



Saturday, May 22, 2021

Registration 10:00 am
Walk Program 10:45 am

New Location!
SouthBrook Christian Church
9095 Washington Church Rd.
Miamisburg, OH 45342

*"Don't just talk about love. Put your love
into action." 1 John 3:18*

Miami Valley Women's Center

Administrative Office/ Lettering 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

Board of Directors

Board Chair Michael Hamilton
Vice Chair Cindy Good
Secretary Beth Black
Treasurer Galen Woodhouse
Board Members John Korb
Dr. Patrick Oliver
Walter Price
Jennifer Reno
Co-founder, Jo Anne Rohrer
Executive Director, Sheri Lawson

Client Website:
womenscenter.org

Partners Website:
miamivalleywomenscenter.org



Partners Facebook:
Partners of the Miami Valley
Women's Center

STATISTICS JANUARY 2021

Pregnancy Tests: 91
Ultrasounds: 95
Chose Life: 77
Spiritual Discussions: 139
Gospel Shared: 52
Total Client Visits: 335

Taking Steps Together for Life!

Because of your generous gifts, we were able to bless almost 2,200 clients last year with compassionate, professional care and Christ-centered support. **Over 600 clients chose life, and 520 heard the gospel!** However, there is much more work to be done. **In 2019, over 20,000 unborn babies' lives were ended in Ohio, 2,740 in Montgomery County alone.**¹ We are currently seeing legislative protections of the unborn comprehensively reversed. While pro-life organizations anticipate fierce opposition in upcoming months, **the MVWC remains resolute in our mission to value life, support families, and demonstrate Christ's love.**

This year, we're recommitting ourselves to *Walk in Love* as we seek to raise \$250,000 through the Walk for Life. Funds raised will help us continue to save unborn babies and provide free programs and services to women and men in crisis.

We can't wait to gather together in person this year! Here are some important details you need to know:

- This year's Walk will be held **on Saturday, May 22, at a NEW location! SouthBrook Christian Church** eagerly agreed to share their beautiful facility.
- Can't attend? Watch the 10:45 program live on our Partners Facebook page!
- After the Walk Program, we'll exit the SouthBrook parking lot and complete two loops around the Dayton Christian School campus for a **2-mile walk**.
- Go to miamivalleywomenscenter.org to learn how to become a Sponsored Walker or sponsor a Walker.
- Earn prizes when you raise \$300, 500, or \$1000!

To learn how to raise funds online and how to get your church involved, join us for the **virtual Walk Kickoff on Tuesday, March 16, from 7-8 pm**. To register and receive the link, email jeni.newman@womenscenter.org or call (937) 298-9998, ext. 1110.

I John 3:18 instructs, "Dear children, don't just talk about love. **Put your love into action.** Then it will truly be love." You can take action by joining us to *walk in love and walk for life!*

¹ ODH Data & Statistics, Induced Abortions in Ohio, 2019



A LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In his book *Where Do We Go from Here*, Erwin Lutzer shares 5 pillars on which we can build our lives: God still reigns, the Church is still precious, our mission is still clear, our focus is still heaven, and our victory is still certain. These certainly are pillars to build our lives upon but they are also the pillars on which Miami Valley Women's Center (MVWC) was built. The strength of our foundation is evident. This is a ministry built on prayer and faith. We continue to see God do amazing things as we work to serve those whom He loves. Our mission is still clear and we press on toward the victory that is certain.

I love that Erwin Lutzer says "the Church is still precious" because the Church is so precious to us. **We exist because of the faithfulness of believers who continue to give their time, talents, and financial resources to make our mission possible.** For nearly 39 years, MVWC has operated exclusively on

private donations so that we are free to share the Gospel without hindrance.

One of the things I love about pregnancy center ministry is the opportunity to reach into someone's life during a crisis with the hope that is offered to us through a relationship with Jesus Christ. For those clients who choose salvation, connection to a church body where they can grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus is critical.

