

# The South Haven Communicator

The Newsletter of the South Haven Pregnancy Center



Winter 2011

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## Greetings from the Executive Director

As we enter 2011, I have so much to be grateful for. I praise God for a brand new year, each of you who are still investing in saving and changing lives and the difference we have made. I am reminded of the song "I've Got A Testimony". As I look back and think things over, we do have a testimony! I say we because I am so aware of the fact that I did not walk this journey alone.

I am thankful for the South Haven staff and volunteers who minister with willing minds, hearts and attitudes on a consistent basis! I appreciate the board of directors who gives of their time, resources, and support with dedicated passion. I am also grateful for our medical director who not only gives of her finances, but also volunteers her time.

I am very appreciative of our individual donors who regularly give financial support to South Haven, and who also give support during our fundraisers. I am thankful for the support of pastors and their churches, who in spite of having their own financial needs, help to meet the needs of South Haven. I am touched by the concern of community groups such as the Pro-life/Pro-family Coalition, Hyde Park-Kenwood Pro-Life

Association, the South Shore Ministerial Association, St. Thomas Respect Life Committee and the Knights of Columbus. These groups not only support the center on a regular basis through financial assistance and with much needed baby items, but they are also willing to help when special needs arise.

I am excited for our continued partnership with Black United Fund of Illinois who awarded us with another grant for 2010-2011! I am also humbled by the faithfulness of our prayer partners who consistently bring the concerns of South Haven before the Lord.

I am thankful for an increase in the number of clients we saw in 2010, many of whom changed their minds from seeking an abortion to giving their babies the gift of life. Often, we talk a lot about the struggles, the battles, and the trials of life and not enough about the blessings. I am facing this gift of a new year with courage and excitement!

Thank each and every one of you for all you do!

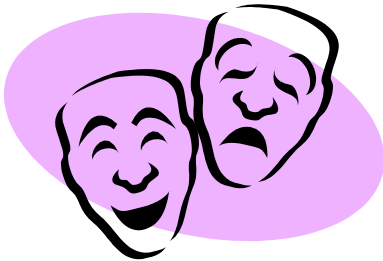


## Thanks for Making Our Banquet a Success

On Thursday October 7, 2010 South Haven celebrated our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet. It was held at the Martinique Banquets, 8200 S. Cicero in Burbank, Illinois. Our theme was **South Haven Pregnancy Center: Five Years of Changing Lives and Making Birthdays Possible**. We were excited to see and fellowship with our current supporters. We also enjoyed the opportunity to meet those who were new to the ministry. We enjoyed a delicious dinner, and heard exciting center updates. Our featured musical guests were jazz trumpeter Orbert Davis and vocalist Donyelle Deere. We were also especially encouraged by the powerful and moving testimonies of South Haven clients Nisa Mitchell, Loletha Stubbs and Nicole Jennings. We are grateful for what God has done in the lives of these three young women through the ministry of South Haven. Thank you for making the evening a success. We look forward to seeing you at our banquet next year!



## South Haven Hosts Play



South Haven Pregnancy Center will host a Family Affair Production of the play *Black Girl –The Stage Play* written by J.E. Franklin and directed by Paulette Flowers-Harvey. The play tells the story of a 17 year-old girl who dreams of being a dancer, but faces many challenges including living with her unsupportive mother and having conflicts with her jealous half-sisters. She is encouraged by the strength and prayers of her grandmother and realizes that God has a great plan for her life. The play will be presented **Saturday March 19, 2011 at 4:00 p.m.** at the Morgan Park Academy Theater located 2153 W. 111<sup>th</sup> Street, Chicago. Tickets are \$20. Proceeds will benefit South Haven Pregnancy Center. Please also join us for a pre-play reception at 3:00 p.m. in the theater lobby. There you will have a chance to talk with our Executive Director Mildred Richardson, our board members and enjoy light refreshments. Please call South Haven at 773-221-2580 for more information and to purchase tickets.



## Pregnancy Centers are Helping

In a recent *Time* magazine article entitled "Why Have Abortion Rates Fallen?" theories behind the falling rate are discussed. They state that according to the Guttmacher Institute's 2005 survey of abortion providers, the abortion rate fell 9% in five years, to 19.4 abortions for every 1,000 women between the ages of 15 and 44. There were 1.2 million abortions performed in 2005, 25% fewer than the 1.6 million abortions performed in 1990.



The article reveals that more women who become pregnant are deciding to carry the child to term. The Guttmacher Institute found that 22.4% of pregnancies (not including those that ended in miscarriage) ended in abortion, down from 30.4% in 1983. According to *Time*, the fact that more women are choosing life, " would seem to be evidence that the quiet campaign for women's hearts and minds, conducted in thousands of crisis pregnancy centers around the country, on billboards, phone banks and websites, is having an effect..."

We are grateful for your partnership with South Haven. Thank you for helping to make a difference in the lives of the families we serve.

