

Womankind

Maternal & Prenatal Care Center

womankind-cleveland.org



Womankind Mission Statement: To provide hope, help, and possibility to any pregnant woman by offering comprehensive integrative care in a loving, nonjudgmental environment.

Spring 2023

Womankind a “Lifesaver” for this Art Teacher

It was July of 2021 when Marissa Adams, then a training coordinator with Chick-fil-A, learned two things: she was pregnant, and her insurance had been cancelled. She tried to apply for Medicaid, but was denied. Not knowing where to turn, a co-worker recommended Womankind. The colleague had used Womankind’s services for her prenatal care when she was pregnant with her son and was confident the nonprofit could help Marissa.

When Marissa reached out to Womankind, she was crying and, as she put it, “freaking out,” but she was quickly put at ease. “Knowing that Womankind could provide my prenatal care and assist with Medicaid was a huge stress release. It was such a big help,” she said.

As her pregnancy progressed, Marissa came to enjoy her visits to Womankind’s Monday evening clinics, where she did not feel like a charity case. Chemarra Bryant, Womankind’s Director of Counseling and

Support Services, helped her cope with the stress of not having insurance and worked with her to get Medicaid approval. “The outpouring of love from everyone at Womankind made me feel comfortable so I could simply focus on having a healthy baby,” she said.

Marissa left Chick-fil-A and used her degrees in art and math from the College of Wooster to pick up a part-time job teaching art at Lutheran West High School while she was still pregnant. She was blessed by how supportive her new employer was when she went into labor two and a half weeks early. Baby girl Everly entered this world weighing 5 pounds and 6 ounces, beautiful and healthy.

Marissa and husband Josh, a landscaper, hope to have more kids in the near future. For now, they are enjoying the wonder of every milestone in Everly’s young life, like holding her head up, recognizing people, and even sleeping through the night. The couple couldn’t wait to come back to Womankind to show off Everly, and even donated some of her infant clothes so they could help out other families in need.

Marissa says she makes sure she tells everyone she knows about Womankind. She exclaimed, “They were the best thing I never knew about. Without Womankind, I probably would have lost my sanity. They were a lifesaver!”



Hope, Help, Possibility and Life!

By Chemarra Bryant, Director of Counseling and Support Services

Womankind is focused on the health of mother and baby beyond pregnancy. We could not stand on the sidelines reading the statistics on infant mortality in Cuyahoga County without taking action. This is the reason we have partnered for years with the Ohio Department of Health’s Cribs for Kids Safe Sleep Program.

According to First Year Cleveland, a community movement dedicated to eliminating infant mortality, “The infant mortality rate in Cuyahoga County is one of the highest in the United States. Of the 13,204 babies born in Cuyahoga County in 2020, 101 didn’t make it to their first birthday.”

We have a dedicated staff member, Julie Keller, who consistently provides education, tutorials and the distribution of Cribettes for families in need of a safe sleep option. We are humbled and grateful that we can make a difference in saving the lives of innocent babies. Beyond the births of babies, we want those same babies to live and thrive.



Board of Trustees

President

Robert D. Tayek

Diocese of Cleveland (retired)

Vice President

Mona Maruna

Ancora Insurance Solutions

Treasurer

Dave Bongorno

Towlift - Chief Financial Officer
(retired)

Secretary

Carol DiLillo Kenney

Miceli Dairy

Katherine Bonacci

Colleen Cereijo

National Multiple Sclerosis Society

Michael Connors

Cerenti Marketing Group

Carol Fiorelli

KeyBank (retired)

Toni Gideon

PNC

Albert S. Kirchner

enTrust Financial Group

Gus J. Skapek

Elco Corp. (retired)

Rich Stepnowski

Mason Structural Steel, Inc.

Staff

Mary Ann Meitin

Executive Director

Mary Adams

Administrative Assistant

Chemarra Bryant

Director of Counseling &
Support Services

Erin Hopkins, RN, BSN

Nurse Manager

Julie Keller

Receptionist &

Administrative Assistant

Elizabeth Mattioli, RN

Staff Nurse

Our Services

All of Womankind's services are confidential, nonjudgmental and provided at no cost to our clients.

