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of a baby.
who suffer the loss
to parent families
bereavement support
and providing
meeting funeral needs
unconditional love by
reflects Christ's
a specialized mortuary,
AgapéCare Cradle,

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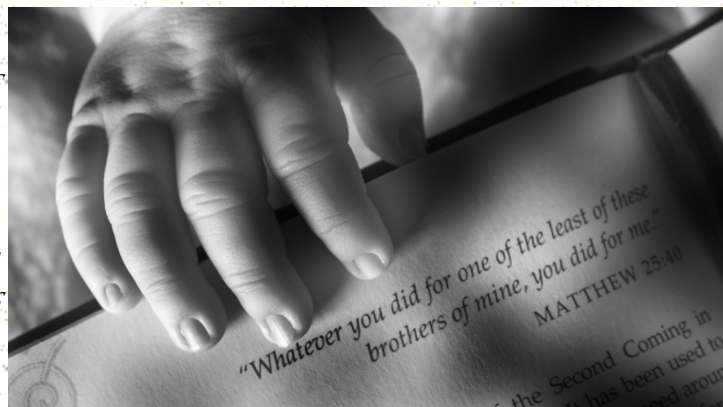
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AgapéCare Cradle



Life After Loss

Welcome Baby Addison!

By Becky Casey

AgapéCare Cradle
Bringing Hope to the Brokenhearted

My husband Joey and I found out we were pregnant with our daughter Addison on March 30th, 2010,



this pregnancy and I would lose Addison like I lost our precious boys. I knew I couldn't spend the next nine months living like that, so although I worried, I also let my heart and my mind bond with our daughter. Joey and I decorated Addison's room, bought necessities and began to get excited about our upcoming arrival. Chance and Lane were always on my mind though, and I would find myself feeling extremely guilty when I would start to get excited about Addison. This was a struggle I dealt with throughout the pregnancy. I never wanted

After what seemed like an eternity, on November 30th at 4:42 p.m. our baby girl finally arrived. Addison Jo Casey weighed a healthy eight pounds three ounces and measured 19 1/2 inches long. Joey and I looked at our baby girl and then at each other and cried tears of joy. When we left the hospital with Addison, we knew we had one very important stop to make on our way home. We stopped at the cemetery to remember again and to introduce Addison to her big brothers!

Thanks to AgapéCare Cradle, when Addison gets a little older, we will actually be able to show her pictures of her brothers.

I never wanted my angels, Chance and Lane, to feel like I was replacing them with Addison.

just a little over ten months after we lost our precious twin boys, Chance and Lane in May of 2009. Our other children Camryn, JJ, and Rylee were in preschool and kindergarten then. Having lost the twins, I knew this pregnancy would not be anything like my previous pregnancies.

Seeing the positive pregnancy test, a flood of emotions came over me; excitement, nervousness, fear, happiness, guilt and sadness all at the same time. I felt the instant love a mother feels for her unborn baby, but had a hard time feeling that special connection too. I lived in fear; worrying constantly that something would go wrong with

my angels, Chance and Lane, to feel like I was replacing them with Addison. After many visits to the cemetery to talk to my boys, the guilty feelings finally began to lessen as I started to realize that Addison will always have her two big brothers watching over her. Even though Chance and Lane are not here on Earth with me, they will always be in my heart and on my mind, and I love them just the same as I love my other children.



Thanks to AgapéCare Cradle, when Addison gets a little older, we will actually be able to show her pictures of her brothers and other memories we've been given from AgapéCare that have been such a blessing in our lives.

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We Sure Could Use ...

- ❖ Lightweight sturdy utility cart
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A SEASON of REMEMBRANCE Mother's Day ~ Father's Day ~ Memorial Day



On Memorial Day churches and funeral homes offer comfort and support to families honoring our fallen heroes. Who, however, comforts and affirms parents who have suffered loss of a baby family member on Mother's Day or Father's Day? These special days are for those parents too; unfortunately they are often forgotten and left to remember alone.

Each year in Kansas about 500 children are stillborn or do not survive to celebrate a first birthday. Reasons why include birth defects, prematurity, low birth weight, sudden infant death syndrome, pregnancy complications and accidents. (Source: <http://www.kdheks.gov>)

This year AgapéCare Cradle published a **special ad on Mother's Day** in the Wichita Eagle to recognize moms who lost babies before birth or as infants. Parents whose

baby died before the baby was born or during the time it was an infant, should not have to grieve in isolation on a day when everyone openly honors mothers and fathers of living children.

