



MAKING A DIFFERENCE



FOCUS ON: THE IWS WOMEN'S CLINIC



Amy Wasserman, Nurse Midwife and Edith Santana, St. Marys Midwife Liaison

THE IWS WOMEN'S CLINIC offers state-of-the-art medical care focused on the needs of women. Services include Well Woman Care, Prenatal Care, Family Planning, STI Screening and free pregnancy tests. In addition, our providers treat hypertension, diabetes and general health complaints such as the flu.

Denise Gonzalez, IWS Director of Clinical Operations, believes that

one of the best things about IWS is "the quality of care the providers give to each patient." Scheduling an appointment is quick and easy. Our clinic is based on the concept of a "healthcare home," where local families can access multiple services in a professional, culturally friendly environment. A woman can come to the clinic for a free pregnancy test, receive quality prenatal care, deliver her baby with our midwives at our

partnering hospitals, take her child to our pediatric providers for primary medical services, and continue to see a provider in clinic for her Well Woman care. In addition, our multi-service clinic offers dental, optometry and behavioral health services for the entire family.

Our approach to women's health illustrates what the IWS model is about. "We care for women at all stages of life," explains Jennifer Morrison, IWS Nurse Practitioner & Manager. Many women prefer midwife delivery because of the attention and care midwives offer during labor and delivery. Our prenatal clinic partners with midwives and practitioners from Swedish Covenant Hospital and Presence Saints Mary & Elizabeth Medical Center/UIC to prepare expectant moms for delivery. Midwives and prenatal staff educate the patients on childbirth, breast feeding, nutrition and well-baby care.

Many women feel vulnerable during pregnancy. Some lack a positive support system to help them during the

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Jennifer Morrison

"We care for women at all stages of life,"

— Jennifer Morrison,
IWS Nurse Practitioner & Manager



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“Our patients feel comfortable here.”

— Amy Wasserman, Nurse Midwife

challenging transition to motherhood. IWS medical and behavioral health providers are bilingual and bicultural; they create a comfortable clinical environment where women feel at ease to discuss their concerns. Prenatal specialists connect expectant mothers with resources and community partners that provide important support services such as “doulas.” A doula provides physical, emotional and informational support to the mother starting early in pregnancy; she acts as a mentor and coach, and can offer vital support to young mothers.



Eva Hernandez, Medical Assistant (left), Jennifer Morrison, Nurse Manager and Isela Herrera, Medical Assistant

In the case of teen moms, IWS staff work diligently to enroll these young women in educational programs that provide childcare while assisting them to complete their high school diplomas.

IWS provides a continuum of quality care to generations of local families in need. “The patients at IWS are fabulous!” says midwife Amy Wasserman, “They are very loyal to IWS. They return for their post-partum care and then stay here.” The IWS model incorporates best practices in prenatal care that

“The patients at IWS are fabulous!”

— Amy Wasserman, Nurse Midwife

are customized to the needs of each mother and her family. In addition, new mothers have access to excellent pediatric care, well-woman care, and post-partum counseling. “Our patients feel comfortable here,” Amy continues. “They know that they will not be judged and they are embraced by the staff.”

DID you KNOW ...

- Women’s hearts beat faster than men’s.
- 1 in 3 women die of heart disease and stroke.
- 4% of women in the United States are pregnant right now.
- Last year, IWS provided 2,517 well-woman care visits.
- Osteoporosis is largely a preventable disease.
- Last year, patients made 4,575 visits to the midwife.
- All women over the age of 18 should have a “Well Woman” exam annually.

**A Publication of
The Infant Welfare Society of Chicago**

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MAKING A DIFFERENCE

LEADING THE WAY

PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

Dear Friends:

I was delighted to welcome nearly 100 Board and Auxiliary members, partner organizations, community members and supporters to this year's 104th Annual Meeting, themed "Let's CHAT about IWS". It was a wonderful way to celebrate the people who make IWS such a special place — like you!

Each year, it's an honor to announce the Champions for Children Award and this year was no exception. The Lloyd A. Fry Foundation has been an IWS partner for 25 years and we were thrilled to thank them for their dedication and support of our programs.

We also had the chance to "chat" about CHAT! During the next 4-6 months, the first floor of the clinic will be remodeled to create the Child-Centered Health and Advanced Therapies (CHAT) space. This space will include new offices for speech & occupational therapy, a sensory room, a large room for groups and additional waiting and common areas. I'm so grateful to everyone who has joined me in supporting this very important project. We will share more information on these developments as we move forward, but please reach out to us at any time if you'd like to get involved.

Please take a moment to sign up for our monthly email newsletter. It provides quick updates and information in an easy-to-read format. You can sign up on the home page at infantwelfare.org. We don't want you to miss any exciting news in the months to come!

