

April 2019

Our mission: Help people learn to value life from conception to death and receive God's love, forgiveness and gift of eternal life.

Highlights

In 2018 God blessed us with the purchase & remodel of our own building! Much work went into this new facility and we are rejoicing in God's provision!



2018 statistics

- ~ 23 new Women's Center clients & more than 50 clients served
- ~ 13 babies born to clients
- ~ 26 clients in courses one on one with a counselor
- 9 – parenting course
- 3 - marriage course
- 14 - Bible study course
- ~ 3 prenatal class groups
- ~ 6 Mom's Club meetings
- ~ 7 women completed the Forgiven & Set Free Bible study, one of whom was a former center client.

God blessed the ministry of Choose Life in unexpected ways in 2018 and it is encouraging to look back and reflect on all that He did. At the beginning of the year we were faced with the uncertainty of having to move out of our rental location and beginning a fund-raising project to purchase our own place. God saw fit to provide much more quickly than we could have imagined, and we are so grateful for the ministry home that He has given us. We look forward to all that He will do in 2019 as the stability of being settled in our own building allows us to return our focus to developing the ministry itself!

New Volunteers

For the past few months, we have been visiting area churches to present the ministry of Choose Life. We gained new prayer partners and, despite the current economic crisis in Ukraine, some were willing to give financially as well. We want area churches to see this ministry as a collective outreach of their churches to the community, so we were encouraged by this response. Several people also decided to become more personally involved. In February we conducted a training seminar for 18 new volunteers. We are excited to see how God will use them! We are currently doing their on the job training and planning additional teaching for those who will be counseling clients. Some of these women also hope to do the training to become group leaders in the post abortion ministry. Pray that God will continue to deepen their burden for this ministry and that they will grow in their walk with the Lord as they prepare and serve. Pray also for our continued mentoring of volunteers who have been serving with us for some time. Pray that we will be able to help them continue to learn and grow and that God will use them to effectively minister to our clients.



Stories of God at Work

Two clients are now nearing the end of their study of the Story of Hope. One counselor shared that “T” has had tears in her eyes as she listened to the explanation of the gospel, but she is still considering her response. Pray for her salvation! “O” has been to church several times with her counselor, but she has not yet made a faith decision. Pray that she will see her need to repent and accept God’s gift of salvation!

Transitions

2019 brings some major changes for our ministry leadership as Dr. Miriam Wheeler will be moving back to the States in May to assume the position of medical director for ABWE. She plans to continue serving on the Choose Life advisory board but is handing off her regular ministry responsibilities. Holly Friesen was appointed to take over from Miriam as President of Choose Life. Pastor Igor Kucher, who has served on our steering committee and then board of directors since its inception, has agreed to become the new Chairman of the Board. Pray for Dr. Miriam during this time of transition and difficult good-byes. Pray also for wisdom for Holly and Pastor Kucher as they adjust to their new responsibilities.

New ministry

This year we plan to launch a new branch of ministry for Choose Life with a youth abstinence program. Holly is currently working with a couple of our volunteers to prepare a series of lessons for young teens based on the Willing to Wait program. We hope to begin teaching our first group of young ladies in May. Pray that we will be able to devise lessons that will effectively communicate to teens, and that God will guide us in developing a team of volunteers who would be dedicated to this aspect of the ministry.

Specific Prayer Needs

Post-Abortion Ministry: Ministry Director Ira Luponova. Pray for spring post abortion healing groups that are meeting now. Pray for God to bring healing & freedom to each one of these ladies. Pray for Ira as she makes plans to conduct her first group leader training the end of May.

Women’s Center: Ministry Director Luba Abramova. Pray for the salvation of clients currently studying the Bible. Pray for our new volunteers who are still in the training process. Pray for wisdom as we explore different avenues of advertising our center and that God would bring women in need to us.

Youth Ministry: Ministry Director Holly Friesen. Pray for wisdom as we develop lessons for youth regarding abstinence and for God’s blessing as we begin teaching.

Choose Life Board: Pray for Pastor Igor Kucher who will take over as chairman of the board when Dr. Wheeler leaves Ukraine in May. Pray for wisdom as we consider candidates for new board members.

Do you want to know more about “Choose Life”? Check out our website: www.ukrainemedical.abwe.org

Sign up to receive this newsletter by e-mail by writing Holly at esperanza@abwe.cc

To support the ministry of “Choose Life” Send gifts to ABWE account # 0757353 by mail or online at www.abwe.org

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