On **Father's Day** be an encourager to a father whose son or daughters' brief life and precious memory forever made him a **Dad!**

SERVING OUR FAMILIES

Some of the technical and professional services we offer our families so they can have complete services are listed opposite.

More than 200 volunteers have served at AgapéCare Cradle. Family services and day to day tasks are carried out by one full time and two part time staff working closely with about 35 regular and intermittent volunteers. Cindy Kennedy recently joined our staff working part time in the office. Welcome Cindy!

Families served by AgapéCare receive a statement of goods and services (*required by Federal law*) and are asked to pay something if they can. We do not send families a bill.

AgapéCare is blessed to minister to families by honoring the important life and precious memory of each baby regardless of the family's ability to pay.



AN UNCOMMON . . . Common Ground Ministers ~ Funeral Directors ~ Health Professionals ~ Attorneys

Our congregation supports AgapéCare Cradle wholeheartedly. Why would anyone take on such a difficult ministry? The name **AgapéCare Cradle**, communicates it all. "Agape" is the sacrificial love taught by Christ. "Care" is the compassionate 'hands on' service rendered to those in need. "Cradle" becomes the resting place for Christ's beloved children. Why do they do it? For love. Nothing more. Just for the love of God.

Dr. Chuck Terrill, Pastor

As members of the funeral profession, we should feel privileged to be called upon to meet the unique needs of the mourning. When a child or infant dies, it is important to understand that components (*of the funeral*) may need to be modified. It has been my experience that the staff of AgapéCare Cradle understand exactly what those are.

Tytus Cornejo, Funeral Director

As health professionals, we feel a profound sense of failure and sadness when a baby dies. By supporting this organization, we can assist in the growth of this community resource which helps these families through a very difficult time.

Sue Laudert, MD

Since it's inception I've had the privilege **as an attorney** to represent AgapéCare Cradle, Inc., the first non-profit licensed funeral home in Kansas with the unique mission of providing funerals for families who have suffered the loss of a baby. Unfortunately, many have no financial means for funeral arrangements for their stillborn or newborn child. AgapéCare provides whatever funeral services will best help the family honor their baby and also creates and provides keepsakes for the family, all without regard to ability to pay.

Rick Bailey, Attorney at Law

SPECIAL SERVANTS ~ Special Services

Some of our Volunteers, Staff and Advocates !

Maria, Brent, Rick, Steve, Tanya, Kelly, Brandi, Cindy, Ruth, Val, Beth, Sandy, Martha, Shannon, Germaine, Willow, Denise, Kay, Mishael, Janetta, Nancy, Cheri, Kelsea, Sarah, Wanda, Darrah, Liz, Marilyn, Lorraine, Ian, Betty, Nate, Grant, Mary, Kirby, Tom, Jelene, Crystal, Judith, Janet, Virginia, Ray, Jackie, Jeannie, Diane, Joy and YOU!

Some of the Things We Do !

Photography **Printing** **Crafts** Imprint tiles, moldings, impressions **Transportation** **Errands** **Embalm / cremation** Sew **Officiate funeral** **Meet with family / make funeral arrangement** **Attendant: Visitation / funeral / committal services** **Visitation refreshments** Assist with special requests **Loan Vehicle** Support family involvement during services (*dress, bundle, bathe, hold baby, take pictures with siblings, assist sibling participation in services, etc...*) **Coordinate other service providers/ suppliers / special needs (minister, cemetery, florist, musician, church, police chaplain / liaison, out of area family)** **Process paperwork (death / stillbirth certificate, disclosures, consents, authorizations, notifications etc...)** **resupply restock caskets, outer burial containers, urns, misc. funeral supplies / business, office supplies** **Maintain / fix equipment (printers, copier, computers, etc...)** **Cleaning / housekeeping / wash windows / shampoo carpet** Wash . . . Dry . . . fold put away laundry / **empty trash** **Make supportive contact with families (one year.)** **Data entry, online & internet searches / information management** **Write grants** **Assemble Mailings** **Filing / Bookkeeping** **Communications / referral - other community services** **Community education / presentation / booths (churches / groups / professionals)** . . . **and more !**