

## YEAR IN REVIEW

This year marked 35 years of serving Bay Area women, their preborn babies and families! Our clinics fielded hundreds of inquiries and interacted with many patients providing emotional support, patient action plans and community resources to aid in pregnancy decisions. From 2018, the number of decisions for life doubled to 214 babies born through the intervention of our services. Nurses performed 391 pregnancy tests and 288 ultrasounds this year. Thankfully, through a partner organization, we received a new ultrasound machine.

Volunteer groups and individuals provided tremendously with their time. A college group from Fresno helped to organize our 20 year corporate office location, a peninsula-based partner church planned, designed and renovated our Redwood City clinic, and many supporters helped us to bring forth a thrilling Annual Benefit Dinner in Oakland. This event aided in the \$1.48 million in gifts received, surpassing 2018 year-end donations.

Support Circle is thankful for the generosity that helped to safeguard the lives of Bay Area families. Goals for 2020 include increasing our reach in the community by adding medical services.

## THE PROBLEM

**Half of all pregnancies in America are unplanned.** Tragically, women facing unintended pregnancies often make desperate, life-and-death decisions because they feel overwhelmed and unprepared. They're unsure about what to do, how to feel, and where to turn. In their desperation, they chose abortion as a way to remove the real or perceived relational, economic, and/or logistical challenges before them, and as a way to restore normalcy to their lives.

The problem is even more prevalent in California. The state's 16.4 abortions per 1,000 women is higher than the national abortion rate of 13.5. In fact, California represents 15.4% of all the abortions performed in America, and more than one in five (22%) California pregnancies end in abortion. Worse, these startling statistics are derived only from *reported* numbers, as abortion reporting in California is voluntary. Factoring in the thriving black market of "self-managed" abortions, we know that there are many more abortions for which there is no accounting.

**Too many precious lives in the Bay Area are hurt and lost because of the fear caused by unintended pregnancies.**

## THE SOLUTION

Support Circle's 35 years of clinical and therapeutic experience demonstrates that **by changing the way women think and feel about their unplanned pregnancy, while also equipping them with the practical and emotional support they need to carry their babies to term, we can reverse the trend of abortion and safeguard the lives of countless women and babies in the Bay Area.**

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*77% of Support Circle clients make life-affirming decisions.*

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We know from experience and research that women who are contemplating an abortion feel **hopeless** because they feel **unprepared, alone, and conflicted**. Support Circle **restores hope** by providing support in the six areas that matter most to women experiencing unplanned pregnancies: **Clinical, Inspirational, Relational, Caring, Long-term, and Economic**.

Our **CIRCLE** series of programs is strategically designed to safeguard the lives of our patients and their babies by making women feel prepared, loved, and confident in their transition to motherhood. From clinical services like ultrasounds, nurse consultations, and abortion pill reversals, to non-clinical services like patient advocacy, action plans, and angel mentorships, we surround our clients with the support they need to make a decision guided more by confidence and certainty than by fear.

Women leaving our clinics report receiving more knowledge of their bodies, more space to reflect on their deepest feelings, and more time to process those feelings with another person than they would have received at an abortion-centered clinic. Once unsure about what decision to make, women now feel connected and empowered to approach their unplanned pregnancies. **Their newfound preparedness gives them the confidence they need to make hopeful, life-affirming choices for themselves and their babies.**



*For further information on our programs, see our Case Statement contact Charmaine Williams, VP of Development at 510-569-1200 x216 or [charmainew@supportcircle.org](mailto:charmainew@supportcircle.org).*