

Womankind

MATERNAL AND PRENATAL CARE CENTER

www.womankindcleveland.org



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

FALL 2019

Womankind Welcomes New Executive Director

Womankind is proud to announce that Maggie Lallo joined the staff as Executive Director on October 2nd. Maggie comes to us with a strong knowledge of nonprofits, fundraising and relationship building. Prior to Womankind, she was the Executive Director at Family Haven, a nonprofit organization that supports adults with developmental disabilities. Originally from Pittsburgh, Maggie moved to Cleveland with her parents and four sisters at the age of 12. She attended

Cleveland State University, receiving both her bachelor's and master's degrees. While at Cleveland State University, she was a member of the Cleveland State Women's Soccer Team. Maggie lives in Mayfield Heights with her husband, Joe. Outside of work, Maggie loves to spend time with her family, especially her two daughters, Luciana and Cecilia.



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OUR SERVICES

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

These include:

- Pregnancy test
- Comprehensive and integrative prenatal care through 28 weeks of pregnancy
- Assistance with third trimester care and delivery
- Professional counseling
- Support services for those significant to the mother
- Childbirth classes
- Breastfeeding information
- Post-abortion counseling
- Assistance with Medicaid and WIC application
- Maternity clothing
- Baby items (as available)
- Referrals for
 - Parenting classes
 - Adoption
 - Legal assistance

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

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



I am truly humbled and grateful for the opportunity to serve as Executive Director at Womankind. I am writing this going into my fifth week as director and I continue to be amazed each day at how wonderful Womankind is. From the volunteers answering phones and greeting clients every day at the front desk, to our doctors, nurses and other caregivers at our Monday morning and evening clinics, I see that our clients are in the best of hands. As most of you know, Womankind has provided hope, help and possibility to any pregnant woman by offering comprehensive integrative care in a loving, nonjudgmental environment since 1975.

In my short time at Womankind, I have also seen how much we are needed in our community. I have witnessed beautiful acts of kindness by our staff and volunteers to help our clients. I have seen clients walk through our doors afraid and unsure, and I have seen them walk out of our doors with hope in their eyes. Our clients are not charged for any of our services and we rely entirely on private donations to keep our doors open. More than ever, our clients need us and in turn, we need you. Womankind would not be here without the support and kindness of the caring community of friends and donors. We cannot thank you enough for the support you have provided to Womankind over the past 45 years and I hope that we can count on your continued support in the years to come.

My main goal as Executive Director at Womankind is to continue to provide exceptional, compassionate and holistic care to each client who walks through our doors. We know there is such a large and continuing need for our services. We need more people to know who Womankind is and what we achieve every single day. I plan to work hard to reach out to the community, network with coordinating agencies and share the story of Womankind. Our community needs us. Our clients need us. We cannot fail them.

I feel so much passion about the opportunity I have been given to help shape the future of Womankind. As the saying goes, "It takes a village" and so I ask all of you reading this to think about how you can help us continue our vital mission. I welcome your interest in volunteering, hosting a baby bottle fundraiser, attending our events, or just stopping by our office to see this amazing organization in action. Save the Date for our Holiday Open House on December 5 from 3:30 pm to 7:30 pm (see back cover). My door is open and I welcome your calls, emails and well wishes. I believe in our staff, our volunteers and donors, and most of all, I believe in the future of Womankind.

MAGGIE LALLO

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Maggie Lallo". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Executive Director

From a Thankful Client

After a traumatic birth experience with her first child, Samantha came to Womankind with her second pregnancy looking for caregivers who would listen to her and care her – mind, body and spirit and include her in decision making care. Samantha had searched Google and came across Womankind. She was touched by

“Coming into Womankind is like coming to visit family, everyone knows who you are and is concerned about your pregnancy.”

reviews she read and decided to call to make an appointment. She now says it was the absolute best decision for her and her growing family.

“Coming into Womankind is like coming to visit family, everyone knows who you are

and is concerned about your pregnancy. Everyone I have come in contact with has been warm, supportive and encouraging to me. I love coming here, every time I walk in the door, I am greeted with warmth, love and hugs. My daughter Madison loves coming to my appointments and even my husband, who doesn't like doctors' offices,



feels comfortable here and knows he is part of the team.”

Samantha referred to a point in her current pregnancy where she was in pain and scared and reached out to Womankind nurse Pat Cannon, who suggested that she make a trip to the emergency room. Even after the visit, Samantha felt there was something not right and called Pat again. Pat encouraged her to listen to

her body and make a return trip to the ER to get better answers. Samantha feels that without Pat's advice to return to the ER and question her diagnosis, she may have lost her baby. Samantha is incredibly grateful to Pat for her quick response to her concerns and appreciates how Pat continued to check in on her to make sure she and the baby were doing well.

Samantha is grateful to all of her caregivers at Womankind. Along with Pat Cannon, Samantha also had glowing words for Sandi (CNP) and social worker JoAnn. “Sandy really takes her time to explain things, she helped to break down my experience and made me feel less terrified. JoAnn has provided so much support and has truly guided me to a better mindset. These ladies are so incredible!”

