

**Zoe
Care**

**SO
THAT ALL
HUMAN
LIVES
MAY
FLOURISH**



IMPACT STATEMENT
2024

WHY WE EXIST

Jesus Christ values all humanity.

Therefore, we believe in honoring Him through
the rescue and empowerment of human lives.

OUR VISION

To *transform our community*
to embrace the intrinsic value of all human life.

OUR MISSION

To provide life-affirming services and support with
the love and grace of Jesus Christ
so that all human lives may flourish.

OUR CORE VALUES

Life

We believe in the intrinsic value of all human life and desire everyone experience life abundantly.

Truth

We follow the truth in all that we do and speak the truth in love.

Grace

We desire to be a place free from judgment, a safe place where everyone is accepted and served regardless of their past or present.

Excellence

We work together to give our very best to our patients.

Community

We are committed to the local Body of Christ and to strengthening the broader community by investing into individuals and families.



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In 2025, ZoeCare will turn 47. Begun in 1978 by a few concerned women and men as a response to the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court ruling, in the ensuing decades, ZoeCare has developed and grown to serve about 1,000 women, men, and children per year in a myriad of life-giving ways.

“

ZoeCare is literally the best organization there is in Bozeman! I've been working with them throughout my pregnancy, and it's been amazing!! Would really recommend to any first time mammas!" – AM (recent patient)

One thing that hasn't changed in nearly five decades of serving the Gallatin Valley is our passion for zöé life – the abundant, spiritual, and blessed life that Jesus brings – for each of our clients. Everything we do works toward seeing all human lives flourish in that zöé life.

In early 2024, ZoeCare launched its Mental Health Assistance program, which provides subsidies for professional counseling for our patients needing (but unable to afford) those services.

Also in 2024 we began CycleWise, our body literacy program. The nurses are wrapping up their certification to be able to fully launch this critical piece of

ZoeCare's life-affirming and life-giving ministry in 2025 (see p. 12).

The world is changing and, though we adjust to keep up with the changes, people's needs remain the same. That is ZoeCare's challenge as the Lord leads us through 2025: Adapt to our surrounding reality while providing our patients with a doorway to the endless love of God, so that, regardless of the changes and challenges, all human lives may flourish.

This impact statement provides a glimpse into how ZoeCare is doing that, thanks to your ongoing devotion and support. Thank you!

– *Chris K. Grinnell*

TIFFANY'S STORY



IN HER OWN WORDS SEPTEMBER 2024

When I found out I was pregnant, the support ZoeCare gave me was unmatched. ZoeCare was the only place I felt I could go as I carried this secret on my own. I remember going into the office thinking, "This can't possibly be true." I then remember hearing the nurse confirm what at the time felt like my biggest fear. The nurses at ZoeCare were the first people to know about my sweet baby, and for that they will always hold a place in my heart. There, I was given the space and time and grace to sit with them as I cried my eyes out, feeling like my life was falling completely apart. They knew what I didn't believe at the time, that my life was really just beginning. I remember the nurse holding my hand as I saw my baby for the first time on an ultrasound, as she told me stories about her own children to help me feel better. By the time I left the office that day (quite a while later), I felt a little lighter. The fear was certainly still there, but so was a confidence that I was capable and that I had people there to support me. I didn't feel rushed, I didn't feel like a burden. I felt seen, I felt like more than just another patient. I walked into ZoeCare as a stranger, but the women there chose to be my much needed support system. I felt so weak but they helped me be strong. They were excited for me when I couldn't be yet.

Through ZoeCare, I was also set up with a mentor, Jill (who is a ray of sunshine in human form). I see her more as a friend. Although I had great support from my family, I had a very lonely pregnancy. I lost a lot of friends along the way. So it was such a blessing to have Jill. We went on walks together and met for coffee and just talked about life and the wild experience that is becoming a mother. She took a genuine interest in me and was such a great person to lean on. I was able to be completely open with her. When I got to spend time with her, the weight on my shoulders didn't feel so heavy. I felt stronger with a friend walking beside me.

It brings me to tears to sit here and write this as I hold my little boy in my arms and think about how far I've come since that day, and how incredibly grateful I am for the women at ZoeCare who held my hand - literally and figuratively - along the way, believed in me, prayed for me, and promised me it was all going to be okay. They sure were right, but its even better than okay;

it's the most beautiful journey of my life!