While you're online, you can also check out the Fiscal Year 14 Annual Report, available on our Publications page. If you would like a printed copy, please call 773.782.5040.

Thank you for all of the ways that you support the health and well-being of women and children!

Best wishes,

Lynda K. Given

President, Board of Directors

P.S. If you haven't seen the Clinic in a while, please call 773.782.5040 to plan a visit. And bring a friend!



Champions for Children awardee, Lloyd A. Fry Foundation, represented by Unmi Song, President, and Soo Na, Senior Program Officer

OUR MISSION is to provide a breadth of quality primary health care services in a single medical facility to medically underserved women and children, enabling them to lead productive and healthy lives.



NICE

CONNECTING WITH OUR COMMUNITY

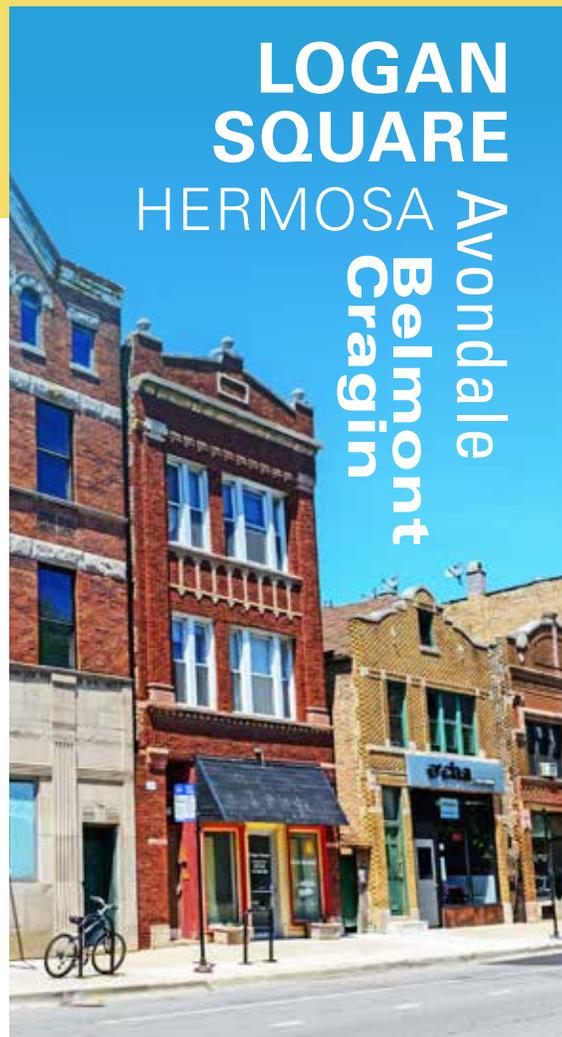
In May of 2014, IWS held a 1st time event, spearheaded by the Chicago Community Trust, called "On the Table." We invited community leaders for dinner and discussion on the pressing issues facing our community. The purpose was to get people talking about issues and to create partnerships & relationships that would support our changing communities.

During that meeting, IWS and the participants in the event, pledged to create a "Leadership Circle" to continue the dialogue.

One of the Leadership Circle's goals is to communicate and share information, to advocate for our communities and to create effective collaborations. We believe that this is best way for us to serve the IWS constituencies.

In addition, everyone who came to our Fall Leadership Breakfast was invited to join as well. We're looking forward to another dynamic and transformative discussion on May 12, 2015. RSVP to Beadlec@infantwelfare.org

TOGETHER, WE ARE STRONGER THAN ONE!



Profile: MARION GUYTON

MARION GUYTON, ARMOUR HERITAGE LEAGUE MEMBER, SHARES HER STORIES ABOUT IWS

THE ARMOUR HERITAGE LEAGUE

of the

INFANT WELFARE SOCIETY OF CHICAGO

My involvement with Infant Welfare started because I had a friend who was a member. I remember being so impressed that IWS helps people who couldn't make ends meet and couldn't afford health insurance. Without services like Infant Welfare, they would be apt to fall through the cracks.

I was a part of the Wilmette Auxiliary Chapter and we planned so many wonderful events to raise money. One year, I volunteered for the Lake Forest Chapter's Showhouse event as well. My husband and I made some wonderful friends. We all did. It's so wonderful to see that the Chapters still support Infant Welfare.

I feel very strongly about the Infant Welfare Society and I have provided for it in my estate plans because it's my way to thinking about what to do with my money. Infant Welfare is a worthwhile, well-run organization and I know the money will be well-spent. I'll be happy to do it.

Infant Welfare Society was honored to enroll Marion Guyton as a member of its Armour Heritage League, which honors those who have provided for our future through their estate plans. To join the League, please call 773.782.5040.

