



## The Church and MVWC – Saving Unborn Lives Together

Since 1982, individuals and churches have been working with Miami Valley Women's Center to save unborn lives, and because of their time, prayers, and financial support **nearly 15,000 women have chosen life for their unborn babies! This year, 790 women were empowered to choose life - and 55 accepted Christ!**

We are called to continue saving unborn lives and lives for eternity. Women at risk for abortion are looking for help and hope, and many of them are in the church. According to Guttmacher, a primary source for research on abortion in the US, **54% of women having abortions identify as Christians.** LifeWay research, in a survey of 1,038 women who've had abortions, found:

- 43% were attending church once a month or more at the time of their abortion
- 65% say church members judge single women who are pregnant
- 76% say the church had no influence on their decision

Scott McConnell, vice president of LifeWay Research says, **"That's a huge opportunity for the church to have an impact on those decisions.** However, if they don't start experiencing something different than what they've seen in the past, these numbers aren't going to change."

**MVWC can help!** We provide a platform for churches, groups, and organizations so together, we can spread the message of Christ's love and grace. During Sanctity of Human Life (SOHL) recognition month, we provide a ministry video, speakers, client testimonies, and complimentary flyers (pictured above). Word of mouth is the number one way people hear about us, so contact us today! **Together, we can save unborn lives!**

For more information, to schedule a speaker, or to request SOHL flyers, go to the SOHL page at [miamivalleywomenscenter.org](http://miamivalleywomenscenter.org), or contact Jenny Shoup ([jenny.shoup@womenscenter.org](mailto:jenny.shoup@womenscenter.org) or 937-298-9998, ext. 1111).

### Miami Valley Women's Center

#### Administrative Office/ Kettering Center

2345 W. Stroop Road  
Dayton, Ohio 45439-2005  
(937) 298-9998

#### Huber Heights Center

7079-A Taylorsville Road  
(937) 424-2386

#### North Dayton Center

4247 Philadelphia Dr.  
(937) 262-7420

#### Xenia Center

245 S. Allison Avenue  
(937) 374-0023

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Dr. Patrick Oliver  
Walter Price  
Co-founder, Jo Anne Rohrer  
Executive Director ..... Sheri Lawson

#### Email:

[mvwc@womenscenter.org](mailto:mvwc@womenscenter.org)

#### Client Website:

[womenscenter.org](http://womenscenter.org)

#### Partners Website:

[miamivalleywomenscenter.org](http://miamivalleywomenscenter.org)



#### Partners Facebook:

Partners of the Miami Valley  
Women's Center

## 2020 STATISTICS

Pregnancy Tests: 524  
Ultrasounds: 450  
Chose Life: 417  
Gospel Shared: 325  
Total Clients Visits: 2, 249



## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I am honored to have been chosen to serve as Executive Director of this amazing ministry. For the past several weeks, I have been meeting with staff and Board members to gain an in-depth understanding of all the details that make this organization function.

I have served as Executive Director for two other pro-life ministries and provided training for more than 250 non-profit organizations. One of the services I provided in training non-profits was an organization evaluation. The key elements to a successful non-profit were defined as having a clear mission and purpose, the ability to perform key functions, sound financial management, governance by strong leadership, and a focus on organizational and program development. If I were evaluating Miami Valley Women's Center, I would give us an excellent rating in each of these categories. **I can say with confidence that this**

**ministry is one of the best I have ever seen!** I continue to be amazed at how well things are done.

I appreciate that it is a well-run organization, but I am most impressed by the commitment to Christ that is shown daily throughout the ministry. Board members, staff, and volunteers are constantly praying or giving praise. The mantra of the ministry is "all glory to Him". It makes me think of Colossians 3:17 - *"And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him."*

Having served in non-profit organizations for more than 25 years, I would like to add an additional key element to a successful non-profit – a strong donor base. One of the key elements listed above is the ability to perform key functions. This cannot be accomplished without adequate finances. As we get to know each other, you will find me to be extremely transparent which is why I am willing to share that I breathed a deep sigh of relief after looking at our financial reports. **Miami Valley Women's Center is blessed to have generous, committed, and faithful donors. Everything that is accomplished through this ministry is because of you.**

I appreciate that as an organization we are financially healthy and able to respond to needs as they arise...especially in 2020. During the lockdown in March, we had to temporarily shut our doors, but the abortion clinic remained open as an essential service. Our efficient staff acted quickly to convert to virtual services. We purchased tablets, roku, web cams, and laptops, and were able to connect with our clients. We have a program that allowed us to share really great videos and to know if they were watched. We were able to meet our clients' needs because our financial needs were met.

It is good to have clients in the building again! We are grateful for all we have learned about connecting virtually and anticipate this will be part of how we continue to reach women in need in the future. **I have no doubt that great things are ahead**, and I am confident that as the name of Jesus continues to be lifted up, men and women will be drawn to Him and our vision that every person will experience gospel transformation will be accomplished.