Cedar and her mom Cheyenne

MEDICAL SERVICES

As we met with each pregnant patient in 2024, we doubled down on our efforts to focus on the question, "Who is she?" Each patient is a unique individual made in the image of God with a particular perspective of life. Her background might include past trauma, a relationship that may be abusive or falling apart, financial or educational challenges, or even a faith crisis. Sadly, one influence, which often pushes her toward abortion, is the fact that she may come from a faith background and feels unable to share her unexpected pregnancy with her church family or her parents. We endeavor to listen well to her, seek to understand her struggles, and to identify her strengths. All these facets of her life factor into her pregnancy decision. We must listen to *her* and seek to respond to her expressed needs. We always hope that she feels safe to share, receives hope, gains the information she seeks, and is empowered to make the best possible decision for herself and her pre-born baby. Pregnancy and ultrasound services are only made possible by the continued faithfulness of our Medical Director Dr. Gabor Benda and Radiologist Dr. Taylor Handley. We are very grateful to these great physicians who generously donate their time and expertise to serve ZoeCare patients so well.



LISA DOERKSEN

The sexually transmitted infection (STI) program has expanded from testing for only gonorrhea and chlamydia 12 years ago to conducting full CDC recommended STI screenings based on risk. Each appointment is an opportunity for us to educate young women and men on the specific risks that accompany sexual activity as well as to affirm each one's ability to make informed decisions, which will protect both emotional and physical health. Dr. Wendy Handley continues to faithfully oversee the STI program and donates an afternoon each week seeing patients at the clinic. She provides excellent medical services and does so with true warmth and compassion. We occasionally see former STI patients return to us when they or their partners becomes pregnant, giving us the opportunity to provide care during a pregnancy decision.

We are excited about our new initiative to expand ZoeCare's medical education efforts! Women are generally not well educated on how their own bodies function, especially regarding how their reproductive health reflects overall health. We also know that as young women become educated in body literacy, they tend to make more informed decisions about hormonal birth control and their sexual activity. The nurses at ZoeCare are becoming certified by FEMM Health (www.femmehealth.org) in order to begin offering body literacy appointments. This education includes anatomy and physiology, how hormones fluctuate, and how young women can observe their own biomarkers and track their own reproductive health. This will empower young women with the knowledge to make the best decisions regarding their sexual activity and keeps ZoeCare top of mind should they ever find themselves in an unexpected pregnancy.

www.friendsofzoe.org/medical

STAFF REFLECTIONS: LISA DOERKSEN

Abby* was out of town and, when she discovered she was pregnant, a Bozeman friend of hers provided transportation for her to come to Bozeman specifically so that she could come for an appointment at ZoeCare. During her visit, we confirmed her pregnancy and showed her an ultrasound image of her child. However, she stressed that it was not the right time to have a baby and that she was planning to pursue an abortion. Upon returning home, she made an appointment for an abortion at a local abortion clinic. However, when she was at that appointment, the "night and day difference" (as she put it) between how she was treated at the abortion clinic and the love she had experienced at ZoeCare convinced her that she was unable to follow through with the abortion. **She left the facility and determined to keep the baby.** Not a religious person by her own admission, she nonetheless used the word "demonic" in describing the atmosphere while at the abortion clinic and knew she deserved better.

Abby is out of our reach now, in a different state, learning to parent without ZoeCare's help. Sometimes the time we have with patients is fleeting, but we trust that the Lord uses the time we have to touch each of our patients and partners in the way that they need.



Jesus asks for our obedience and availability. As we are obedient and make ourselves available, he can save and transform the lives we touch. In the end, that is what we pray for in each life.

* Not her real name

Alivia and her parents



*“ZoeCare has very nice people. They are providing an enormous contribution to Bozeman. Thanks!”
– VDS” (recent patient)*

SUPPORT SERVICES

Pregnancy decisions and starting a family do not happen in a vacuum. There are multiple factors that go into every patient’s decision and success. ZoeCare’s support services fill many of the gaps that our patients and partners have in order that they and their children may flourish.



beingDAD

ZoeCare’s father mentors help new dads in tackling the responsibilities of fatherhood while working through their concerns or problems they have. Mentors provide a support system for these young men by believing in them, encouraging

them on, and training them to be loving, responsible fathers. Fatherlessness negatively affects a child’s health, education, and financial security, among many other things.