Read more: <http://www.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,1705604,00.html#ixzz1EzrE9IBQ>

## Pray for China

Every 2.4 seconds, a woman in China undergoes a forced abortion because of the communist nation's one-child policy. This one-child policy results in about 35,000 abortions a day. "Over 400 million children are not living in China because of the one-child policy," said Reggie Littlejohn, president of Women's Rights Without Borders. "That's more than the population of the United States."



In October, 2010, a Chinese couple just expected to be fined for being pregnant for the second time. Instead, officials demanded that the woman who was in the eighth month of her pregnancy have an abortion. This couple had a nine year old daughter and the whole family was excited to welcome this new life. Tragically, this woman was forced from her home and beaten by officials in hopes of causing a miscarriage. When this did not happen doctors gave her fetus a lethal injection. She stated after her ordeal while waiting to give birth to her now lifeless infant, "I have had this baby, feeling it moving around and around my belly. Can you imagine how I feel now?"

Please pray for the women and families of China. Pray that the government and the officials will find the love of Jesus Christ and develop a heart for life.



## The Sound of a Beating Heart

Angelica\*, a 32 year old, came into the center for a pregnancy test. She stated that if she were pregnant she would be very upset and would consider abortion an option. Angelica talked about her family and her counselor learned that she already had 4 children with her youngest being only 5 1/2 months old. Angelica also shared that her daughter, who had a baby, also lived with her. She stated she could not see how she could manage being the mother of two young babies along with assisting her daughter and grandchild. Angelica sadly revealed that although she did not believe in abortion, she felt overwhelmed at the thought of trying to parent this new baby under her present conditions.



When Angelica's pregnancy test was complete her counselor informed her of a positive result. Angelica expressed her unhappiness at the test results and in her face the despair was obvious. Angelica's counselor explained that adoption would be a more loving choice for her baby if she felt she could not care for another infant. Her counselor also reminded Angelica of God's views on life and abortion. She also prayed with Angelica that God would give her guidance and directions in her decision making. Angelica was asked to take some quality time to make her decision. Angelica's counselor informed her that she was available to her for any additional needs and to let South Haven know her final decision.

Angelica's counselor called Angelica for follow-up and to find out her final decision. Angelica shared that she went for an abortion but when she heard the doctor say he wanted to hear the baby's heartbeat she decided she "could not go through with the abortion." Angelica was given extra emotional support and provided with some baby items she needed as she prepared for this new baby. Angelica gave birth to her baby on January 19, 2011! Angelica is still receiving clothing and other baby items as well as emotional support from South Haven. Angelica's counselor is still in regular contact with her. We praise the Lord for Angelica's decision, and the birth of this new life. We are thankful that, prayer the support of South Haven and the sound of a beating heart made all the difference!

\*name has been changed



## Anti-Abortion Billboard in New York Creating Controversy

Courtesy of foxnews.com



A billboard high above Watts Street and 6th Avenue in lower Manhattan is raising eyebrows over its anti-abortion message which includes an image of a black girl. The pro-life organization, *Life Always*, is responsible for the billboard which reads: "The most dangerous place for an African American is in the womb." The web site *thatsabortion.com* is listed on the billboard.

According to the site, Life Always "use(s) advertising, research and confrontational truth to gain awareness, inform and educate individuals to choose life, always!" A spokesperson for Life Always said that the group believes the abortion provider Planned Parenthood targets minority neighborhoods and they wanted to draw attention to that effort, MyFoxNY.com reports.

Public Advocate Bill de Blasio issued a statement on Tuesday: "This billboard simply doesn't belong in our city. The ad violates the values of New Yorkers and is grossly offensive to women and communities of color. Women of all backgrounds have a right to reproductive healthcare in New York City, and we must not let the current campaign of attacks undermine New Yorkers' longstanding support for a woman's right to choose. A mix of intolerance and bad judgment put this ad up-common decency demands it be taken down."

We at South Haven know the statistics. We realize that 94% of abortion providers are located in metropolitan areas and that 88% of women who have abortions live in a metropolitan area. We also are saddened that while only 13 % of women in the U.S. are African American, 37% of abortions occur in African American women. A shocking 43% of pregnancies among African American women end in abortion. While this billboard might be considered controversial, we hope and pray that it will provoke thought and spark conversation about the ravages that abortion has on not only the African American community, but our society at large. The billboard is scheduled to be up for the next three weeks.



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**Save the Date**  
**June 11, 2011**  
**10am-2pm**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Annual Walk-A-Thon**  
**William Powers Conservation Area**  
**12949 S. Avenue O**  
**Chicago, IL**



**About South Haven**

The South Haven Pregnancy Center is a 501(c)(3), faith-based organization developed to address the vital needs of women and families facing an unplanned pregnancy. Our mission is to walk along side these women and their families and help them choose life for their unborn child. All of our services are offered at no cost to the client.

**Please visit us on the web: [www.southhavenpregnancycenter.org](http://www.southhavenpregnancycenter.org)**  
**or**  
**Email us : [info@southhavenpregnancycenter.org](mailto:info@southhavenpregnancycenter.org)**