



## 2 Babies, 1 Thursday, A Comparison

Two babies were born one Thursday. As one woman gave birth, her husband was by her side. As the second woman prepared for the birth of her third child, she was thankful to have a new friend care for her toddler. She was dropped off at the hospital. This pregnant mom had a counselor waiting for her in the family waiting room.

*The second woman had an unplanned pregnancy. While she chose life for her baby, she knew she could not raise another child. She found help at a pregnancy center who connected her with CFS.*

*Jerry worked with her for months. He listened as she described the type of family she wanted. This Birth Mother chose a family from the CFS profile. Jerry set up a meeting for her to spend time with the couple. She was pleased with her choice of family. Plans were made for the baby to be placed with the family at the hospital.*

At the hospital, each of the mothers had family visitors during their recovery. Two days passed after the birth of the babies. The moms and their newborns were ready to leave the hospital.

The first woman held her newborn in her arms as she left the hospital. Her husband drove her home. As the second mother prepared to leave her hospital room, she gathered her items together. She held her newborn close. She was aware the time had come to place her child with the family she had chosen. This Birth Mother shared:

***“I trust them. I believe this is the right thing to do.”***

The Birth Mother completed the documents necessary and spent time with her baby.

Time passed in the hospital room, but it would never be enough. The Birth Mother opened her door and asked for the adoptive family of her daughter. They happily received the newborn into their family, and realized this joy came at a great cost. The new parents shared:

***“That is one of the most selfless things anyone can do. “***

***“I want people to see her (her child's Birth Mother) as I see her.”***

*Donna*



Addison is Super Cute as she reviews her photographer!

This is very different than what I thought it would be.

I've heard stories of adoption agencies coming in and taking the babies,  
but you all took time with me.

A CFS Birth Mother



Saturday, September 9th  
Game Day Parking Fundraiser Begins



Wednesday, November 1st  
Adoption Awareness Month Begins



Every Day  
Pray for CFS Birth Moms



Isabella was not aware she was posing for a photo when her grandmother captured this moment

## RECENT PLACEMENT



MAY 7, 2017

**Chris and Kimberly** welcomed a daughter as their second child. **Isabella Quinn** has a big brother very pleased with her (**Christopher**).

Nobody knows me like my husband and my home study provider.

A CFS Mom-to-Be

## RECENT FINALIZATIONS



JUNE 26, 2017

**Aislyn Violet** officially received her last name on June 26, 2017. Shown in the court chambers are (clockwise from left) her mom and dad, **Amber and Julio**, Attorney Mitch Albaugh, Judge Donna Kiem, Court Attorney Katherine Mockler and Debbie Callens (with cell phone in hand).

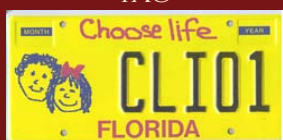


JULY 31, 2017

**Addison Lynn** was the first CFS baby to meet Judge Groeb. Addison was joined at court by her mom and dad, **Jennifer and Andy**, brother **Andrew**, her grandma, aunt, cousins and friends!

## EASY WAYS TO BE PART OF THE MINISTRY OF CHRISTIAN FAMILY SERVICES:

YOUR FLORIDA TAG



CORPORATE GIFT MATCHING THROUGH YOUR WORK PLACE.

DIRECTED DONATIONS THROUGH THE

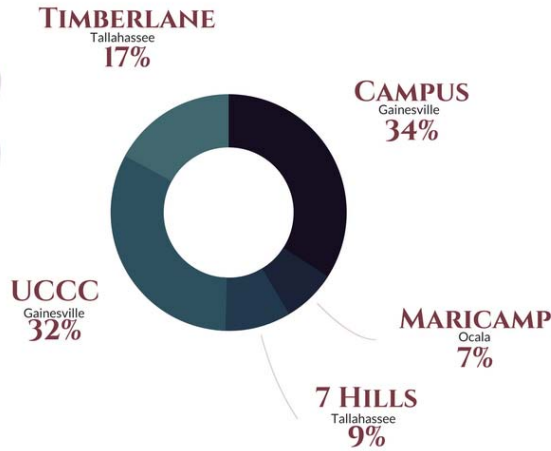


BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR

ONLINE SHOPPING



Thank you to five Florida Churches of Christ for hosting a Baby Bottle Boomerang Campaign. Donations for 2017 are still being counted. So far, \$13,000 has been raised to assist CFS to reach women dealing with an unplanned pregnancy.



