

## A Window Inside

*That Tiny Black Dot Was All I Needed To See...*

After my partner and I found out we were expecting, we started out more scared than excited. We'd talked briefly about having children in the future, but in our minds, that future was very far away. Although I was very early on in my pregnancy, my brain hadn't wrapped fully around the idea. I felt I needed more "proof" than the pregnancy test to actualize it. I was having difficulty with my insurance and in-network providers since I did not have a general care practitioner at this time. I was told the earliest I could get in for an office visit was weeks away.

I felt I needed answers sooner than this. I was able to step away from my 60 hr work week for 1 day & I made an appointment at a different clinic in Southern Washington for an ultrasound. I thought if maybe we could see in an ultrasound that I was, in fact pregnant, I would be able to make a clearer decision about keeping the child or giving it up for adoption. After testing positive for pregnancy hormones at this other clinic, I was told they wouldn't do an ultrasound for me unless I came back a different day for an appointment – something that was not clarified with me before making the appointment. I was very upset by this. As I sat crying in a lobby outside, my partner called 12 or more clinics in the area and Pathways was the only clinic that agreed to see me same day for an ultrasound. We drove right over.

As I had been warned, there wasn't much to see during the ultrasound except this little tiny black dot. But this little tiny black dot, to me, was everything I needed to reconcile my being pregnant with reality.

After the ultrasound, we spoke with a volunteer for Pathways. We talked about our fears and our excitement, how tough it would be to tell our very opinionated parents and my workplace about our big decision. With how warm and sincere the staff was here, this was the first time I felt comfortable enough to express excitement and joy about the pregnancy. Leaving Pathways after our first appointment, we felt inspired and confident that we were capable of starting a family.

My partner and I continued going to Pathways for an ultrasound every other week. Pathways even made appointments later than their posted hours in order to accommodate my rigorous schedule. After a couple more appointments, we made our minds up to keep the baby. We both know this was the right decision for us and the support of Pathways was a pillar in our decision making process.

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# Pro-Life Pregnancy Centers advertising for abortions?

## A Message From Our Director

In October 2015 the state of California adopted California's Reproductive FACT Act. Assembly Bill No. 775 (AB-775), which forces pro-life pregnancy centers to provide free advertising for the abortion industry. The law **requires** licensed medical centers that offer free, pro-life help to pregnant women to post a disclosure saying that California provides free or low-cost abortion and contraception services. The disclosure must also include a phone number for a county office that refers women to Planned Parenthood and other abortionists.

In March 2018, Michael Farris, President of Alliance Defending Freedom, stood before the United States Supreme Court and argued on behalf of the National Institute of Family and Life Advocates that the California law forcing pro-life pregnancy centers to advertise for abortions is unlawful government-compelled expression. He continued stating that the State of California, at the command of the abortion industry, is using its power to force pro-life pregnancy centers to be complicit in abortion by telling women how to get one for free or at a reduced cost. Even worse, AB-775 specifically targets these small non-profit organizations that exist to provide women with life-affirming evidence-based education they may not otherwise receive.



AB-775 requires pro-life pregnancy centers to post a disclosure stating that California provides free or low-cost **abortion** and contraception services, along with the phone number...



The goal of pregnancy care centers such as these is to foster an environment where women feel safe and secure. A place of support and not one of coercion. By providing these resources and services, pregnancy care centers enable and empower women to make informed decisions that are the best for their respective situations. Currently the government is forcing California pregnancy centers to use their wall space to advertise and promote a message that goes against the very reason they exist.

When faced with an unplanned pregnancy, many women's initial reaction may be one of apprehension, fear, and worry. Especially if she is in an unstable or precarious relationship. Pregnancy centers are there to support women through this difficult, often emotionally charged, time.

AB-775 forces pro-life pregnancy centers to endorse a message of abortion. This would be a direct contradiction of a pregnancy care center's mission. Michael Farris also made a comment following his oral argu-

ment at the U.S. Supreme Court stating, "A government that tells you what you can't say is dangerous, but a government that tells you what you must say-under threat of severe punishment-is alarming."

A government that tries to force its citizens to endorse a particular message has clearly overstepped its jurisdiction. Will you join together with the many pro-life centers and supporters across the nation and pray that this bill will be appealed, and that California would give back the freedom of speech to the people.

Your *gifts* have made the following *possible* already in 2018



**41**

pregnancy tests



**51**

ultrasounds



**1,591**

items given



**79**

clients served

## Ways To Help

Are you looking for ways to be more involved with the ministry of Pathways? Here's one way that you can take the next step and grow in your support for Pathways.

### Take Part In The Run For Life Event -

Run For Life is so much more than a fundraiser for Pathways; it's an opportunity to raise awareness about the mission of Pathways. There are still many people within our own community that don't know about all the amazing services and resources that we offer, and we need YOUR help to reach them.

This event is an opportunity for everyone to get involved and show their support for LIFE by participating in the event on May 19th, or by sponsoring one of our participants. Not a runner? That's okay. All three Run For Life courses are open for walkers too! Register or sponsor a participant today at [www.runforlifecamas.com](http://www.runforlifecamas.com).

# RUN FOR LIFE

## A Client Shares...

*"Pathways was the first place I thought to go to when I saw my home pregnancy test was positive. I had no idea what to do next and just remembered this clinic having a sign saying Free Ultrasound, and something was pulling me there. I do believe it was God taking me there instead of Planned Parenthood. I went to Pathways first and the volunteers there were calming and sincere. I think they knew I wasn't sure about having a baby, and since they did not have the option of Plan B or the Abortion Pill, I was not able to make a haste and rash decision right then and there, which I do think I may have..."*

- Anonymous Client

## upcoming events

MAY 19TH, 2018

8:30 AM

RUN FOR LIFE

LACAMAS LAKE PARK

JULY 27TH & 28TH

ALL DAY

CAMAS DAYS

DOWNTOWN CAMAS

FIND OUT MORE

ON THE EVENTS

PAGE ON OUR

WEBSITE



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## Contact Us

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## Volunteer Highlight - Dr. David & Sarah Paik

David & Sarah Paik joined the Pathways family in January 2017 as our new Medical Director (Dr. David Paik) and Volunteer Nurse (Sarah Paik). Sarah happened upon a newsletter posting for a Nurse Manager position and a Medical Director opening at Pathways, shortly after making a resolution to be more "Kingdom focused" in her career. To Sarah, it felt like divine intervention so she met with our Executive Director. Despite not taking the Nurse Manager position, Sarah volunteered David for the Medical Director position and came on board as a Volunteer Nurse soon after.

For David and Sarah, Pathways is an opportunity to volunteer for, and be involved with, an organization whose mission is rooted in the foundation of Christ. They both feel as though God has blessed them through their time at Pathways and that every day feels meaningful. Sarah shared that, "Seeing these tiny babies and sitting with these mothers as they either rejoice or weep over their pregnancies reminds us of the fragility of life, the preciousness of our children and the great love, goodness and mercy of Jesus."

David and Sarah have been married for 8 years and currently live across the river in Portland. They are both actively involved with their Korean church and have two beautiful boys; Ezra who is three years old and Ellis who just turned one year old.



## Our Mission:

*Pathways Pregnancy Clinic is a pregnancy and family resource center that empowers individuals to make healthy, life-affirming decisions by offering education, resources, and support.*