

I CAN'T... DO THIS ON MY OWN

With morning sickness beginning and a home pregnancy test showing positive, Alexis was pretty sure she was pregnant. After driving by CHOICES several times, and seeing our sign out front, Alexis knew she could get a free pregnancy test. Alexis' worst fears were confirmed when the test came back positive. Her one-year relationship with her boyfriend had just ended badly and she was staying with a friend. It was June of 2018.

Alexis left CHOICES that day uncertain of what to do with her pregnancy as she felt she 'couldn't do this on her own'. Our client advocate had spoken with her



Receiving the Baby Bucks she has earned allows Alexis to shop for 'just the right thing' for her baby.

about getting a free ultrasound, attending Earn While You Learn Parenting classes, and the potential to have someone by her side the whole way supporting her. Yet Alexis left still undecided.

Despite many attempts to follow up with Alexis to schedule that ultrasound, she disappeared, and we were unable to reconnect with her to know what she had decided.

Fast forward to October 2018 and Alexis came in to have her WIC form signed and inquire about EWYL classes. She had made an older and more mature friend in Nora who was eager to go through the parenting classes with Alexis. At 27 weeks, Alexis would begin to earn baby bucks for attending parenting classes. Earning baby bucks gives her access to our baby boutique for shopping trips! She has been so excited to be able to get everything she needs for her baby.

Story continued on Page 3



Alexis shows off her 'baby belly' one afternoon shortly before her EWYL class.

Be The One
CHOICES
Gala Fundraising Dinner
Save The Date!
Friday, April 26, 2019
The Antlers
A Wyndham Hotel
4 South Cascade
Colorado Springs

What has CHOICES been up to in 2018?

We have served **262** individual clients – 225 women and 37 men

Of those 262 clients **121** were brand new to CHOICES, **141** were returning clients who are already connected to one of our programs.

We had a total of **1919** client visits, some of those visit highlights are:

- ◆ **104** - Pregnancy Tests

The true measure of our success in meeting the heart of our mission, with 11 truly being abortion minded and 59 abortion vulnerable with the remainder “likely to carry”. Of the 104 tests, 49 (nearly half) were positive.

Of those 49, 13 are currently connected to a mentor and are completing EWYL classes.

- ◆ **29** – Ultrasounds

20 standard diagnostic ultrasounds and 9 training ultrasounds. Of those 4 were abortion minded/undecided and 11 were abortion vulnerable. Average age was 26.7.

- ◆ **47** - STI Appointments

17 new STI clients, 3 repeat clients. 15 were female and 5 males, Average age of clients 23.

- ◆ **902** – Earn While You Learn (EWYL) parenting classes

As of 12-31-18 we had 19 mentors seeing 49 clients (this includes 14 client couples)

- ◆ **21** – Certified Car Seat Checks

- ◆ **428** – Shoppers in our Baby Boutique

While most clients shop at the same time as their class, these clients came in solely to shop. Some of their “Baby Bucks” were earned from one of our partner agencies. (Community Partnership, TRE, Early Headstart, Nurse Family Partnership, TESSA, Pitt Stop Counseling LLC, and other Teller County agencies.)

We certainly couldn't carry out the mission of CHOICES without all of our volunteers.

- ◆ **36** Volunteers served over **2120** hours working in the CHOICES offices.

Our mentors served over 480 hours, and the Baby Boutique volunteers 708 hours.

We had an additional **23** volunteers who put in *countless* hours designing and creating items for the Rocky Mountain Christmas Boutique. These artisans donated their time, talent and resources to help support the mission of CHOICES.

THANKS for Local Business Support

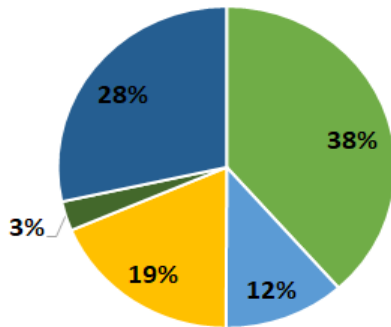
A & J Enterprises
Active Life Chiropractic
Alec Builders Corporation
Andrew Wommack Ministries
Aspen Ridge Construction
Baby Expressions
Building Partnership
Casey's Lumber, Inc
Charis Bible College
Credit Service Company, Inc.
The Dave Brown Team

DMI Builders
Don Bush Enterprises
Dos Lobos Enterprises LLC
Double M Concrete
Happy Trails Vacations Rentals
Hdaero Engineering LLC
Highmark, LLC
IREA
Judd's Glass & Mirror
Keener Team Realty
M & S Snowplowing

