

## A Volunteer's Story

by Dolores Stedman, Mentor Mom

Since Dick and I met at Nyack College as students majoring in missions, we have served together in many ministries—as a pastor and wife team, as missionaries, as Bible study leaders, as hosts to foreign students, as parents of three children, grandparents of seven and now great-grandparents of ten. During our 58 years of marriage our lives have taken some sharp turns. For instance, we were missionaries to South Viet Nam from 1969 to 1970.

We had thought we would be there for many more years, but our 6-year-old daughter, Denise, developed a condition that needed surgery. We had taken her to an American military hospital where we received this diagnosis. Doctors there told us that they did not do major surgeries even on our military personnel in that country and that we should bring Denise back to the States for the surgery, which we did. Her recovery was long, and while we were in America, South Viet Nam fell to communism and it was no longer safe for Americans to go there for over 20 years.

God had planted a love for Asian people in our hearts. In 2007, we were given the opportunity to go to Viet Nam and Cambodia on a mission trip. Although Viet Nam has a communist government, Americans are now welcomed as tourists, business people, teachers, etc. We spent almost a month there seeing and taking part in various ministries. We were thrilled to see that the Christian church, which has faced much persecution, was thriving. The government only allows a limited number of registered Christian churches, but there are many underground churches. We came back from that trip with a renewed zeal for finding ways to witness for Christ.

We realized that, since we were both semi-retired, we were spending most of our time with Christians who shared our beliefs. We were not interacting with many unsaved, unchurched people. We began to look for ways to reach out and share our faith. One way was to host Chinese students who came to Mansfield during the summer to study English at Mansfield Senior High. Over the course of about five years, we hosted 13 boys in our home and we are still in touch with some of them. Two of the boys, who are back in North America for college, and now careers, have continued to visit us occasionally and have accepted Christ as their Savior. One is an active witness when he goes back to China during his vacation times.

Another way we wanted to share our faith was through RPS. Dick laughed when I suggested that we both take the training (in February, 2008) as volunteers at a Pregnancy Center. I had to point out to him that a men's ministry was just beginning. So, we both became mentors at RPS. (After 2 years, Dick became the DAD to DAD fatherhood program director.)

As a mentor mom, meeting with many women, most of whom have a limited understanding of Christianity, I have had many opportunities to share my testimony and share God's Word. I do not always see evidence of changes in their lives, but, often, I do. I have even had the opportunity to mentor a couple of Asian women. On two occasions, I have mentored women who were in their 40s. Since I had our son when I was 44, I believe the Lord brought us together.

As I am writing this, I realize that I need to commit to, not only sharing my Christian testimony; I need to be more faithful in inviting clients to receive Christ as their Savior. Satan tries to throw a lot of distractions at us; such as the client seems disinterested, or in a hurry, or her baby is beginning to fuss, etc. I have moments when I think that maybe I am getting too old for this; that, perhaps, the girls should meet with someone closer to their age. But then, I am reminded of some of the clients who have mentioned that I am like a grandmother to them—easy to talk to. I point out to the young moms that I am not at RPS because I have always been a perfect mom, because I have made mistakes, but I am here because I love being a mom and I love Jesus. RPS needs mentors of all ages and backgrounds. The Lord can lead and guide in who He brings together. I've enjoyed mentoring many women throughout their whole pregnancies because a good bond is developed. However, it is not necessarily a bad thing when, for various reasons, a client must see several different mentors and gets different perspectives.

And so, for now, I will continue as an unthreatening grandma; listening and sharing—a Titus woman; teaching younger women how to love their husbands and children.



Dolores & Dick Stedman

## Upcoming Events

### Parenting Class

March 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30  
at Richland Pregnancy Services

### Baby Bottle Collection Day

Friday, March 5th, 9am – 1pm  
at Richland Pregnancy Services

### Walk/5K Run for Life

Saturday, June 12th  
North Lake Park

### Baby Bottle Collection Day

Thursday, June 24, 9am – 1pm  
at Richland Pregnancy Services

### Annual Fundraising Night

Thursday, September 23rd  
at TBD



1560 West Fourth Street  
Mansfield, OH 44906

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Richland Pregnancy Services



Spring 2021 Newsletter

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Nurse Manager

Lynne Smith, RN, MSN  
Staff Nurse

Dick Stedman  
Dad-to-Dad Director

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Amanda Clark  
Ex-officio

## 2020 Fundraising Night Exceeds \$200,000!

In the midst of a pandemic, God showed up! We are so excited to announce that the 2020 Fundraising Night exceeded our goal of \$200,000! Your support brought our total to \$203,718.38!!! We are so thankful and give God ALL the glory for what He is doing at Richland Pregnancy Services and through each of you!