In Christ's service,  
*Sheri Lawson, Executive Director*

## "We were treated like family"

*In the fall of 2009, I was 21, unmarried, and expecting a baby. My boyfriend and I were scared for the future...about who we would be as parents, our financial future, and our future as a couple. It was a really uncertain time. A friend told me about the Miami Valley Women's Center. She said it was a place we could get help and not be looked down upon, a place we would be "seen." So, one rainy Tuesday evening, I found myself in the waiting room at MVWC. It was overwhelming to think about my growing baby and impending future, but the women there were kind and gentle. Their hearts were for the families they helped, their hands ready to share the peace they knew they could offer with a simple, extended hand of grace and understanding. I began the MOMs mentoring program with a sweet volunteer, Sandy. My boyfriend joined DADs and was connected with a kind gentleman who deeply impacted him. It was one of the first men who invested in his growth and his future as a husband and father. While learning to be good parents, we earned \$420 in baby bucks combined which we used for items from the Baby Boutique and presents for her very first Christmas. **We felt prepared as parents, loved and cared for as clients, but mostly valued and seen as people. We were treated like family.***



*Meghan with her husband and daughters*

*When we came to MVWC, we were both a little lost in our faith. Through the parenting classes, seeds were planted for our hearts to be open to growing in Christ. Eleven years later, we have three beautiful little girls. We put Christ in the center of our relationship and grow together daily to know Him better. There is no way that when I walked through those doors in 2009 that the women of MVWC would know the lifelong impact they would have on me. But God knew exactly what I would grow into from the tiny seeds of faith they planted.*

# Thank You, Gala Sponsors!

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Liza

## "I Was Never Judged, and Always Loved"

*Fifteen years ago, when I found out about Miami Valley Women's Center, I couldn't have imagined the journey I was about to experience nor how much it would change my life. I was 25, pregnant, and didn't make enough to support a family. In addition, my relationship with the father was unsafe. He wouldn't allow me to get support or resources that would cost more than the delivery, so I was very apprehensive. But through the MOMs program I had the opportunity to earn diapers, baby food, formula, clothing, and even a safe car seat and crib that I wouldn't have been able to afford! Due to the nature of my relationship at the time MVWC became a refuge and a safe place. It wasn't physical at that point, but would eventually head that direction. Once I completed MOMs, I continued coming to the center for discipleship with Shari, the Evangelism & Discipleship Coordinator. She was instrumental in counseling me to seek Jesus. I was terrified to break away from the father, but through counsel and prayer, it became clear that enduring abuse and keeping my baby in an unsafe place was not what Jesus calls us to do; he doesn't free*

*us from bondage so we'd continue living in it! One of the most difficult things I did was physically separate from him, trust God for provision of basic needs, and continue to pray for my baby's father. Later, Shari helped me find a church and Apex Community has been the church I call home since 2006.*

*I now work at Kettering Health Network as an Emergency RN, I'm married to my best friend, another nurse, and a man I would likely have overlooked if the Lord hadn't been in my life. My son is a teenager, and even now I reach out to Shari when the parenting gets hard. I trust her with even the most difficult details because through MVWC, she has shown that it is a safe place to share and trust.*

*Because I had support, I was able to further my education, so I try to make a difference in others. Anyone I meet who could potentially benefit from MVWC, I tell her to go there. I tell her how Jesus met me there, and how I wouldn't be where I am without all of you who make the Center possible. I tell her how **I was never judged, and always loved. That is who we, the Church, are supposed to be to each other.***

# LIFELIGHT

MIAMI VALLEY WOMEN'S CENTER  
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Dayton, OH 45439-2005

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## Student & Campus Outreach – Impacting Future Generations

**Your support helps us reach the younger generation!** Student Outreach programs educate students in area middle and high schools. Campus Outreach at area colleges and universities provides students with vital information about our programs and services. Through COVID-19, both teams had to make adjustments.

Since schools have been closed to outside programs, Student Outreach had to put in-person programs (Worth Waiting For, GIFT, STARS and TEAM) on hold. Instead, we've been working to provide online learning for small-group mentoring programs via Zoom. In addition, we're focusing on much-needed marketing because awareness is key! We created a monthly STARS newsletter to stay in touch with students. We distributed posters listing MVWC services and contact information to local schools. We also put together feminine hygiene bags with MVWC cards for school nurses to keep in their offices.

Campus Outreach is strengthening relationships with key gatekeepers at local universities and colleges. We created stress relief care packages for students living on campus, to bridge them to MVWC for pregnancy-related concerns. We're also working alongside pro-life student organizations to provide resources and events to the campus community, such as prayer vigils, pro-life speaking events, flyers, and videos.

Both departments appreciate your continued prayers and support!

## "Your support will help us save even more unborn lives!"



Lori Pummill, Nurse Manager



3D/4D Ultrasound

Thanks to your generosity, Kettering center's old ultrasound machine has been replaced and upgraded with a new 3D/4D machine! With God's faithful provision through the Gala, we plan to upgrade the other three centers before the end of the year. This machine detects the heartbeat faster and also provides a much clearer, realistic image - likely to foster a stronger emotional bond between the parent and unborn baby. In addition, color images can be emailed and texted to the client which she can then share! **Since 9 out of 10 clients who see their unborn baby choose life, this will be a huge asset!** We are now offering ultrasounds every day of operation at Huber Heights, Kettering, and North Dayton!

When a client's ultrasound is conclusive, we give her a gift bag which includes a baby blanket, hat, bib, booties, ginger candy to help with nausea, and a card with our contact information. We encourage her to call us if she ever has questions or concerns after visiting, or if she is feeling emotional and needs a shoulder to cry on.

Please pray God will provide another nurse to perform ultrasounds for Xenia and continue praying for the Medical Services team as they meet women at risk for abortion daily.



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