These include:

- Pregnancy testing
- Comprehensive and integrative prenatal care through 28 weeks of pregnancy
- Assistance with transfer plans
- Professional counseling for prenatal clients
- Breastfeeding information
- Options consultation
- Assistance with Medicaid, SNAP and WIC applications
- Baby items (as available)
- Referrals for parenting classes, adoption, and housing

If you need help, or know someone who does, please call us at 216-662-5700.

A Word from Our Director



Don't you love Spring? The weather is warmer, and signs of new life are all around, with birds tweeting, buds popping out of the ground and trees blossoming. For me, it symbolizes God's gift of hope. Ladybird Johnson famously said, "Where flowers bloom, so does hope."

Here at Womankind, we feel like we are experiencing a great rebirth as more and more people are discovering—or in some cases rediscovering—the important services we provide to women and families in the Greater Cleveland area. The number one question I get when someone asks me where I work is, "What does Womankind do?" When I explain our free

prenatal care and extensive support services, they are impressed and want to help.

After a visitor to our table at the recent *Bringing America Back to Life* Convention remarked that we need to get the word out about the incredible work we do, the staff, Board of Trustees, volunteers and I decided to do everything in our power to focus on outreach to the community. We are starting with a couple billboards on the East and West sides of Cleveland, and are working to distribute our flyers to local emergency rooms and social service agencies, but we can't do this alone. I am humbly asking you, as someone who believes in our mission of providing help, hope and possibility to pregnant women and moms in need, to help us spread the word about Womankind. A regular supporter who writes inspiring messages with every donation he sends, articulated it perfectly: "God will supply, but we must apply."

Thank you, as always, for your love, prayers, outreach and generosity. May God bless you and your family with much hope this Spring!

Mary Ann Meitin, Executive Director

Womankind returned to the annual *Bringing America Back to Life* Convention as an exhibitor. This was great exposure for us as staff and volunteers explained our breadth of services and shared promotional materials with the hundreds of attendees. The event was held in March in Independence, Ohio.



Womankind invited author and presenter Aisha Taylor to facilitate one of her workshops: *Navigating Your Pregnancy and Transitioning into Motherhood with Victory*. The attendees gave the workshop high reviews for the practical information gleaned and the free resource-packed signed book from the author.

From Volunteers to Staffers: Introducing Mary and Elizabeth

If you have visited Womankind on a Monday, chances are you were greeted by a warm and friendly smile from receptionist Mary Adams. Mary started out as a volunteer about six years ago, having seen a note on a baby bottle from her daughter's church asking for volunteers. As she says it, "I researched what Womankind did, and I fell in love."

As Receptionist/Administrative Assistant, Mary's responsibilities include greeting our guests, answering the phone, scheduling pregnancy tests, baby item pick-ups and intakes, referring callers to needed services, and so much more!

Sharing a favorite personal experience at Womankind, Mary recalled the day a woman who found our information online came in for a pregnancy test. The woman was upset about the possibility of being pregnant since she had recently delivered a baby. Mary spoke to her with her inimitable compassion, assuring her of all the support and help Womankind provides. The woman was put at ease and wept with gratitude.

Mary is a retired teacher/administrator who has been married to her amazing husband for 45½ years. She has four grown children and eight grandchildren, who lovingly refer to her as "GG." She hosts formal tea parties for her "grandgirls" and their friends every year, teaching them life skills, as well as the annual week-long "Camp GG" for all of the grands.

Elizabeth Mattioli is a ray of sunshine on the Womankind team! Elizabeth joined Womankind as Staff Nurse following the untimely passing of former Director of Nursing, Nancy Pavlik. Like Mary, she started as a volunteer in response to a post on the *Blessed is She* Facebook page about needing volunteer RNs and help with phlebotomy. She says she was attracted to Womankind's mission and wanted to help women throughout their pregnancies.

Working with Nurse Manager, Erin Hopkins, Elizabeth is responsible for helping ensure that Monday evening clinics run smoothly, often doing phlebotomy at the clinics. During the week, she meets with new patients to prepare their medical histories, administers

pregnancy tests, documents lab results and is available to offer medical advice to women about their pregnancies.

