

Message from Tessa Trissell, Executive Director, AFL Dinner 2020

Praying that you are well and healthy at home, I wanted to touch base with you and share in our accomplishments despite these difficult times we are living in.

Here are the complete statistics for our fiscal year, July 1 2019 to June 30, 2020. In FY 2020, AWC received 2156 visits for material assistance, which means we assisted individual 986 mothers. AWC performed 266 pregnancy tests of which there were 180 positive tests. 62 were abortion vulnerable and 47 of these babies were saved. Thank you for making this possible!



Fiscal Year July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020	# of Visits for Material Assistance	# of Mothers Assisted	# of Pregnancy Tests performed	# of Positive Test Results	# of Abortion- minded / Abortion- vulnerable clients	# of BABIES SAVED
	2,156	986	266	180	62	47

At AWC, we help women starting with the pregnancy test and counseling to make sure the moms have many alternatives to abortion. Then we maintain contact with mom for at least the next 9 months ensuring that both mom and baby receive medical care. We teach mom how to care for her child through a Baby Care class the month before delivery. This ensures that mom has the information she needs to take care of her baby and after the class mom receives a layette filled with diapers, wipes, baby clothes, baby wash, towel, diaper rash ointment, etc. Last week, one of the clients for whom we conducted a pregnancy test and Baby Care class, Paula, came to pick up her baby's layette. Paula asked if AWC could also provide help for a 6 month-old nephew of hers. The story she shared, still brings tears to my eyes. Normally, we say, yes we can help, just have mom give us a call so that she can be registered, answer a few questions, watch our Chastity video, show us what she learned, and we can start helping. In this case, Paula's baby nephew did not have a mom.

The 6-month old baby's mom, Antonia, embodies what we are all about. Young Antonia was battling hepatic cancer, receiving chemotherapy for it. On one of her doctor's appointments she also learned that she was expecting. Both, Antonia and her husband already had another child, a little girl. The oncologist told her that she recommended to terminate the pregnancy so that Antonia could continue chemotherapy.

Antonia said "No, I am probably going to die anyway, my cancer has progressed and the chemo might or might not work. I choose for this baby to live. We can stop the chemotherapy."

Antonia delivered a healthy baby boy. She passed a month later. AWC Client Paula watches her nephew while his dad goes to work. We have told her that AWC can help her own baby and Antonia's baby's too.

Last week, volunteer Kevin and I delivered groceries from St. Mary's to client Paula, as well as AWC diapers and clothes for both babies. We used my husband's truck and it was literally filled 1/3 of the way with bags full of groceries, diapers, wipes, baby cloths, even a bouncy seat. Client Paula had just come home from the hospital. I reassured her that AWC was going to help out both babies: client Paula's and Antonia's. May she rest in peace. Antonia is a hero to me. She embodies the Pro-Life movement. She chose her baby's life while sacrificing herself. I want her to know that AWC will continue helping her little one, like we do others, up to the preschool years.

This is just one of the many stories that happen daily at work, AWC is able to help many moms that find themselves in difficult situations and come to our centers searching for help. I thank you from the bottom of my heart, and in behalf of the 986 moms, 2050 young children we helped, including the almost 50 babies that were saved. We could not do this without you.

Thank you for your continued support!



Antonia's son, Baby Michael