## My Story...My Journey....

### My Christ through it all

Here I am. Vulnerable and at risk for judgment... The one people see as strong, independent, joyful, confident, secure, full of energy, full of love, a servant's heart to the core

**...who also had an abortion at age 19**

**...who picked herself back up the following day, like nothing happened.**

**After all I had to hurry and get back to college for a chemistry test.**

I never really knew I was in such **bondage of pride, shame, and guilt** until I became closer to Christ. I kept growing, seeking to know Him more.

**But there was this key I held on to so tight. A place I never wanted to open again.**

**Wow, how creative Satan can be.**

The "event," I called it, was a whirlwind. I called my parents in tears, confessed what I had discovered and within 24 hrs I was picked up from school, driven home and procedure completed.

Although I don't remember much (which at times I confess is a blessing), I do remember my sisters trying to fight against my parents wishes. My parents were doing what they felt was best for their daughter.

**There have been many people through the years that have contributed to my healing... my journey. I can truly say I have now tasted a freedom I never knew existed- one I never knew I needed.**

I began to attend a Bible study and began reading more of God's Word than I ever had. One group member shared her journey, her teenage pregnancy and having her baby. After many months with this group, I wanted to share my story.

But the enemy whispered "you sure you want to share?....she, at least, had her baby".

*My Story continued on next page...*



HEARD 'ROUND THE CFS OFFICE!

"You've got friends, You've got friends.

You're not gonna be by yourself."

*Debbie reassures a Birth Mother that she will be by her side during her upcoming induced labor and stay in the hospital.*



Amber and Julio take a moment for a photo of **Violet** with **Attorney Mitchell Albaugh**, who represents CFS families.

## WANT TO SUPPORT A LOCAL MINISTRY? GAME DAY PARKING

BENEFITING CHRISTIAN FAMILY SERVICES

**WHERE?** Campus Church of Christ  
SW 2nd Ave, Gainesville FL  
Across from UF golf course

**WHEN?** All UF home games

**HOW?** Season pass \$175 OR  
\$20 per game

**WHO?** Fans of either team playing

Follow our Facebook page  
**GAME DAY PARKING**  
for information and updates  
regarding parking.

### SEASON PASSES \$175

Reserved parking guaranteed until kickoff

### \$20 PER GAME

First-come, first-served

To reserve your season pass, send your  
\$175 payment to

CHRISTIAN FAMILY SERVICES  
2720 SW 2nd Ave  
Gainesville, FL 32607

Notate "Gator Parking" on the memo line  
of your check. To learn more about the  
ministry of Christian Family Services visit  
[www.ChristianFamilyServices.com](http://www.ChristianFamilyServices.com)  
or email [info@cfsfl.org](mailto:info@cfsfl.org)

**My Story...My Journey...  
My Christ through it all, Continued...**

**Say it.**

**Confess it.**

I was in my bathroom the first time I said it out loud:

***"I had an abortion, please forgive me God"***

Within milli-seconds I heard:

***"I know..... I love you.....I forgive you"***

I said it again and again and he repeated,

***"I love you. I forgive you"***

Then came a retreat when God would actually kiss the wound I so greatly covered. Within the first 30 minutes of the retreat, the topic was *Wounds of the womb*: miscarriage, infertility, and yep.... abortion.

I let a handful of people into my dark secret and with each sharing I felt Satan losing his grip into me. Thank you Jesus for forgiving me. I kept praying:

***"God, continue to heal me quietly, privately"***

I pleaded with my God and then with my husband. Why won't he just heal it fully already?

*My husband reminded me that it's not just about me, that I may need to help another find healing through Christ.*

I now know that a journey is just that...a journey. I'm not afraid (so much) of what people think anymore.

I have sinned, but through his blood on that cross I am forgiven and I am free. I am learning to fully receive his grace, his mercy and it continues to pour over me with each mention of my story.

So now my ministry to others begins....

***I want to tell any woman dealing with a secret sin you have locked away that God has seen your movie and he loves you.***

**He really loves you.**

Satan works the most in your secrets- confess it out loud and then to someone else.

God just doesn't want to save you,  
He wants to heal you.