Elizabeth says her favorite part about working at Womankind is meeting women where they are at in their pregnancy journey, and walking alongside them by providing medical care and emotional support. She gleefully exclaims, "I love being part of the Womankind team and being able to care for women in need!"

Elizabeth knows the incredible impact of Womankind first-hand. Shortly after she started working at Womankind, she found out she was pregnant! With her husband being between jobs, she found herself in need of our services. In her words, "Womankind was there to help me from the beginning, offering free prenatal care and maternity clothes. I was extremely touched by the generosity and thoughtfulness demonstrated by my coworkers, and it allowed me to directly experience the impact that Womankind has on our patients!"

The Mattioli baby is due in July, and Elizabeth and husband Aaron couldn't be more excited to welcome this new life into the world. They currently share their home with an English Bulldog named Hippo.

Womankind is blessed to have both Mary and Elizabeth on our team!



Mary Adams



Elizabeth Mattioli

Womankind is This Volunteer's Home Away from Home

As indicated in the Annual Report in this newsletter, volunteers have amassed almost 3,500 hours of time in their various capacities helping Womankind. That's about 67 hours each week of people selflessly giving of themselves to carry out Womankind's important mission.

Among those very dedicated volunteers is a woman who has been a familiar face around Womankind for more than 14 years, Dianne Suhy. Dianne learned about this organization 20 years ago when she accompanied her cousin's daughter, who is hearing-impaired, to her prenatal appointments at Womankind.



Dianne Suhy

After her grandson was born, Dianne knew exactly where to donate all the clothes and baby items he grew out of. When she arrived, Sister Peter signed her up for a two-week volunteer training class and the rest, as they say, is history.

Dianne's volunteer journey started when she helped answer phones daily. She felt this was her "place of refuge." One day, she went to the back warehouse area and noticed elderly volunteer Gracie was working by herself. Gradually, she started helping Gracie, and was joined by another woman Doris. As time went by, and volunteers came and went, Dianne took charge of sorting donated baby items, developing a system of labeling the clothing and cubbies to simplify pulling orders, bringing that over to the "new" location when Womankind moved its offices to the building next door.

Today, Dianne heads up a Tuesday crew of loyal volunteers who keep the warehouse area stocked and organized. Dianne herself takes home clothes that need to be washed to make sure moms are given fresh items that are ready for the babies to wear. Now that's dedication!

Dianne says her favorite thing about volunteering at Womankind is the satisfaction of helping and making a difference in the lives of the clients we serve. She exclaims, "I love it! It's my home away from home."

Womankind

Maternal & Prenatal Care Center

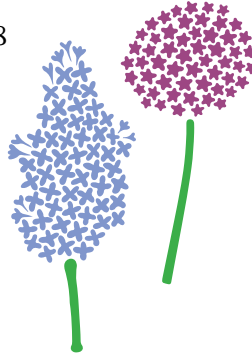
5350 Transportation Boulevard, Suite 18
Garfield Heights, Ohio 44125
womankind-cleveland.org

Address Service Requested

JOIN US! 

Womankind provides free prenatal care and a full range of support services to women and families in need.

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
CLEVELAND, OHIO
PERMIT NO 3136



Wish List

Please consider donating items listed below to help us provide for the basic needs of our moms and their babies!

- Newborn boys and girls clothing (especially onsies)
- 12-24 month boys and girls Spring clothing
- Size newborn, preemie, 4, 5, and 6 diapers
- Baby wipes
- Baby socks, towels and receiving blankets
- Formula

Call Womankind at 216-662-5700 to schedule a donation drop-off.



Join us for Womankind's 25th Annual Charity Golf Event on June 19

Womankind's 25th Annual Charity Golf Event will be held at Mayfield Sand Ridge Country Club on June 19, 2023. Funds raised will help Womankind continue to provide hope, help, and possibility to pregnant woman and moms in need!

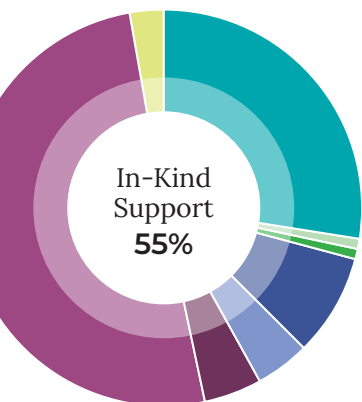
Exciting News!! Kicking off our 25th golf event is 2003 British Open Champ Ben Curtis. He will give a talk and a chipping seminar prior to golfing. You don't want to miss it!

