

# Adoption agency expanding into Eastern Oregon

By **JADE McDOWELL**  
Staff Writer

An adoption agency is expanding into Eastern Oregon.

A New Beginning Pregnancy Services and Adoption Agency, based in Boise, is now licensed to provide services in Oregon and counselors are willing to travel as far east as Umatilla County to meet with women facing unplanned pregnancies and families looking to adopt.

"We are working on a plan to open some office space in Eastern Oregon, probably in the next 12-18 months," marketing director Tina Kierce said.

She said the organization works with women experiencing "crisis pregnancies" to provide support and educate them on

their options.

"Counselors will help those in a crisis pregnancy review their options and make a plan in a comfortable, non-judgmental and caring environment," according to a news release.

Those services are "always free and confidential and available 24/7." The agency can be reached via crisis hotline at 208-985-5617 and counselors will travel to follow up with the callers in person.

A New Beginning also provides adoption services to help women place their baby for adoption, help families adopt children from the United States, help facilitate international adoptions and help find permanent adoptive homes for foster children who

will not return to their biological parents.

Kierce said the agency has already received two referrals for women in Oregon who were considering adoption.

"We already did travel (to Oregon) multiple times to make sure mom and baby were safe," she said.

Women in Umatilla County who have struggled with an unplanned pregnancy have been served by Pregnancy Care Services, with offices in Hermiston and Pendleton, to discuss their options.

Hermiston director Debbie Cissna said Pregnancy Care Services has worked with Bethany Christian, an international adoption agency, in the past when women decide to choose adoption over abortion or

raising the child.

She said the nonprofit would welcome an opportunity to work with A New Beginning and it "would be great to have a local option for our clients who choose adoption."

Kierce said forming partnerships with already-established local nonprofits like Pregnancy Care Services will be "absolutely key" in working with local women and girls.

More information about A New Beginning Pregnancy Services and Adoption Agency can be found online at [adoptanewbeginning.org](http://adoptanewbeginning.org).

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PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY KAREN KREIN

The 15th annual Mush Memorial, a pool tournament held at Hermiston Tavern, raised more than \$15,000 for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

## Pool tourney pockets \$15K for juvenile diabetes

Hermiston Herald

A pool tournament held in memory of Michelle "Mush" Monaghan recently raised \$15,133 for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

The Mush Memorial raises money to help fight the disease that cut Monaghan's life short in 2002. It's the 15th year Hermiston Tavern has hosted the event.

"You see, we had a friend, a happy-go-lucky young lady that passed away due to juvenile diabetes," said Karen Krein. "She was very involved in the pool leagues and loved to play the game."

Krein and others appreciate the efforts of people

fighting the disease that took their friend. Each year, the tournament racks up additional support through donated raffle items and increased attendance.

Formerly referred to as juvenile diabetes or insulin-dependent diabetes, Type 1 diabetes is an autoimmune disease that can afflict both children and adults suddenly. According to the JDRF, it's not related to diet or lifestyle. At present, there is no cure.

For more about the fundraising efforts at Hermiston Tavern, call 541-567-3971. To learn more about the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, visit [www.jdrf.org/oregon](http://www.jdrf.org/oregon).

### IN BRIEF

#### Grief center hosts fundraiser, information event

The public is invited to a kick-off fundraiser for an Eastern Oregon grief program.

People can learn more about Cason's Place: Grief Support for Children and Families of Eastern Oregon, as well as make donations. The event is Friday from 5:30-7 p.m. at Oregon Grain Growers Distillery, 511 S.E. Court St., Pendleton.

The program is named in memory of Cason Terjeson, who died in an Eastern Oregon farming accident in 2007. His parents, Matt Terjeson and Jan Peterson-Terjeson, and sister, Lydia, gained help through the Dougy Center in Portland. The Terjesons and others have met regularly in Hermiston and Pendleton to make plans to create a similar facility in Umatilla County.

For more information,

contact 503-720-1620 or [matt.loss12@gmail.com](mailto:matt.loss12@gmail.com).

#### Curvy fashion show includes Hermiston women

A mother and daughter from Hermiston are featured during a fashion show at a plus-size clothing event.

Described as the largest plus-size consignment event in North America, Curvy Chic Closet offers women an opportunity to expand their wardrobe without taking a major hit on their wallets.

Jennifer Wall and Lillie Wall will take the runway during the event's fashion show Saturday, April 29, from 7-8 p.m. at 12505 N.W. Cornell Road, Portland. There is no admission charge.

People can purchase or trade gently-used clothing while selecting from a massive collection of outfits and accessories. The Curvy Chic Closet kicks off with a spe-

cial pre-sale Thursday, April 27 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Pre-sale admission is three non-food donations (such as toilet paper, menstrual hygiene products, shampoo and soap) or \$5. Donations will benefit PERIOD, a nonprofit organization that distributes hygiene product care packages to women in need.

Curvy Chic Closet is open April 27-30. There is no admission charge for regular hours. For more information, including hours, contact 503-848-9191, [becky@curvychiccloset.com](mailto:becky@curvychiccloset.com) or visit [www.curvychiccloset.com](http://www.curvychiccloset.com).

#### Domestic Violence Services holds awareness event

As part of Sexual Awareness Month, Domestic Violence Services is hosting a fundraising event.

Walk a Mile "In Her Shoes" provides participants an opportunity to learn the path survivors of

domestic violence and sexual assault may take. The event is Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon at Riverfront Park, 302 SW 23rd St., Hermiston. Refreshments are provided. A fundraising walk begins at 9:30 a.m. The registration fee is \$15 per person.

In addition, T-shirts will be available for purchase. Also, raffle tickets are \$1 each, six for \$5 or an arm's length for \$10.

Serving the area since 1977, Domestic Violence Services has a 24-hour crisis line. Its services include an emergency shelter for women and children, safety planning, peer support, community resource information, emergency transportation, emergency medical help, prevention education and referrals for temporary shelter for men.

For more information, call 541-276-3322, 541-567-0424 or visit [www.dvs-or.org](http://www.dvs-or.org).

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