ZoeCare’s beingDAD program directly addresses these issues. In 2024, we had eight young fathers go through the program.

www.friendsofzocare.org/dads



Mom2Mom

Mom2Mom mentors meet regularly with expectant moms to support and equip them to be good mothers. There were a record 42 pregnant women who joined Mom2Mom in 2024 to be mentored.

www.friendsofzocare.org/moms



Embrace Grace

Embrace Grace has been an opportunity for ZoeCare to help equip the church to love and encourage young mothers and their partners. In

2024, ZoeCare partnered with Abundant Life Fellowship to provide Embrace Grace to several women. Young, single pregnant women receive practical help from the church body, so they don't feel so alone. Several have claimed Jesus as their Lord and Savior as a result.

www.friendsofzocare.org/eg



Meals4Moms

ZoeCare connects churches with new moms. Shortly after the birth of their child and for two weeks, church members arrive with fresh meals and

friendly faces to welcome the mom and baby home. In 2024, Gallatin Valley churches provided meals for six moms.

www.friendsofzocare.org/meals



Sweet Cheeks

With the help of our generous donors, ZoeCare provides six months of free diapers to any of our patients that need them once their child is born. In

2024, we served 39 ZoeCare babies with diapers.

www.friendsofzocare.org/diapers



Mental Health Assistance

A significant percentage of ZoeCare's patients struggle with their mental health. We offer subsidized professional counseling services

to help women and men take control of their mental health and provide a life-giving home for their children. In 2024, a half dozen patients and clients took advantage of this new program.

www.friendsofzocare.org/mentalhealth

ABORTION AFTERCARE

Coming to terms with the pain, guilt, grief, and shame of abortion is a journey that takes courage. In 2024 there were four brave women who made the decision to seek healing from this trauma through our Abortion Aftercare group. During the 12-week *Forgiven and Set Free* Bible study, we saw chains break, walls come down, and hearts heal. These women know that Jesus died for them and has washed them clean. They understand that God defines them as loved, chosen, and His, and does not define them by their sin. They also formed a new sisterhood of support that has given them a safe place to feel, grieve, and celebrate.



In the U.S., nearly one in five pregnancies end in abortion. Over 40% of those abortions happen on women who regularly attend a Christian church. The experience of abortion affects many in our churches. Most women who have gone through this trauma carry it in secret. If you or someone you know struggles with the pain of a past abortion, contact ZoeCare about joining the next *Forgiven and Set Free* group.

www.friendsofzocare.org/aftercare

SUPPORTING MOMS ONE-ON-ONE

I have been the Mom2Mom Director for almost five years. Prior to coming to work at ZoeCare, I had never worked as a social worker in a ministry before. The atmosphere of faith and trust in God in the clinic is antithetical to the secular non-profit world. I love working in this environment.

But mostly, I love to hear from the mommas who call me about how much ZoeCare has changed the trajectory of their lives. They feel and receive so much grace and love, coupled with practical items such as diapers, strollers, and car seats.

ZoeCare's mentoring programs, Mom2Mom and beingDAD, are where ongoing support happens. In 2024, the 42 mentees in Mom2Mom enjoyed the companionship, advice, and help of mentors who loved them, in addition to securing diapers, strollers, play pens, car seats, clothing, and numerous other things from *Nel and Claire's Boutique* to help them on their motherhood journey. We had 14 active mentors who were faithful to meet regularly with our young women. We want to have a pool of 25 mentors in 2025. If you're interested in working with the Holy Spirit to change the legacy of a pregnant mother, please contact me today.

It's not easy; in fact, it's often very difficult. In 2024, in addition to serving homeless women dealing with addictions, we had a mentee experience a miscarriage and one who created an adoption plan for her child (which we celebrate). The support mentors provide is critical during these life-altering events.

Through the one-on-one connection between mentor and mentee, young women can take advantage of some or all of our support services for new moms: Sweet Cheeks, ZoeCare's program providing six months of free diapers; Meals4Moms, which provides homemade meals (in 2024, we had people from six churches – Calvary Chapel, Expedition, Fellowship Bible, River Rock Vineyard, St. John Vianney Catholic, and Trinity – provide meals to our patients); ZoeCare's Mental Health Assistance, which subsidizes the cost of professional counseling; and Abortion Aftercare (see p. 9). We have baby showers, photo shoots, and there are always material supplies to give to new moms.