Consider these ways to support the event:

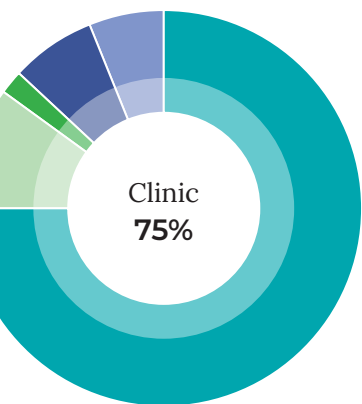
- Auction Donations: Click 'donate item now' on the event website WomankindGolf23.givesmart.com or contact Joe Slattery at jpslatts@gmail.com
- Event Sponsorships starting at \$500
- Golf Foursomes (Scramble) \$1,300: All golfers receive 18 holes of golf, lunch, two drink tickets and dinner
- Dinner Only \$125: Includes dinner and two drink tickets

Please visit WomankindGolf23.givesmart.com or text **WomankindGolf23** to 76278 for information or to register. You can also contact Joe Slattery at 216-513-0198 or jpslatts@gmail.com.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION



- 2022 Revenue:**
- 30% Individuals
 - 1% Organizations
 - 1% Foundations
 - 9% Baby Bottle Fundraisers
 - 5% Events - Golf Outing
 - 5% Investment Income (loss)
 - 55% In-Kind Support
 - 3% Other Income



- 2022 Expenses:**
- 75% Clinic
 - 10% Counseling
 - 2% Baby Items
 - 7% Administrative Costs
 - 6% Fundraising

Revenue:	2022	2021
Contributions:		
Individuals	\$266,256	\$219,623
Organizations	13,311	23,127
Foundations	12,230	46,147
Special Events (Baby Bottle Fundraisers)	79,763	69,654
Special Events (Golf Outing)	46,256	11,714
Investment Income (loss)	(41,629)	58,853
In-Kind Support	489,422	629,162
Other income	24,625	1,443
Total Revenue	\$890,234	\$1,059,723

Expenses:	2022	2021
Donated Services (Doctors, nurses, lab fees, etc.)	\$489,422	\$629,162
Personnel Costs	240,193	264,805
Occupancy	115,098	116,958
Supplies	10,300	11,321
Advertising	2,601	5,217
Printing	7,956	6,596
Client Assistance	698	0
Postage and Mailing Services	3,133	3,699
Telephone	16,019	15,804
Professional Liability Insurance	11,129	8,551
Equipment Rent and Maintenance	3,146	2,393
Professional Fees	27,726	26,751
Depreciation	7,940	8,685
Other Expenses	7,425	9,037

Total Expenses	\$942,786	\$1,108,979
Change in Net Assets	-\$52,552	-\$49,256

Net Assets (at the end of the year):	2022	2021
General Fund	\$143,824	\$249,365
Endowment Fund	161,332	161,332
Total Net Assets	\$305,156	\$410,697

Volunteer Service Hours

In 2022, Womankind Volunteers with many skills, talents and services recorded **3,469 volunteer hours**. Womankind volunteers are physicians, certified nurse midwives, certified nurse practitioners, registered nurses, phlebotomists, medical secretaries, lab couriers, front desk supporters, baby item and clothing organizers, data entry assistants, bookkeepers, accountants, Baby Bottle Fundraiser coordinators, assistants and drivers and special event committee members.



“We’re there to love the people who come to us.”