Samantha and her husband, Antwon, are so excited for the February arrival of their second baby, whom they will name Natalie. According to Samantha, her daughter Madison is even more excited. “When she says her prayers at night, she thanks God for the opportunity to be a big sister. Madison wants to teach her sister how to dance and paint her nails. She is so happy about the baby and can't wait to meet her.”



Womankind volunteer Mary Adams with her book club raise funds with a baby bottle fundraiser

Thank you to those groups and individuals who participated in Womankind's Baby Bottle Fundraiser in 2019.

We appreciate your support!



Volunteer Spotlight Kim Gunter



Kim Gunter first learned about Womankind in 1992 when her friend Denise was pregnant and did not have health insurance after starting a new

job. Thankfully, someone told Denise about Womankind and she became a prenatal client. According to Kim, “Denise asked me to be her Lamaze coach, so I attended childbirth classes with her. She delivered her baby girl, my goddaughter,

at Marymount Hospital. It was such a gift to have access to care and kindness in what could have been an expensive and stressful circumstance.”

Kim was so overwhelmed by what Womankind had done for her friend that she ended up becoming a volunteer. “I was so blessed to have the opportunity in 2016 to join Womankind as a volunteer doing payroll and bookkeeping. I love the mission here at Womankind of helping women in a loving and non-judgmental atmosphere. I don’t really work with clients in my position, but I’m so happy to be able to provide support to the employees who do the real work of nursing and counseling

clients.” Kim works closely with the Director of Development and Executive Director and sees firsthand where the donations are going and how carefully they are stewarded to have the most impact.

“I keep coming back because it is so rewarding to be a part of an organization that welcomes women who are unsure or even terrified of what the future may hold for them. The staff and volunteers at Womankind calm their anxieties, empower them with knowledge and education and truly care for each and every one of them.” Volunteers like Kim are part of the reason why Womankind has been serving the community for 44 years. Thank you, Kim.

Thank you to the 2019 Oktoberfest Sponsors

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Cheers to Womankind's Oktoberfest Celebration

Womankind celebrated Oktoberfest on Friday, October 4 at the Society of the Donauschwaben (German-American Cultural Center) in Olmsted Township. Attendees enjoyed delicious German food, danced to the sounds of the Cleveland Donauschwäbische Blaskapelle band, and had a great time with old and new friends. Guests had the opportunity to support Womankind with a basket raffle, bar cart raffle, silent auction and sideboards.

Guests were also treated to a beautiful and inspiring new Womankind video, which featured staff members eloquently sharing stories about their experiences with clients and the mission that guides their days at Womankind. (Special thanks to videographer Mike Rink, who donated his time and talent in creating this compelling video.)

We were thrilled to see so many new faces join us to share fun, food and friendship, all in support of Womankind and its clients.



WISH LIST

- Gift Cards:
 - Giant Eagle
 - Amazon
 - Office Max
 - Visa/Mastercard
 - Walmart/Target
- Gerber Good Start formula (this type only, please)
- Diapers – Size newborn through size 6 and wipes
- New Car Seats in Box (unopened, unused due to safety issues)
- New Pack-n-Plays
- Forever postage stamps
- Paper Products (Toilet paper, paper towels)
- Tall kitchen garbage bags (13 gallon)

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Womankind is currently in need of:

- Certified Nurse Midwives, Certified Nurse Practitioners (with OB experience)
- Experienced OB Nurses
- Phlebotomists for Monday evening clinic
- Client support volunteers for the Monday Clinics (AM & PM) and during the week (training provided)

Occasional Volunteer Opportunities

- Clerical/Office Support
- Photographer

If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information, please contact Dianna at 216-662-5700 or Dianna@womankindcleveland.org

Former Womankind Clients Offer a Dream Shopping Trip

Shopping can be such a chore, but when you are chosen as the recipient of a \$1,000 shopping spree at Giant Eagle, this chore becomes a fun event! Thank you to our new friends at International Insurance Group in North Royalton for making this a reality for Womankind. IIG owners Gaius and Rachel Vaduva are former Womankind clients. Part of the organization's mission is to give back to the community. Gaius and Rachel were also able to express their gratitude for the exceptional care and services they received at Womankind. Womankind staff members Nancy Ilg and JoAnn Henderson were able to purchase much needed items for the office and for clients, and IIG employees, Bob, Pete Ulyana and Sofiya were so helpful with shopping and transport. It was quite a sight to see these overflowing carts. We were so humbled and grateful for this incredible act of generosity from International Insurance Group.



Bob, JoAnn and Ulyana fill the carts.



The IIG group toured the Womankind offices.



THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS

April 2, 2019 - October 1, 2019

We are so grateful for our generous donors who made a gift to support the mission of Womankind.
Thank you for your support.

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For more information on ways to support Womankind, please contact Nancy Ilg at 216-662-5700.

**Please consult your financial advisor, tax and/or law professional for more information on the best options available to you.



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We regret if we inadvertently excluded or misspelled any names. Please call Nancy Ilg at 216-662-5700 so that we may correct any errors.



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