

Proponent testimony for Senate Bill 96 and House Bill 2135

February 2, 2023

To the Chairs and Members of the Senate and House Taxation Committees:

I am Angela Johnson and I have been the Executive Director of Pregnancy & Family Center of SE Kansas for 3 years. Allow me to give you some information about this Pregnancy Resource Center.

We have been in operation for 12 years; we are governed by a Board of Directors and services are provided 15 hours per week by 8 volunteers and 3 part-time staff members. All of our services are at no cost to the clients. Our services are available to all of SE Kansas – not just Allen County.

Services we provide:

- Certified parenting classes – behavior issues in preteens and teens
- Material assistance – diapers, clothes (all ages), formula, baby food, **NEW** car seats (clients have mentioned that they collect them from various trash sites!)
- Car Seat Safety Education
- Lay counseling
- Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University – budgeting and financial accountability
- Referrals for medical care, domestic violence, state aide,
- Beginning medical services – pregnancy testing, limited obstetric ultrasounds, pregnancy education, abortion information, adoption referrals, medical referrals, abortion healing services
- Bible Studies and Spiritual counsel
- Food, utility and rent assistance

We have learned that when assisting our clients, they become eager to “pay back” and assist others in need. They are our best source of referrals, and it is amazing to watch them encourage and support each other. We love the comradery!

We partner with so many area agencies. A few of these agencies are:

- DCF
- Hope Unlimited
- Greenbush Education
- SEK Mental Health
- Churches and Pastors
- Neosho County Health Department – Lactation Consultant, Well baby checks,
- Head Start - Home Based
- My Family – childhood development
- SEK/CAP – early childhood services
- Community Health Center of SEK Kansas
- Allen County Sheriff's Department
- Iola Police Department

For the previous year our income was approximately \$38,000 and our expenses were \$32,000

Our expenses have tripled to provide the medical services which include the necessary supplies, insurance, and training.

Our support comes from the following sources:

- Churches
- Individuals
- A few businesses
- Fundraisers

In looking forward to the future, our areas of growth would be:

- Better training for staff, volunteers and board
- Increase hours (utilities, staffing, maintenance)
- Medical Services (supplies, training, payroll)
- Building expenses (roof leaking, unfinished basement)
- IT Equipment upgrades
- Advertising
- Security
- Increase services for our clients

Thank you for your consideration and I respectfully ask that the committee pass the bill out favorably.

Angela Johnson