–Michele Rogers, RN, Womankind Co-founder

OUR CLIENTS

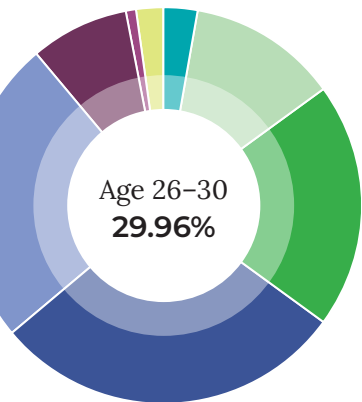
2022 Service Statistics:

Total Number of Women Served.....572
 Total Number of Pregnancy Tests..... 49
 Total Number of Prenatal Patients112
 Total Number of Visits for Baby Items..... 888
 Total Visits to Womankind*1855

*Client/patient visits include the following: pregnancy testing, medical history, prenatal clinic, confirmation exam, baby item and clothing pick up, Medicaid assistance, counseling and community referrals.

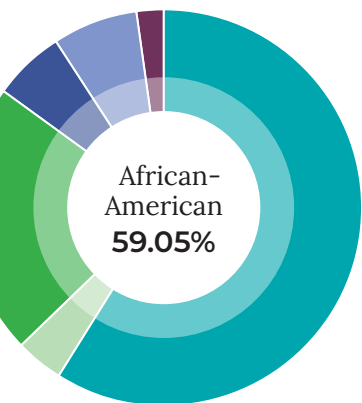
2022 Demographics:

The vast majority of women we serve are from Cuyahoga County, but we also had clients from the following counties: Ashtabula, Franklin, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Summit, Medina and Portage.



Age Range:

- 2.16% 15-17
- 11.64% 18-21
- 20.04% 22-25
- 29.96% 26-30
- 26.29% 31-39
- 8.41% 40+
- 0.22% 14 & under
- 1.29% Unknown

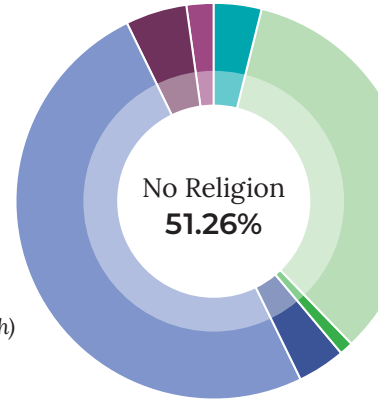


Race:

- 59.05% African-American
- 3.88% Asian
- 22.63% Caucasian
- 6.03% Hispanic
- 7.11% Other (including Bi-Racial)
- 1.29% Unknown

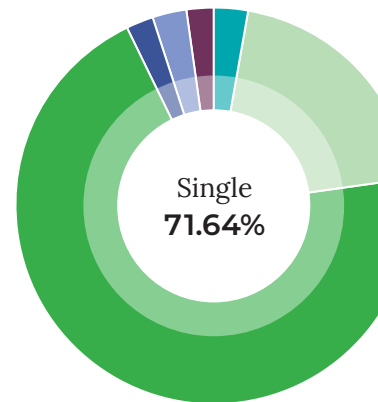
Religion:

- 3.61% Catholic
- 35.02% Christian
- 0.36% Jewish
- 3.61% Muslim
- 51.26% No Religion
- 4.69% Other (including Hindu & Sikh)
- 1.44% Unknown



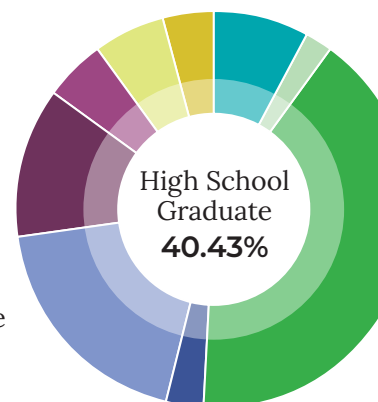
Marital Status:

- 2.61% Divorced
- 20.90% Married
- 71.64% Single
- 1.49% Separated
- 2.24% Other (including Widowed)
- 1.12% Unknown



Level of Education:

- 7.45% Did Not Complete High School
- 2.13% High School Student
- 40.43% High School Graduate
- 3.19% GED
- 19.15% 1-3 Years of University
- 11.70% Associate’s Degree
- 5.32% Bachelor’s Degree
- 6.38% Master/Post-Grad Degree
- 4.26% Unknown



Our Mission

To provide hope, help, and possibility to any pregnant woman by offering comprehensive, integrative care in a loving, nonjudgmental environment.