



LIFELINIC

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

SPRING 2020
UPDATE

WHAT'S NEW

Reopening through COVID-19

Letter from Lori

Baby Item Drive Success

Families4Families Walk



REOPENING THROUGH COVID-19

What are we doing to keep people safe?

LifeClinic has begun Phase 1 of reopening! Some of our services remain suspended, like STI testing and Parenting Classes. However, pregnancy testing, ultrasounds, and material pick-ups have resumed. Here are some of our protocols:

Medical:

- One medical day per center
- Phone screening using CDC guidelines before making appointment
- Temperature reading and CDC questionnaire before entering
- Hand-washing & sanitation before appointment

Material Pick-Ups:

- Clients make requests by phone
- If we can meet the need, the appointment is made
- No clients enter the building
- Items are bagged, marked, and safely given to clients

Staff:

- Make every attempt to stay 6 ft. from other staff and clients when possible
- Wear gloves when handling items given to clients
- Wear masks and gloves when working with clients
- Disinfect all surfaces before/after appointments & after shift with medical grade disinfectants
- Complete CDC guideline questionnaires each day



HOW HAVE WE BEEN ABLE TO HELP?

“ An abortion minded client that had already been to an abortion clinic came to us, asked all her questions, and had an ultrasound. She said she needed to talk through it. She plans to parent now. She was shocked to find out that we will help her until the baby turns 2 years old, and said she would be back for parenting classes. ”

DEAR FRIEND,

As I am sure you have heard, abortion clinics are deemed an essential service and have remained open and continued to receive government funding during the COVID-19 executive orders. In fact, a recent article in USA Today reported a significant increase in abortions, and therefore revenue for abortions clinics, due to the pandemic. Meanwhile, maintaining our services and financial support has been a significant struggle for LifeClinic—one with no end in sight. That's why I'm writing to you today.

At a time when people are required to remain physically distant, it seems opinions are dividing us even further. It grieves me that while we could all be working together, the country seems more divided than ever. However, I choose to focus on what I believe unites us— a desire to save lives and help families thrive.



In fairness, we are also an essential service and were allowed to remain open from the start. We have done our best (with limited staff, reduced hours, and without volunteers) to provide material assistance to our clients during these unprecedented times, but out of necessity, we have been unable to maintain our regular services much less increase them to match the current need in our community.

The pandemic and economic fears have greatly impacted us financially. We postponed a fundraiser scheduled to begin in March that we anticipated would raise one-third of our annual budget. Church giving has decreased because churches themselves are unable to gather. Church closures also resulted in the cancellation of our Mother's Day to Father's Day bottle drive, which is an excellent fundraiser and awareness event that typically engages many new partners. Individual and business giving is down due to the stock market decline and increased unemployment. We have also made the decision to postpone our Gala until next year. The Gala is a major financial investment as well as a labor-intensive event. Given the uncertainty of gatherings this fall, the board and I felt the most prudent thing to do was to postpone it until next year. The Gala also generates a significant amount of our annual budget and helps us prepare for the following year. Even though we are in the process of trying to put together a fundraiser for the summer and are hopeful that we will be able to do the fundraisers we had planned for the spring this fall, making plans can be quite challenging.



I know many of you are facing the same thing in your own lives with weddings, open houses, and vacation plan uncertainties, and understand all too well how emotionally exhausting it can be.

While we have experienced a decline in income and the ability to fundraise, COVID-19 has increased the need for our services. We are getting a higher level of urgency in our calls as unemployment skyrockets and people struggle to have the supplies they need. We are also starting to get an increasing number of abortion-vulnerable women calling who are also struggling with uncertainty. They are desperate and hopeless, plagued with financial concerns and fear of bringing a child into the world in the midst of a pandemic. Now, when people need us most, we are struggling to support life in the ways we feel called and committed to doing. We are doing everything we can to make sure we can safely serve everyone in need, but the preparation process and difficulty getting PPE and additional supplies has at times left us feeling overwhelmed. It has given us a better understanding of our client's feelings because we are feeling the same uncertainty, overwhelm, and insecurity.

