

THE VISION

THE NEWSLETTER OF INNVERVISIONS HEALTHCARE

SPRING 2024. ISSUE 1

info@ivhcare.org

www.ivhcare.org

515-440-2273

CLINIC STAFF

Theresa Welch, RN Executive Director

Dr. Greg McKernan, DO Medical Director

Dr. Shannon Hood, DO Dr. Tom Mallisee, MD Dr. Sandy Ruhs, MD Volunteer Medical Staff

Brooke Van Bruggen, BSN, RN Director of Patient Resources

> Stephanie Hamell, BSW Shift Supervisor

Sammy Freund, BSN, RN Sara Huegerich, BSN RN Candace Johnson, RN Becky McKay, MSN RN Rachel Prohaska, RN Brianne Tigges, BSN, RN Staff Nurses

> Elise Kerr Joleen Larson Schedulers

Jo Helling, RN Marcia Konrad, RN Kaeleigh Wilhelm, BSN, RN *Volunteer Nurses*

Evette Dombrosky
Terri Dvorak
Melanie Froyen, BSN, RN
Shelly Hahn
Mary Haselton
Joyce Lillis, MS, RN
Kim Mallisee, BSN, RN
Joan Miller
Jeanne O'Connor
Stacy Sturdivant
Volunteer Advocates

Diane McGuire Diane Rodts Volunteer Follow-Up Coordinators

Bryan Gonzalez Crystal Patterson Development

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Geri McGonegle Chair

> Joe Herrity Vice-Chair

Wendy Ogden, JD Secretary

> Matt Dougan Treasurer

Brett Bosworth Kevin Kilcawley, Psy.D. Chris Oberreuter, CPA Janelle Soderholm John Yost, MD Directors

InnerVisions: An International Clinic

ver since day 1 of InnerVisions in 2011, we have seen a variety of pregnant patients from many cultural and socio-economic backgrounds. When we opened the South clinic in 2019, we saw an even greater diversity in patients, given that the South side is very different then the West side. In addition to the important medical services and education that we provide our patients, one of the critical services that we provide is to plug them into resources in our community that can assist them in their challenge through the duration of their pregnancy and beyond.

But nothing could have prepared us for what we have seen over the past 12 months, and specifically since December 2023. You may have seen our requests for a bilingual, Spanish-speaking nurse for hire (if you know of anyone, please send them our way!). That need has arisen because of the influx in Spanish-speaking patients, which has resulted in us needing to hire interpreters to come for the appointments.





An additional complexity has been the fear that some of our patients are being trafficked. For a variety of factors, these patients are not admitting to us that they are being trafficked, and so we can't report with certainty to the authorities that they need help. We have, however, called the National Sex Trafficking Hotline, since we ascribe to the "if you see something, say something" principle.

We share these delicate details with you for two reasons: first, so that you have something to pray for. Please keep these pregnant patients, their unborn, and our staff in your prayers. But we also share this with you to give you an idea of what we're seeing on a daily basis at the clinic. Without your support, we wouldn't be able to serve patients from all around the world.

We Have an Endowment!



As we enter our "teenage years", InnerVisions now has an endowment! As we've talked with some donors, we understand that endowments are embraced by some and questioned by others, so here is an update on the recent fundraising efforts, and the reasons we opened an endowment.

First, thanks to many of you reading this, we are in a stable financial position. Over the years, we have had ups and downs, but the passage from 2 Corinthians 9 describes our past three years well: And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work. This

financial stability gives us the confidence to continue our important life-affirming work.

Currently, our fundraising plan is for outright gifts to fund current operations; but then legacy or planned gifts (also known as deferred gifts) to fund our endowment. The Finance Committee (composed of members of our Board) has set up a quasi-endowment with the Foster Group that invests in morally- and socially-responsible assets.

As InnerVisions continues to mature and grow, it is critical that additional funding sources be developed to augment current annual fundraising programs. InnerVisions must also consider its long-term sustainability and growth by having an adequate capital reserve available to draw upon should unforeseen financial needs or new opportunities arise.

You might be curious how you can participate, so feel free to visit our website: <u>www.ivhcare.org/legacy</u> or reach out to Bryan in the Development Office today and he'll be sure to visit with you.

