

CORE AREAS FOR ASSESSMENT

Churches play a crucial role in defending life and serving those facing unplanned pregnancies. Partnering with a local pregnancy center can multiply this impact, but it requires careful evaluation to ensure alignment with biblical convictions and standards of excellence. **This guide provides a framework for churches to thoroughly assess potential pregnancy center partnerships.**

01 Pro-Life Convictions & Sanctity of Life

Start by evaluating the center's stance on the sanctity of life:

- Does it affirm life from conception to natural death?
- Does it refuse to refer for or recommend abortions, abortifacients, or contraceptives with abortive mechanisms?
- Is there a consistent ethic of life and dignity, including how they speak about the unborn, the vulnerable, and the family?

Review their mission statement, client materials, and intake processes to ensure unwavering commitment to life.

02 Statement of Faith & Theological Alignment

A gospel-centered partnership requires shared core beliefs:

- Does the center have a clear Statement of Faith?
- Are staff and volunteers expected to affirm and abide by it?
- Does the center reflect biblical truth in its approach to sin, salvation, grace, and discipleship?

03 Handling of the Gospel

How the gospel is integrated into client care matters deeply:

- Is the gospel clearly presented, not just assumed?
- Do staff offer prayer, Scripture, and Christ-centered hope in client interactions?
- Are there opportunities for spiritual conversations in parenting classes, post-abortion healing, or mentoring programs?

Seek a center that offers compassionate, consistent gospel witness, not just services.

04 Medical Oversight & Staff Credentials

Medical services must be professionally sound and legally compliant:

- Is there a licensed medical director (typically an M.D. or D.O. specializing in obstetrics) overseeing all medical operations?
- Are ultrasounds performed by credentialed nurses or sonographers with appropriate training?
- Are there licensed social workers, counselors, or trauma-informed staff involved in client care?

05 Board Governance & Accountability

Good governance provides protection and sustainability:

- Is the board active, mission-aligned, and accountable?
- How are board members selected, trained, and held responsible?
- Do they uphold biblical standards of integrity and accountability?

Ask to review bylaws or governance policies. A weak or disengaged board can undermine an otherwise strong ministry.

06 Financial Stewardship & Transparency

A pregnancy center should model excellent stewardship:

- Are financial statements (including IRS Form 990s or annual reports) available and transparent?
- What percentage of funds goes to programming vs. administration?
- Is there a clear donor policy and responsible fundraising strategy?

Churches must ensure that their giving is used wisely and for Kingdom purposes.

07 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) & Program Outcomes

Measurable fruit matters—so do honest metrics:

- What KPIs does the center use (e.g., clients served, ultrasounds performed, decisions for life)?
- Do they track gospel presentations, salvations, and client spiritual engagement?
- How do they evaluate program effectiveness, not just activity?

Impact should be evaluated qualitatively and quantitatively, with humility and transparency.

08 Client Follow-Up & Discipleship Opportunities

A single visit should lead to ongoing care and relationship:

- Is there structured follow-up with clients—calls, texts, classes, mentoring?
- Do they offer long-term support like parenting classes, life skills training, or post-abortive healing?
- Are they willing to connect clients to local churches for discipleship and community?

The goal should be not just saving a life, but nurturing a soul.

09 Opportunities for Church Involvement

An ideal partnership is mutual and mission-driven:

- Can your church host events like baby showers, client celebrations, or fundraising banquets?
- Are there chances to volunteer?
- Will the center refer clients to your church for discipleship and pastoral care?
- Can your pastors help with spiritual guidance, counseling, or staff devotionals?

A thriving partnership allows the church to be actively involved, not passively funding.

10 Reputation & Community Relationships

Consider how the center is viewed by others:

- Are they trusted by local pastors, leaders, and churches?
- Do other ministries and social service providers respect and collaborate with them?
- Have they avoided theological compromise, scandal, or mission drift?

Churches should seek centers with a solid, Christ-honoring reputation both internally and publicly.

Vetting a pregnancy center is not a mere formality—it's a matter of eternal significance. The church must ensure that the ministry it partners with reflects Christ's truth, love, and excellence in every area: doctrine, governance, care, and community.

By asking the right questions, reviewing documents, and pursuing ongoing relationship, churches can engage in meaningful, gospel-centered partnerships that save lives and transform hearts for the glory of God.