Many Friends of the ministry have chosen to become Ambassadors for Life by pledging to give a monthly gift to Richland Pregnancy Services. Even if you missed this year's Fundraising Night, you can still join the Ambassadors for Life in supporting Richland Pregnancy Services. Just visit our website at [www.friendsofrichlandpregnancy.com/donate](http://www.friendsofrichlandpregnancy.com/donate) and choose "I would like to be a Ambassador for Life" option. We are grateful for each and every donation given to support the ministry of Richland Pregnancy Services!

## Change for Life BABY BOTTLE RETURN

Friday, March 5th  
9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Volunteers will be available to help unload the heavy coin-filled baby bottles!

Enjoy treats and a goody bag for those returning bottles!

**You can also pick up baby bottles for your church to participate in Change for Life!**

**Richland Pregnancy Services**

1560 W. Fourth Street, Mansfield, OH 44906

[www.friendsofrichlandpregnancy.com](http://www.friendsofrichlandpregnancy.com)

# Save the Date!

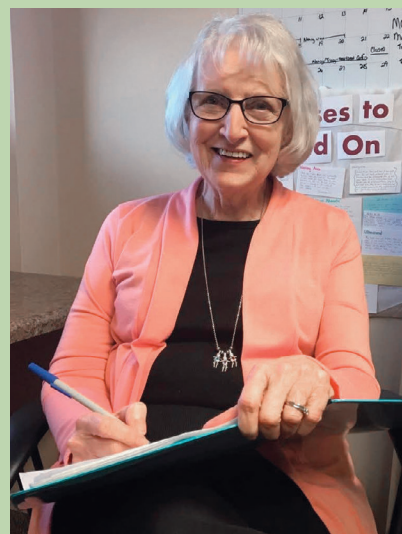
# Walk for Life

SATURDAY, JUNE 12TH

This year's Walk for Life will be held at North Lake Park  
beginning at 9:00 am on Saturday, June 12th!

Follow us on Facebook at

[www.facebook.com/friendsofrichlandpregnancyservices](http://www.facebook.com/friendsofrichlandpregnancyservices)  
to register as soon as this event goes live!



Dolores prepares for a Mom-to-Mom appointment



# Executive Director's Report

Many days I find myself in my office in awe of how the Lord is working in the lives of others through Richland Pregnancy Services. Just last week I told a coworker, "I feel like I am experiencing heaven on earth! I know God is moving. I can't imagine what heaven will be like!" During meetings I have had recently, I have been blessed with the opportunity to see healing come forth from past abortions, miscarriages, and more. I continually see how God is taking all these broken pieces that we feel that we must carry around, and He is using these pieces to refine us so that we may walk in the calling that He has entrusted to us. This past year has been a tremendous season of growth and refined vision for the ministry. Now, I believe we are in a season of healing.



Although I have not had a past abortion, I am beyond the moon excited about what God is going to do through our abortion recovery program for men and women this spring. I just want everyone to be healed and set free of bondages so that they can walk freely in the abundant life that Jesus died to give them. I genuinely believe that we are getting ready to see many individuals healed in our community through this ministry.



Novah, 15 months

Only through God have we been able to recently accomplish:

- We have officially on-boarded 21 new volunteers to serve within this ministry.
- We exceeded our God-sized goal of \$200,000 from our Fundraising Night.
- We have brought on 2 new staff members to serve in new positions to meet the needs of our clients as we continue to grow.
- We are moving forward with planning and preparation for The Lighthouse: Beacon of Hope maternity home.
- We are continually seeing unborn lives saved from abortion and the Gospel ministered to the men and women in our mom and dad programs.