Yours for Life,

Theresa Welch, Executive Director

eresa Welch

PATIENT TESTIMONIAL

From Regret to Redemption

Hannah came to us through a referral from another PHO in Iowa (yay for team collaboration!). She had reached out to them about not continuing with the Abortion Pill, but she was located in Des Moines, they referred her to our clinic for faster, immediate care.

She had just taken the first abortion pill around noon the day before, and immediately regretted her decision. Due to a previous ultrasound performed around her 7-week mark, the patient suspected she was now 13 weeks along...three weeks past the FDA regulation for receiving the abortion pill.

With our InnerVisions nursing staff, she was able to receive progesterone to counteract the effects of the first abortion pill within hours of her contact with our scheduler. An ultrasound performed shortly after showed she was indeed 13 weeks pregnant, and the baby was still doing well. Hannah has been persistent in taking the medication to reverse the abortion process, and recently was seen for her second ultrasound, showing the pregnancy was progressing as expected at 15 weeks. Hannah is now moving on to OB care for the duration of her pregnancy, where we will follow up with her periodically to check in. We hope to meet this baby soon!

"To whom much is given, much will be required"



ary Haselton has been volunteering at InnerVisions since just before the 2nd clinic opened in October 2019. Because of the inspiration of Diane and Cindy, two of Mary's friends who have been volunteering since the beginning, Mary decided to "give back". The passage from Luke 12 ("To whom much is given, much will be required") rings loud for Mary, since she feels that God has truly blessed her in her life; "to be able to assist with God's work on earth, this is my 'thank you' for all that He has done for me."

A faith-filled woman, Mary embraces our core values of strong faith, dedicated, and striving for excellence. Often times picking up extra shifts, she's punctual and always willing to lend a helping hand. She's committed to the pro-life cause, because of a co-worker's experience with abortion many years ago; she wants to help the most innocent and helpless, those that have no voice.

When asked what she likes best about InnerVisions, Mary says "The welcoming atmosphere that you see right when you walk in the door. Many patients see it and comment on it. The caring people that work and volunteer here. The chapel and tabernacle within the clinic. Prayer time is always available, God dwells here with us!"

Mary wants women who come into the clinic to know that they are not alone. She says, "I want them to understand that there is a God (many have no faith) and he loves them as they are now, but that He also desires so much more for them, and if they allow themselves to be open to Him, He can do such wonderful things in their lives."

We're grateful that Mary is on our team; every nonprofit needs a Mary Haselton as a volunteer!

The Charlotte Lozier Institute states that studies show that women who have abortions have approximately

2 to 6 times

the risk of suicide within a year compared to women who give birth.



LEAVING A LEGACY AND PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE?

Help build the clinic's long-term sustainability by including InnerVisions HealthCare in your will, in your trust, or as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy or retirement plan. A small percentage for you, makes a big difference for InnerVisions. Questions? Feel free to reach out to Theresa or Bryan at InnerVisions for any planned giving information.





wanted. chosen. loved.

InnerVisions HealthCare UNPLANNED PREGNANCY AND STD MEDICAL CLINICS

ANNUAL FUNDRAISING GALA GUEST SPEAKER, CLAIRE CULWELL

Thursday, May 30

IOWA EVENTS CENTER



ESTAMOS CONTRATANDO

We are hiring! We are looking for a Spanish speaking nurse. Please share with any Spanish speaking friends you might have. Questions? Feel free to reach out to Theresa or Brooke at InnerVisions.



Mark your calendars for the regional ride on June 29th.

INNERVISIONS NEEDS YOUR HELP

Please send your tax-deductible contribution to: InnerVisions HealthCare 1355 50th St., Suite 400 West Des Moines, IA 50266 515.280.4706

Gifts can be made electronically: ivhcare.org and click on "Donate."

We're also grateful if you prayerfully consider making a gift of stock or including "InnerVisions HealthCare" in your will, in your trust, or as beneficiary of a life insurance policy or a retirement plan.

Does your employer participate in a charitable giving program (e.g. United Way) or do they match gifts? Contact HR at your company and ask them to include InnerVisions.