It is easy to become frustrated remembering that the abortion clinics are thriving as a result of this crisis. They are providing their service to these hopeless, desperate, vulnerable women while receiving government funding and charging for their services. We are spiritually fatigued as we pray for guidance and wisdom as to how we can best reach these women during these difficult times with limited funding.



It is in these moments of weariness that God has reminded us we have something that the abortion clinics do not have. We have Him and we have YOU! By the grace of God, LifeClinic is sustained through the generosity of our partners and our community. God has been faithful and has worked through you to meet our needs in the past. In fact, He has been so faithful that we were able to add a second location in 2018 without debt. We are trusting that He will continue to sustain what is His with the same type of abundance.

Though our needs are many, we have received some funding from the Midland Area Community Foundation and the Diocese of Saginaw to purchase additional baby supplies for our clients. Both the Midland and Saginaw communities have also been generous collecting formula and wipes for our clients. However, we did not receive the funds we applied for through the CARES act and without our scheduled fundraisers we are asking for your help.

I am praying that by knowing our situation, God will move in your heart to help us financially so the abortion clinics do not thrive while we cut needed services to make ends meet. Please prayerfully consider making a donation to LifeClinic with the enclosed envelope and tear off form in this newsletter so we can do what unites us—save lives and help families thrive. I would also ask that you please pray for the LifeClinic staff, board, and clients as we attempt to navigate during these rapidly changing times. Through these challenges, we can and will grow if we all work together. God bless you.

-Lori Drake, Executive Director

CARES ACT

LifeClinic would like our partners to be aware of tax incentives that are included in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act. To encourage charitable giving in 2020, the CARES Act includes U.S. tax provisions that reward people who donate to charity.

\$300 “above the line” charitable contribution deduction in 2020: If you do not itemize your deductions in 2020, you can still reduce your taxable income by up to \$300 for cash donations to any public 501 (c)(3) charities such as LifeClinic. A married couple can reduce taxable income by \$600 for these contributions. Donations to donor-advised funds are not deductible.

Waiving adjusted gross income limit: For taxpayers who itemize, the 60% percent of adjusted gross income limit that normally applies to cash donations will be waived for 2020 taxes. That means you could conceivably deduct 100% of your adjusted gross income to LifeClinic or other public charities. Donations to donor advised funds are not deductible.

In addition, the CARES Act suspends the requirement that seniors take a minimum withdrawal from their IRAs, 401(k) plans and other retirement accounts in 2020.

However, qualified charitable distributions are still a great way for donors 70 ½ or older to make charitable contributions.

An “IRA charitable rollover” allows you to contribute up to \$100,000 to LifeClinic or another charity from your IRA without paying income tax.

We encourage you to check with your financial or other advisors to see how these temporary rules apply to you.

THANK YOU!

**TO ALL OF THOSE WHO
DONATED FORMULA, DIAPERS,
AND WIPES. YOU ARE SUCH A
BLESSING TO US & OUR CLIENTS!**

Christian Celebration Center
Dave Mulder & Family Medicine-
MidMichigan Health
New Life Saginaw
Our Reedmer Church
Individual Donors





COMING SOON!

JUNE 14 - JULY 4

Take a walk with your family and help a family in our community through this online fundraiser.

You choose the date.
You choose the distance.
You choose the donation goal.

More information to come.

Thank you for your gift!



Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

I want my donation to go to *Midland* or *Saginaw* (circle one)

Yes, I want to support the life-affirming work of LifeClinic!

☐ I would like to become a monthly partner

Amount per month \$ _____

☐ Send a monthly check ☐ EFT (Check enclosed)

☐ Credit Card Exp. Date _____ 3 Digit Code _____

Card Number _____

Signature _____

☐ One-time gift \$ _____

Please include this form in the provided envelope when mailing your gift.