets all sent to her phone. (We are going paperless.) We can respond to her concerns and situation that motivate an abortion decision.

We are so grateful for the prayer component of HopeSync. Our client advocates can send out prayer requests instantly to our team of Intercessors, while the client is still in the center considering her choices. The prayer requests are covered in real time! And, God is answering!! Even though our ultrasound services are curtailed for a season, abortion minded clients are—after prayer, choosing life for their babies (**Sign up to be a prayer warrior! Email us**).

Launching...BrightCourse is an online/mobile teaching curriculum by text right to her phone - or Classes in the Time of COVID. These lessons include valuable videos and worksheets as well as resource factsheets and homework...and also include biblical applications that can have eternal rewards. All components of BrightCourse are interactive and connected real time to our staff for immediate feedback. In addition, BrightCourse participants also receive much needed pregnancy and infant supplies... including our Extra Mile Program that supplies free diapers for the babies first year!

As you can see, Ministry in the Time of COVID continues!

CURRENT NEED - Part-Time Nurse Manager: We are seeking a Registered Nurse to provide verification of pregnancy and perform limited OB ultrasound. We provide the ultrasound training. We need someone who is a dedicated pro-life Christian individual. Please send resume to diane@immokaleepregnancy.com

Because of YOU We Are Making a Difference!

Stefy Valencia, Center Director

Seven years ago, a family friend told me about a non-profit ministry called Immokalee Pregnancy Center, and they were looking for a bilingual client advocate. "It's a crisis pregnancy center that helps women with options counseling, free pregnancy tests and ultrasounds" she said. Well, its been seven years and I've learned that Immokalee Pregnancy Center is much more than a pregnancy center that provides these services. Yes, the options counseling and medical services are powerful, helpful and life changing for our clients. Yes, this ministry has been a blessing for many families.

Immokalee Pregnancy Center is much more than just these services. I've come to learn that we are not just Suite #1 on Main Street that helps women with free services. But our clients see us as their friends. How awesome is that? We've received invitations to first birthday parties, have had clients stop by in the past to show us their ultrasound pictures. Our clients have even come to our office before to drop off some chocolates and to say thank you for being there for them. We've received text messages from clients with recent pictures of their babies because they wanted us to see how much their little ones have been growing up.

A couple of weeks ago, one of our clients sent me a text message and said "Hola amiga!". And I thought to myself "Wow.....She considers me her friend.". Growing up in a Spanish household, this term is not used lightly. You don't just call anyone your "amiga" or "amigo". But only those you feel comfortable with. Praise God that our clients have come to see us as their "amigas"(multiple female friends) that they can talk to here on Main Street in Immokalee, Florida.

Only yesterday, a client sent me a text message asking if I could call her because she wanted to talk. Our client is early in her pregnancy and was sent to the hospital multiple times this weekend due to frequent, early contractions. She was alone in her hospital room, crying and scared. So what did she do? Our client called her "amiga" because she "just wanted someone to talk to". I was able to talk and pray with her over the phone. I just received an update today that she and the baby are doing well and she gets to go home and rest as she waits for her little one to arrive in a few months. All in all, thank you for allowing our clients to have *amigas* that they can be vulnerable with and talk to during their times of need.

LOVE IN THE TIME of COVID Continued from front page....

But God... "where sin (and shame) abound, grace does much more abound!" With prayer and compassionate ministry even these desperate, determined women are choosing LIFE! (More on this)

We have an unprecedented opportunity before us; to hold forth the Word of Life and present the Author of Life to our clients and community. Yes there are existing and new challenges (see I Cor.16:9) but God remains faithful to encourage the faint, strengthen the weak, and provide for this ministry, the fruit of which are seen and held every day!

Thank you for your partnership with Immokalee Pregnancy Center in prayer, fellowship /volunteering, and through your generous financial support. Please continue to lift up IPC, staff, and our clients in prayer. Your continued financial investment in lives has eternal rewards!

We received a very substantial gift last fall, and it has proven a real God-send! We still need to retain and grow our monthly/periodic support; especially in this time of challenges and opportunities. We hope to raise \$20,000 to \$30,000 to help us keep serving!!

We are praying for you.
Thank you and God bless you,
Dave & IPC Team

1011 W. Main St, Ste 1
Immokalee FL 34142

Office Hours

Monday & Tuesday

11:00am to 5:00pm

Wednesday & Thursday

10:00am to 4:00pm

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Stefy Valencia, LAS
Center Director

Why We Do What We Do...



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

VIRTUAL BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

STARTING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2020

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL FUNDRAISING BANQUET

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2021

Where:

**St. Leo the Great Catholic Church, Parish Life Center, Bonita Springs
Call 239-777-2498 for details.**

For the Least of These is a publication of Immokalee Pregnancy Center, Inc., a 501 (c) 3 tax-exempt charitable organization. Our office location is at the A & H Plaza at 1011 W. Main St, Ste #1, Immokalee, FL. 34142

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