God enjoys showering his love on these young women, and there's nothing better than watching Him repeatedly transform their lives.

www.friendsofzocare.org/moms

Tae'sha with Lee'ann



CHARLENE SEGER

“ I learned about ZoeCare from my OB-GYN for my first ultrasound and from then on it's been a great experience! They have been so helpful with all my questions, having a mom mentor, helping with the financial part of having a child for the first time! I'm so thankful I found them! — SB

45NORTH & SAFE HARBOR: EDUCATING ALL GENERATIONS

Vital to ZoeCare's impact in the community are our education initiatives, *45North* and *Safe Harbor*. *45North* empowers youth and adults in the schools and churches to understand sexual risk avoidance, healthy relationships, human trafficking prevention, and cycle and hormone education. Our *Safe Harbor* program provides churches with resources, education, pregnancy support, and healing from abortion to equip them in reaching and caring for their vulnerable women and men.

Our 45North team expanded from three to nine presenters in 2024 (including three medical professionals). In addition to new team members Registered Medical Assistant Emily Christofferson, Registered Nurse Becca Nelson, and Medical Doctor Wendy Handley, our two ZoeCare clinic nurses, Lisa Doerksen and Sarah Ryan, were invaluable medical consultants as we expanded our curricula to reach more students. Becca joined me in becoming a nationally certified Sexual Risk Avoidance Specialist.

A few 45North highlights from 2024 include:

- Taught 391 students in three schools and one church
- Expanded from 7th and 8th grades to include 4th, 5th, 6th, and high school
- Added cycle and endocrine system education and expanded lessons on hormones

In 2025, we are working to teach in five more local schools as well as conducting puberty education events for parents and children in the community.

In 2024, *Safe Harbor* held five *ProGrace* seminars with 29 participants from nine churches. *ProGrace* educates on how to support pregnant mothers in their churches and how to talk about sensitive topics such as pregnancy and abortion. One participant commented that the training was **“very thought-provoking and helpful! The discussions allowed me to hear different perspectives in an open and loving place. I am still nervous to talk and listen to people about abortion, but now I will be more confident with the topic comes up.”** In 2025, we will expand the number of *ProGrace* seminars. Will you sign up today and help us proclaim the beauty of life in our churches?



MOLLY WILMINGTON

www.friendsofzoecare.org/45north
www.friendsofzoecare.org/safeharbor

LOOKING UPSTREAM IN 2025



ZoeCare is great. They have a very helpful and friendly staff. I would recommend them to anyone in Bozeman. Bozeman is lucky to have a place like this offering services to the community for free!” – WO (recent patient)

The future of pregnancy care is upstream. As we look to what’s next, a strategic new focus of ZoeCare’s will be body literacy and cycle awareness education both in the clinic and in the community.

The ZoeCare nurses are wrapping up their FEMM certification, at which point we will officially launch CycleWise by opening up body literacy appointments to the public. But we are already taking the message of body literacy and cycle awareness into the schools. One of ZoeCare’s new tools for education is our Body Literacy Flipchart. In December, we taught it to high school health classes and by the end of the lessons, the girls wanted to know more and the boys expressed a new respect for the complexity of the female cycle and hormones. It was a game changer for the teachers, too, who were thankful for such a useful education tool. As we progress into 2025, we will offer to teach body literacy in churches and community settings, as well.

Why is everyone excited about body literacy?

Research shows that boys, girls, men, and women respect their bodies and make healthier choices when they are informed about how their bodies work. With this knowledge, more people choose to delay sexual activity until marriage and are less likely to choose abortion if they do become pregnant. Women with this education who do experience an unplanned pregnancy are more likely to identify as mothers so are less likely to view the pregnancy as an unnatural event that must be eliminated.

By reaching them before they become pregnant, we address the issue of unplanned pregnancy and abortion upstream before a pregnancy decision needs to be made.