Notes

FROM *the* FIELD

By *Robin McGinnis, MSW*
Chief Executive Officer



Our community health center has been bustling in recent weeks as IWS enters an exciting new phase of growth. On March 3-5, we underwent our first review by The Joint Commission. I am happy to report that the review went well and we have only a few tweaks to achieve full accreditation — I will update you when we receive our notice in June. Preparing for this important milestone required an extraordinary team effort, which we called “Going for the Gold”, and I am so proud of the hard work and commitment shown across all IWS departments and board members towards meeting it.

Another important development is the upcoming *On the Table 2015* event that will be held at IWS on May 12, as part of the Chicago Community Trust’s centennial celebration. In partnership with CCT and other grantee organizations, IWS will host a gathering of leaders in a “community-wide conversation to discuss the ways in which we can commit to continue to make our communities stronger, safer and more dynamic.” We have invited our partners from the IWS Community Advisory Board, Leadership Circle, local organizations, as well as IWS board and staff.

Finally, as you know, change is afoot in Springfield. State-wide budgetary changes could potentially impact IWS and we do not yet know what these changes are and how they will be rolled out. We are monitoring the situation closely and preparing for different budget scenarios. I feel that it is critical to keep IWS partners, supporters and friends in the loop, so expect to hear from me in the coming months on state budget impacts.

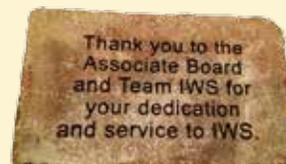
Thank you for supporting IWS and the families we serve. If you’d like more information on any of these updates or any of our programs, my door is always open!

Going the Distance

By *Natasha Wasinski, Associate Board Member*

For the past eight years, a group of active and caring young professionals have come together to support IWS through awareness, fundraising and volunteerism.

Recently, IWS and Auxiliary leaders recognized the Associate Board and our fundraising runners with a beautiful commemorative brick. We are honored to become a permanent part of the Angel Harvey Community Health Center!



The Associate Board experienced a whirlwind of successes in 2014, from providing 50 children with school supplies to sending our largest team to date to the Bank of America Chicago Marathon. Together our members and supporters raised over \$17,700 to help provide access to medical services for under-served children and women. It took the energy and efforts of many to make this possible, and we couldn’t be prouder of the team we’ve assembled along the way!

Our group is going the distance once again with a slew of activities already in the works, including two fun runs, a back-to-school fair, and a bean bag tournament fundraiser. We are also actively recruiting new faces to join the Associate Board or run with Team IWS.



You’re invited to help us cross the finish line to another successful year! For updates on our work, please visit iwsassociateboard.org.

A GLANCE Back



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

WAYS TO GIVE

IWS relies on you, our community of donors. Your gift — in any amount — makes an impact, and your support is key to the healthy development of children, women and families.



You can put your money to work right away by donating online at infantwelfare.org or mailing your check using the enclosed envelope to 3600 West Fullerton Ave Chicago, IL 60647.

Become a Monthly or Quarterly “Dreammaker”

Your gift in any amount given each month/ quarter, charged to your credit card, provides a convenient, efficient and stable source of support! You can set up a recurring gift on our website or by phone at 773.782.5040.

Donate Stocks or Bonds

By donating appreciated property to IWS, you may receive a tax deduction for the current fair market value of the asset and avoid capital-gains tax.

Celebrate or Remember Others

Recognize or remember someone special with a gift in their name that honors their legacy and commitment to women, children and families.

Leave a Legacy – Join the Armour Heritage League

Estate planning is a powerful way to express your values and vision for the future.

- Remember IWS in your will. For sample bequest language to use when naming IWS in your will, please call 773.782.5040.
- Donate life insurance or name IWS as a beneficiary of a retirement plan.

Introduce Friends, Colleagues and Others to IWS

Your assistance in bringing new people to IWS is greatly appreciated. Or, sign up for our e-mail list and forward the messages you receive along to your friends.

If you would like to make arrangements over the phone and for more detailed information, please contact Michelle Di Benedetto, VP, Institutional Advancement at 773.782.5040.

THANK YOU!

IWS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit public charity. Contributions are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

DON'T MISS OUT!

The “Make A Difference” newsletter is published twice a year, but we have so much more to share in between issues. Our short, monthly email newsletters get you updated information, stories and invitations in a timely and cost-effective way.

If you're not receiving them yet, sign up on the home page at infantwelfare.org, via our Facebook page, or by emailing or calling Michelle at DiBenedettoM@infantwelfare.org or 773.782.5040.

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INFANT WELFARE SOCIETY of CHICAGO

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