A Jail Social Worker contacted CFS to give an inmate options for her pregnancy. Jerry recently emailed an update to the Social Worker:

**Jerry Shared:** *CFS was contacted by the pregnancy center regarding the Birth Mother you mentioned to me. Long story short, we began working with her; she chose a family; and delivered a healthy baby girl this past Friday. Mom signed Consents and baby placed on Sunday. Thank you for your attempt to help her get in touch with us while she was still there.*

**Response from the Jail Social Worker:** *Thank you, Jerry, for your thoughtfulness in letting me know about this Birth Mother! How very kind of you! I rejoice along with you at God's faithfulness.*

*Blessings.*



Photo by [Alexis Brown](#) on [Unsplash](#)

## FIRST TIME ADVERTISEMENT

**From the agency of the adoptive family who experienced a stillborn last fall, Jerry received the following updates:**

**Agency:** *Thanks Jerry, we pray for their healing every week. And you mean alot to them. Thanks for all you did for them during their grief. They said they couldn't have made it without you with them. And that you are amazing. : )*

**Response from Jerry:** *Thanks so much on the update of Michael & Becky. They have continued on my heart as I prayed for God's healing and the Spirit giving them the peace & courage to try again!*

**(Later) Agency Conatacted Jerry, again with an update:** *Hi Jerry and Debbie,*

*I wanted to let you know the adoptive couple came in to visit me yesterday afternoon. They wanted me to tell you hi and thanks again for all you did for them and the Birth Mother. They could not say enough great things about you. They have decided to go back on our active list and I pray for a baby born and birthparent already signed for them. They are going to get our most TLC.*

*Take care.*

*Hope to work with you again soon.*



Jerry poses beside the new CFS directional sign displayed in the Oaks Mall in Gainesville, FL. The ad is also featured in Social Media posts to inform women of their pregnancy options.

## EMBRO ADOPTION IS A VIABLE CHOICE

I was reading the paper last week, pausing to complete the crossword puzzle, when my eyes decided to read some of the comics. Imagine my surprise when I read this one.

Each day we both receive calls from folks who find themselves perplexed about their inability to achieve pregnancy.

Embryo adoption is not surrogacy. The law of our land declares the woman who gives birth to a child is legally that child's mother and her name is placed on the birth certificate. The man to whom she is married is placed on there as the legal father. Done.

Each state has unique laws which must be followed if a surrogate/gestational carrier is used. And it's expensive, as is purchasing 'donor' eggs. If your patient is able to carry, she is qualified to pursue embryo adoption.



Many patients with remaining embryos are choosing to donate them for reproduction and there are embryos available now. Give your patients each option and every hope.

**Kimberly Tyson**  
Marketing and Program Director  
Embryo Adoption Awareness Center

**Memorial or Honor Gifts | One Time Gifts | Hearts for Hope\***

The enclosed gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is sent in Memory or Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Occasion \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Notify:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
:

Name

Address

City, State, Zip

Relationship to the deceased or person being honored

**Given By:**

Name

Address

City, State, Zip

\*Hearts for Hope donors commit to giving \$84 each month for a year. Please consider monthly giving

Two church members brought a CFS Birth Mother to worship yesterday and introduced her to many people. They so enjoyed assisting her and then treated her to lunch out.

It was a joy to host her, we are praying for a healthy birth for both and that God will be glorified though the Adoptive parents! Blessings to you, Jerry, & CFS!

~Jeff Robison of Maricamp Road Church of Christ



The parent's of Alan (second from left) shared this photo of his theatre troupe. Born in 2004, Alan was diagnosed as legally blind at about 3 months of age.

As *Dr. Seuss* would say,

"Always remember, you are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, smarter than you think, and twice as beautiful as you've ever imagined."



**Staff**

Jerry D.Callens, Exec. Dir. & Case Worker  
Debbie Callens, Case Worker  
Victoria Allbritton, PR, Social Media

Donna L. Brooker, Ministry Assistant  
Becky Barclift, Bookkeeper  
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**Christian Family Services • A Christian Alternative 2720 S.W. 2nd Ave • Gainesville, FL 32607 • 352.378.6202**

Toll-free 800-226-2367 Fax: 352-378-6205 Email: info@cfsfl.org  
www.ChristianFamilyServices.com