

Pulpit Talk Fall/Winter 2023

Thank you for opening your doors and hearts to the mission of PAC – the Pregnancy Aid Clinic!

PAC is a loving pregnancy resource center endorsed by the Archdiocese of Atlanta, with the mission of helping women, men and families facing an unplanned or crisis pregnancy.

In Georgia, we are blessed with the LIFE Act, which protects unborn babies who have a heartbeat. Unfortunately, mothers who are frightened, financially challenged, uninformed, or misguided, continue to seek termination by taking abortion-inducing pills or traveling to states that allow for later abortions. Many of our clients have experienced domestic abuse, and the vast majority of them face single parenthood. Fathers who want their babies face many other challenges, often having inadequate resources to know how to lead and support their families. They are told by our society that they have no voice in the situation. These challenges, for parents, are often marked by unemployment, homelessness, a lack of parenting resources and a society that says that abortion is the “easy way out.” Let me tell you a little about one of our clients. Aniah called the clinic, and spoke with Liz, the director of PATH (Post-Abortive Treatment and Healing). Aniah shared that following a relationship marked by extreme domestic violence, she found herself pregnant. After talking, Liz and Aniah agreed to meet at the clinic. Aniah was greeted warmly by Liz and her advocate, Stef. After seeing her baby in the sonogram, Aniah decided to parent. Her first text to Liz following the birth of baby Zavion said, “Thank you for everything. I am so in love with him! That was the main thing I was concerned about-the connection. But the more I spend time with him, the more I fall in love!” God’s grace put Liz by the phone

when Aniah called, and Liz's experience with PATH helped to give her the words to help Aniah choose life over abortion.

By God's grace, we live in a post-Roe society. Abortion is no longer federally protected. As we walk beside our clients, we find that wrap-around services are more important than ever. In 2023, PAC, in collaboration with St. Vincent de Paul-Atlanta and Catholic Charities-Georgia, began a program called Year of Hope, with the focus on resources to forestall homelessness and provide basic human needs. Year to date, PAC has been able to help over thirty clients with supplemental funding for rent, utilities, transportation, and food. These clients have also received training in budgeting and financial management.

Education is one of the greatest tools to empower families to parent. PAC's education program provides classes in all aspects of parenting. Parents can attend classes free of charge. With their participation they earn points to purchase diapers, wipes, and other baby supplies. Our new Fatherhood Program provides mentoring and classes specifically geared toward fathers who seek to parent, presented by Andre, PAC's male Outreach Specialist.

Our educational efforts extend as well to our youth, with classes and seminars available to youth groups, college student centers, and parishes. In keeping with St. Pope John Paul II's theology of the body, NFP and FEMM provide the framework for parents, youth, and young adults to learn about the body's reproductive function, within the virtue of chastity. Mary Grace, our NFP/FEMM Outreach Specialist, can present these classes for interested parishes.

These are just some of the ways PAC supports the sanctity of all life throughout our archdiocese. Over 85% of our funding comes from the generous donations of people like you. The needs are great, the world is

watching. Together let us all support God's gift of life, from birth to natural death. Thank you for your generosity!