Mallett Excavating, Inc.
My Free Water Store
Newmont Legacy Fund
Park State Bank and Trust
Peak Internet
Teller County Waste
Turkey Rock Ranch, Inc.
Twin Rock Cabin, LLC
Vayle Homes
William A. Nein, CPA

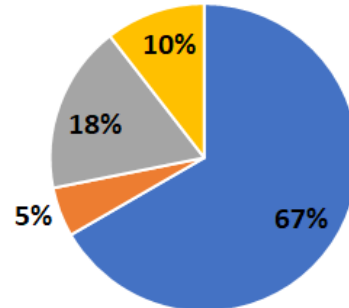
FINANCIAL UPDATE

Distribution of income \$243,987



■ Individuals ■ Churches ■ Businesses ■ Grants ■ Fundraising

Distribution of Expenses \$221,103



■ Programs ■ Facilities ■ Administration ■ Fundraising

CHOICES carefully spends every donation in order to maximize the benefit to our young moms, dads and babies. This year, we have invested in updating five modules for the Earn While You Learn curriculum, which is important as these modules have DVD's and other information that need updating for content, as well as relevancy. You can be assured that we manage the assets of CHOICES to bring the most benefit to clients and the community, while working toward long-term financial stability.



Meet Miss Charlotte!

We rejoice that Alexis returned to CHOICES, determined and set on learning all she could to prepare for the birth of her baby. She plans to continue in the EWYL program as long as possible. Alexis also reunited with Michael (not the biological father), who is just as excited to support her and the baby and attend EWYL classes with Alexis when his work schedule allows.

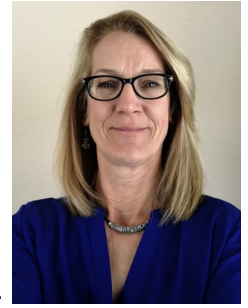
On January 19th, Alexis gave birth to her daughter, Charlotte. Alexis is very passionate when she speaks about CHOICES and her experience with the ministry. She says she will do anything she can to help get the word out about CHOICES as this has been a life-giving experience for her! We celebrate Alexis' success and determination to parent well. The level of support and education she has received from her mentor and our parenting program has changed her life.

A Note from CHOICES Executive Director...

*We have this **hope** as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. Hebrews 6:19*

With the ever-changing abortion laws, coupled with the barrage of negative media output, it can sometimes feel like we are fighting a losing battle. But there is good news happening all around us.

If you turn back to page two of this report and look at the number of clients CHOICES has served in 2018, you can see that we are making a positive impact in Teller County with our 'ministry not manipulation' and the programs we offer. Most who walk through our doors have a very hard story to tell. Life hasn't been kind to them in many ways. When they enter in – they approach the throne of grace and where hope was deferred, it now begins to be restored.



Alexis was without hope when she walked through the doors of CHOICES, and now her life is turning around in many positive ways. She is so excited to talk about CHOICES and how we have helped her prepare for her baby and life as a mom. She committed herself to her mentor and the Earn While You Learn Program to learn, grow, change and hope was restored for her.

God in his wonderful mercy does not stop at just changing and restoring our clients. As we minister, and labor side by side, we are all changed by our experiences in this ministry!

For 2019, we are hopeful of the positive impact we will continue to have in Teller County. God is on the move, He is for this ministry, and has placed just the right people in position to accomplish His purposes. We praise Him and give Him all the glory!

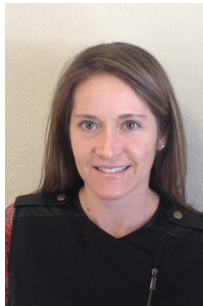
Thank you for supporting CHOICES through your faithful prayer and generous financial support. We are blessed beyond measure with the good gifts He continues to give through our donors, our staff, and all the volunteers. It really does take a whole community to save a child!

God's richest blessings to you all!
Teresa Diamond, Executive Director

THE CHOICES TEAM



Diane Allen
Program
Director



Marcie James,
RN
Medical Testing
Director



Pat Martin
Assistant
Cripple Creek
Director



Jean Peck
Cripple Creek
Director



Mackenzie
Shunko
EFL Presenter



Jeni Smoot
Lead Client
Advocate (WP)



Dr. Scott Russell, MD
Medical Director of CHOICES
and owner of Front Range OB/GYN.
Dr. Russell generously donates
his time and expertise
to support CHOICES.

The Board of Directors of CHOICES:

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