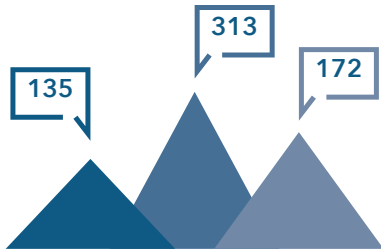
www.friendsofzocare.org/cyclewise



BECCA NELSON

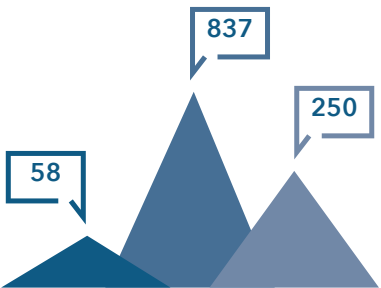


THE NUMBERS



ULTRASOUNDS # PATIENTS
PREGNANCY TESTS

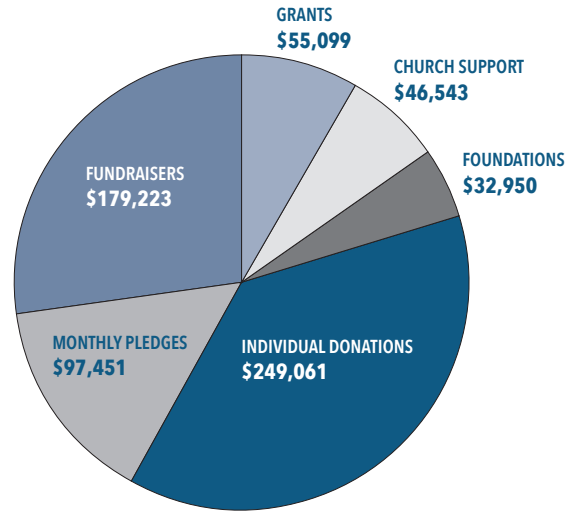
PREGNANCY



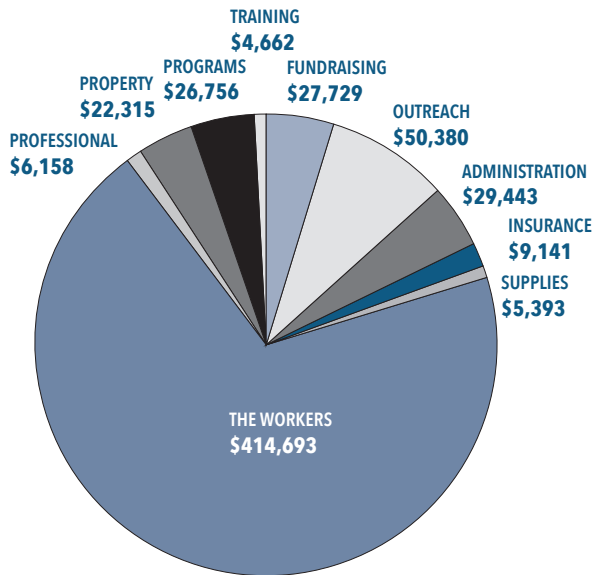
POSITIVE STI'S # PATIENTS
STI TESTS

SEXUAL HEALTH

INCOME: \$660,327



EXPENSES: \$596,670



ZOECARE STAFF

ZoeCare's staff grew in 2024 as we added several new positions and expanded others. ZoeCare doesn't sell a product or keep an inventory. **The staff is the ministry.** They serve patients, teach students, evaluate medical charts, greet young women, run programs, and love the least of these. Here are the faces of those who are taking this ministry into 2025.



GABOR BENDA, MD
MEDICAL DIRECTOR



PAM CHAPMAN, RN, CPA*
BOOKKEEPER



EMILY CHRISTOFFERSON, RMA*
CLINICAL ASSISTANT



KACEE CRANDALL**
DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR



LISA DOERKSEN, RN
NURSE MANAGER



DEANNE FISHER
OFFICE MANAGER



MARY FRIZZELL
PATIENT CARE ASSOCIATE



CHRIS GRINNELL, MA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

* New employee in 2024 ** New employee in 2025

Thank you to those who faithfully served but moved on in 2024:

**ELLIOT HEUMIER, KAM JOHNSON, KIRA KITZMAN,
BAILEY TORGERSON, & MIKE WHEELER**

(Special thanks to Mike who devoted seven years before retiring in December)



MIKE WHEELER
FATHERS INITIATIVE DIRECTOR



TAYLOR HANDLEY, MD
RADIOLOGIST



WENDY HANDLEY, MD
STI CLINIC DIRECTOR



VICTORIA HENRIQUEZ*
MARKETING COORDINATOR



TERI HOYT
CLINICAL ASSISTANT



ALEX LEIGHTON, M.DIV**
FATHERS INITIATIVE DIRECTOR



JANE MAGGARD
SPANISH INTERPRETER



BECCA NELSON, RN, SRAS*
EDUCATION COORDINATOR



WENDI ROWLES
PATIENT SUPPORT SPECIALIST



SARAH RYAN, RN
NURSE



CHAR SEGER, MSW
MOM2MOM DIRECTOR



MIKE STYREN
PARTNER ADVOCATE



MOLLY WILMINGTON, SRAS
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT DIRECTOR



SHERI WINKLER
PATIENT CARE ASSOCIATE

“ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

– John 10:10



**Zoe
Care**

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