



Planned Parenthood of North Texas Sponsors Mother's Day Drive for Displaced Children in Tarrant County

“Meet The Need for Moms in May” Drive to Benefit the Women’s Haven of Tarrant County

FORT WORTH (April, 2005) – According to the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, more than 18,000 children resided in shelters throughout Texas in 2004. In Tarrant County, many were provided shelter by the Women’s Haven of Tarrant County Inc., which is partnering with Planned Parenthood of North Texas (PPNT) for a “Meet the Need for Moms in May” drive starting April 1 to collect childcare supplies for displaced families with children in the area.

Five PPNT clinics in Tarrant and Johnson Counties will accept donations of new hairbrushes, combs, disposable diapers (all sizes), baby wipes, school supplies, toothbrushes, toothpaste, clothes, socks, and underwear for children under the age of six years. These items have been identified by the Women’s Haven as those that are in short supply for displaced families every day. All of the donations collected at PPNT’s designated Tarrant and Johnson county clinics will be delivered to the Women’s Haven in time for Mother’s Day.

“The ‘Meet the Need for Moms in May’ drive is an extension of our ongoing outreach efforts throughout North Texas,” James T. Roderick, PPNT President/CEO said. “We already offer several programs that focus on improving the health of families and we want to ensure these displaced families, who are often overlooked, receive our support as well.”

Sonya Hartwell, Associate Executive Director of the Women’s Haven, said that in providing the safe haven families need, everyday items cannot be overlooked. “To help a mother cope with a crisis or a difficult domestic situation, it is important she feels successful as a parent. With this PPNT drive we accomplish two goals – we’ll give women the tools they need to become better providers for their families as well as giving children the joy of having basic necessities.” The Women’s Haven exists to reduce domestic violence, assist victims to overcome abuse, and to prevent future abuse through intervention and education. Offering one of the few on-site K-12 schools operated by a women’s shelter, the Women’s Haven was named outstanding domestic violence shelter in Texas in 2003. In 2004, the shelter provided 28,849 days of shelter to an average of 73 residents daily, and its Fort Worth Independent School District staffed school educated 231 children. The Women’s Haven also staffs a 24-hour Crisis Hotline, which received over 36,000 calls in 2004, and operates a resale shop on Berry Street in Fort Worth.



PPNT has set-up collection points at five clinics in Tarrant and Johnson County, which will be accepting donations through May 2, including:

- Arlington: Arlington South Center, 3701 S. Cooper, Suite 245
- Bedford: Northeast Center, 2816 Central Dr., Suite 160
- Fort Worth: PPNT Learning Resource Center, 301 S. Henderson
- Fort Worth: West Center at 6775 Camp Bowie Blvd
- Burleson: Burleson Center 251 S. W. Wilshire Blvd., Suite 118

The “Meet the Need for Moms in May” drive is also being conducted at selected PPNT locations in Dallas County. Donations collected in the Dallas County Drive will go to the Vogel Alcove, which provides daycare for homeless children.

For 70 years, PPNT has provided compassionate health care in North Texas. In 2004, PPNT clinics served more than 80,000 patients in its 28 clinics. PPNT also provides health education outreach to 12,000 individuals a year.

*“Celebrating 70 years of providing compassionate health care in North Texas communities.”
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