While the Church is essential for us, **we can also be a resource for the Church.** Statistics show that 36% of women stated they attended church at least once a month at the time of their abortion. Statistics also show that 1 in 4 women in the United States will have had an abortion before the age of 45. That is a lot of hurting people within our churches who need to know that there is no condemnation in Christ. We offer Abortion Recovery services to help people experience the forgiveness that is available. Additionally, our Student Outreach team is available to share with church youth groups the message that abstinence is a positive, powerful, and possible choice.

God continues to bless our church partnerships as we work together to put love into action. Our annual Walk for Life is a fun way to support the work of MVWC while also connecting with other Christians who share your passion for life. To see a group of Christians walking together in unity for a common cause is powerful. We hope that you can join us at this year's Walk for Life.

In Christ's service,

Sheri Lawson, Executive Director

Board of Directors and Staff Updates

Jane Martin, Exiting Board Member

Jane volunteered at the Kettering Center for over six years before joining the Board in 2012. She served as Vice Chair for several years and then faithfully guided the ministry as Board Chair 2018-2020. In the spring of 2020, Jane volunteered to step in as Interim Executive Director and led the MVWC staff with professionalism, passion, and grace. Her heart for the workers, clients, mission, and leadership of MVWC is known to all who have served alongside her. During her years at MVWC, she became a friend and godly mentor to all including staff, volunteers, and every client she served. Jane, you are dearly loved!



Robert Hooker, Exiting Board Member

Pastor Robert Hooker joined the Pastoral Advisory Board in 2009 and the Executive Board in 2018. He is a quiet sage who shares godly advice when asked. At the annual FirstFruits gathering, we could count on him to encourage staff and volunteers with a timely, grace-filled message from God's Word. He always invited a MVWC speaker to share at his church during Sanctity of Human Life month, and he and his team made us welcome when we honored volunteers with an annual dinner at his church. Thank you, Pastor Robert, for your faithfulness to the Lord and to the ministry of MVWC!



Stephanie Wainscott, New Staff Member

Our newest RN, Stephanie, is serving clients at our Huber Heights center. She is an answer to prayer! Stephanie, welcome to the team!

Shawnya Wilborne, Returning Staff Member

We are pleased to announce that Shawnya Wilborne has returned to serve as our new *Medical Education Coordinator*. Shawnya is a Registered Diagnostic Medical Sonographer and will provide ultrasound training for new nurses and perform competency tests and continuing education with our seasoned nurses. Welcome back, Shawnya!

We are in search of Nurse Sonographers for our North Dayton and Xenia locations and a Director of Development. For job descriptions and an employment application, go to <https://miamivalleywomenscenter.org/get-involved/employment/>.

“I can’t believe you do this for people!”

Calls are made to follow up with clients around the time of their due date, and our nurses offer them a Welcome Baby Basket. When our nurse called Laura, a client who had been abortion-minded but had chosen life and recently delivered, the client became emotional. She stated the basket would be a big help to her as she had almost lost the baby and then ended up in ICU in serious condition. She had been off work for so long that she lost her job and things were difficult for her and her family. Upon learning this, our Staff Assistant, Ena, called Laura back and offered Client Services for her other children. Laura broke down in tears and couldn’t stop thanking her. When she came for her appointment, she was just beaming. She repeatedly said, **“I can’t believe you do this for people”** and she was so grateful!

We decided to ask if she’d like to be a part of Adopt a Family (AAF), and she tearfully accepted. When she came to her AAF appointment, **she heard the Gospel, received Christ as Savior, and rang the salvation bell!** We took her picture and she apologized for her tears but expressed she felt a great weight lifted from her. The change in her was evident! What a time of rejoicing we had that day! She also signed up for Spiritual Support, so we have the privilege of continuing to invest in her life.

Through this entire process, **a baby’s life was saved, material needs were met, Christmas was happier for this family, and a life was transformed by the Gospel!** (told by Huber Heights Center Director, Sandy Workman)



Praise God for These Exciting Ministry Updates!