Like the Israelites when traveling through the wilderness, we only move forward with a new initiative, outreach, or satellite center when God has gone before us and showed all of us that this is His leading and His will.

What we did not anticipate was how much He would entrust to us so soon!

However, we know the God that has called us is faithful to equip and lead us through each new venture.

*"Faithful is he that calleth you,  
who also will do it."  
1 Thessalonians 5:24 (KJV)*

Friends, God is at work within this ministry! May God have all the glory for each door He opens. He is faithful! He is good! If we were living in Old Testament times, I would lift a praise in a song up to the Lord as Deborah, David, and Moses did. Thankfully for you all, I can write this article rather than anyone enduring having to hear my voice try to make a melody!

Thank you for your continual support of prayers and friendship with Richland Pregnancy Services.

Gratefully His,

Amanda Clark  
Executive Director

## Wish List

Pack-n-Plays  
New cribs  
Booties (Neutral Colors)  
Swings  
Baby shampoo  
Baby lotion  
Maternity Clothing  
Diaper Bags  
Newborn size diapers  
Miscarriage Box items  
(Lotions, mini manicure sets,  
loofas, face masks, nail files,  
and lip gloss)  
Travel size toiletries  
Crib Mattresses  
New Car Seats  
Booster Seats  
New High Chairs  
Strollers

## Your Change Can Change a Life!



Micah, 8 months

Contact Amy for more information at  
(419) 522-8863, ext. 203 or by email at  
amy@richlandpregnancy.com



The Change for Life baby bottle campaign is underway for 2021! This campaign launched, for some churches, on Sanctity of Human Life Sunday in January, however, your church can start this campaign at any time of the year. Richland Pregnancy Services can provide baby bottles for your church to use for this fundraising campaign. We also have a limited number of bulletin inserts, as well as a testimonial video and PowerPoint slide to help you promote this simple fundraiser at your church! The Change for Life campaign has a goal of \$30,000 this year! Contact Richland Pregnancy Services to help us exceed this goal in 2021!

## Thank you to our 2020/2021 Corporate Sponsors



You Can Support Richland Pregnancy Services While You Shop on Amazon! Just visit smile.amazon.com and choose Richland Pregnancy Services as your charity of choice. RPS will automatically receive a percentage of your purchase at no cost to you!

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You shop. Amazon gives.

## We Are Growing!

Richland Pregnancy Services has been so blessed and we are growing! We are very excited to introduce you to our two new staff members.

### Welcome Lynne Smith, RN, MSN & Jill Hurlow

Meet Lynne Smith, RN MSN. We could not have hand-picked a better person for this position. Lynne had served as a volunteer at the ministry years ago, and now, God has brought her back to us! Lynne has an impressive background in nursing, but more impressive is her passion and love for God and for others to know Him. We know that many clients will be blessed by her.



Meet Jill Hurlow, Office Assistant. Jill came to Richland Pregnancy Services with more than 20 years of office experience. Her heart for the unborn and their mothers and her desire to serve are evident when you meet her. Jill will be another friendly face to greet clients as they come to Richland Pregnancy Services and will support the office staff in a variety of ways.

Welcome Lynne & Jill!

## Gifts In Honor & Memory of

**In Memory of Ginger Landwert**  
Given by Donald & Deborah Krauss

**In Memory of Mary Vaura**  
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**In Memory of Tom Freund**  
Given by Mark & Louise Taylor  
Given by ES Beveridge  
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Given by Dave Meister Family  
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**In Memory of Margaret Ryan**  
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**In Memory of Carolyn Lucas**  
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**In Memory of Landree Rennpage**  
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Given by Carol Kirkbride  
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Given by Steve & Deb McKee

**In Memory of Chet & Ruth Ramsey**  
Given by Linda Walls

**In Memory of Austin Pfeiffer**  
Given by Freida Gottschling

**In Memory of Mary Jo Smith**  
Given by Mr. & Mrs. Alden Thibau

**In Memory of Isabelle Konbes**  
Given by Frieda Gottschling

**In Honor of June Smith**  
Give by Antan Vaura

**In Honor of Jay Rose Tovey**  
Given by Diane Culler

**In Honor of Merlin & Patricia Slagle**  
Given by Rebecca Arnold