- The results of 2020’s virtual Gala are a testament once again to the faithfulness of God and the loyalty of our donors. Praise the Lord for \$434,319 given in cash and pledges!
- Brand-new 3D ultrasound machines are in use at all four centers! They, along with new 32" monitors, provide a “window into the womb” for moms and dads to meet their pre-born baby. Our nurses are amazed at how vivid the images are, and **clients are choosing life!**
- Three of our centers have **extended their hours** to be able to serve more clients! North Dayton will now be offering Client Services one Saturday per month, and Kettering and Xenia have expanded evening hours one day per week.
- We’ve been praying God would meet a need for more male client advocates. **God answered**, and we have four men currently in the training process!
- We’ve seen an increase in mandated parenting clients, particularly at Huber Heights and North Dayton. Please pray these clients will not only be equipped to parent well but will receive Christ as Lord and Savior!
- All four Baby Boutiques are overflowing with new items, **thanks to incredible church partners** who held Diaper Drives and Baby Showers during Sanctity of Human Life month.

Adopt-a-Family Program Demonstrates Christ’s Love

A total of 91 families were blessed through the Adopt-a-Family Christmas outreach! **Nine clients trusted Christ for salvation, two rededicated their lives to Christ, and clients from all four centers signed up for Spiritual Support!** Shari Armstrong, Evangelism and Discipleship Coordinator, shared, “If you were in any of the centers after December 5, you saw firsthand the generosity and kindness of God’s people. It was so touching to see the tangible love of Jesus being poured out on our clients as their sponsors shopped, wrapped, and delivered their gifts. It was a special blessing, especially since it had been a very hard year due to Covid. The clients were completely blown away by the incredible generosity. **It is such a joy to point to Jesus** as the author of that generosity, as He is the one that fills His peoples’ hearts with that kind of sacrificial love. Praise His holy name!”

SOHL Recognition Continues

Although the Sanctity of Human Life is recognized nationally the 3rd Sunday of January, your church can participate at any time! **Speakers are available year-round** to share with your congregation or small group. In January and February, 35 churches partnered with us to celebrate SOHL! For free *Imago Dei* flyers and other SOHL information, email jeni.newman@womenscenter.org or call (937) 298-9998, ext. 1110.



LIFELIGHT

MIAMI VALLEY WOMEN'S CENTER
2345 W. Stroop Rd.
Dayton, OH 45439-2005

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Staff Spotlight: Jim Altensee, Men's Program Coordinator

Jim began serving in February of 2016 as a volunteer male advocate at our Huber Heights location and joined the staff later that year. Before coming to MVWC, he worked at the School of Systems and Logistics at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, providing continuing education worldwide to Air Force professionals. Jim is grateful for the privilege of serving and retiring from both active-duty military and civilian careers with the Air Force.

As Men's Program Coordinator, Jim helps our center excel in providing parenting classes to male clients. He personally mentors male clients but also oversees our team of faithful male advocate volunteers. He loves our mission and considers it a great privilege to live out Jesus' words in John 17:3, that by the Holy Spirit's work through us, our clients might come to know the one true God, and Jesus Christ whom He has sent. Jim shares, **"Helping people realize that a good, holy, loving, and faithful God is at work in the lives of everyday people is such a wonderful gift from Him."** Currently, Romans 15:13 is the Scripture he turns to, meditates on, and prays for both his team and clients: *"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."*

Here's what co-workers say about Jim: *He's humble and kind. He's my go-to for the best dad jokes! He has a heart for God and is an encourager. His sense of humor and wise input bless our Client Services team. Jim displays a deep love and commitment to his family and has the biggest servant's heart! It is a joy to have him on the MVWC team!*



Favorite Foods:

Meatloaf, omelets, anything my wife cooks, sweets-especially pecan pie, ice cream, and chocolate cake

Famous Person He Has Met:

Ronald Reagan when he was running for President

Volunteer Orientation Dates

August 7, 2021

October 2, 2021

Volunteer Orientations are held on a Saturday from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm at our Kettering center: 2345 West Stroop Road Dayton, OH 45439.

Applications are due 3 weeks before Orientation.

We have an array of volunteer opportunities! Not all require training. For more information, call Kim at (937) 298-9998, ext. 1108.

A Recent Client Shared...

"Miami Valley Women's Center has been a true blessing. My very first visit I came in confused but left with so much information and guidance. These ladies really make you feel loved and welcomed. I walked away from my second appointment feeling loved, blessed, and supported. I truly believe every woman should know how awesome this place is!"



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