

# Serving Unexpected Mothers Through Pharmacy

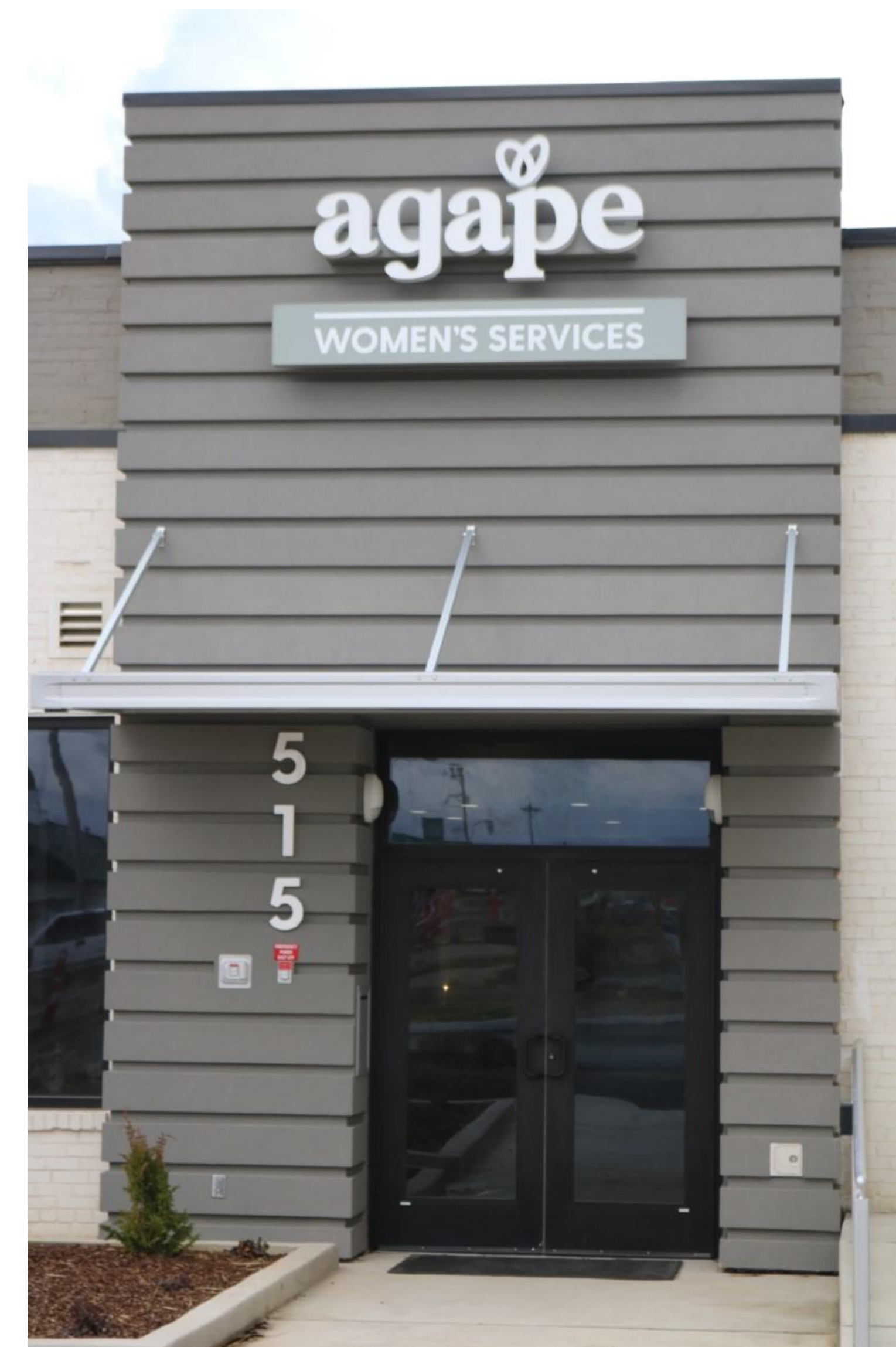
Emilee Starnes Potter, PharmD Candidate, Kathryn Cifelli, PharmD Candidate, Tabitha Sineath, PharmD Candidate, Rick Hess, Jr., PharmD, CDE, BC-ADM  
East Tennessee State University Bill Gatton College of Pharmacy, Johnson City, TN

## Introduction

- ETSU College of Pharmacy's CPFI chapter partnered with Agape Women's Services to provide diapers, wipes, prenatal vitamins, vitamin D drops, and other pregnancy and post-partum essentials.
- In the Tri-Cities area, Agape Women's Ministry strives to provide just as their name implies, unconditional love. They offer cost-free services and education surrounding sexual health and pregnancy related care. Their mission is to empower women both spiritually and emotionally to related to their care before, during, and after unplanned pregnancy.
- CPFI student pharmacist members organized a donation drive for diapers and wipes and packed baskets with Bibles and other baby essentials.
- CPFI members were able to tour Agape's new clinic and meet with Agape's facilitators.

## Methods

- Student pharmacists involved in this project searched for a local faith-based organization in need.
- Agape Women's services expressed a need in the Johnson City community for access to prenatal vitamins and supplements for their new moms. Overtime, these vitamins and supplements can become costly. We were able to meet this need and then some.
- To involve the entire school in this project, a diapers and wipes drive was conducted for approximately three weeks.
- Student pharmacists coordinated with Walgreens and other suppliers to receive donation products at the lowest cost possible to maximize the donations given to new mothers at Agape.
- Money obtained from the Hands & Feet Grant was used to buy baskets, Bibles, bottles, baby powder, pacifiers, prenatal vitamins, nipple ointment, and vitamin D drops.



## Results

- 2022 CPFI Hands & Feet Grant (\$450)
- Eight student pharmacists contributed to putting together baskets for donation.
- A total of 30 unexpected mothers now have access to a written copy of God's Word in addition to other essential maternal and infant items.
- These donations can have a life changing impact as mothers are walking through an uncertain time in their lives. Agape also walks with their mothers through pregnancy and beyond by offering Hope Classes. Our CPFI chapter now can play a part in these classes.
- Agape Women's Services was very appreciative of the outreach provided by the CPFI student pharmacists. The Educational Coordinator, Liesl Wright said, "*The baskets of donations and wipes collected help alleviate financial stresses that can occur with a new baby. This allows each mom to focus more on her baby without the distraction of where the necessary supplies will come from.*"

## Conclusions

- Agape Women's Services received 30 gift baskets full of essential items to give expecting mothers, including Bibles.
- The Gospel is shared with each new mother who receives a gift basket.
- The CPFI Hands & Feet Grant allowed our chapter to acquire items to include in the baskets.
- This project has opened other opportunities for our CPFI chapter to work with Agape Women's Services in the future. These opportunities include but are not limited to, supplement counseling classes, volunteering at the clinic, and baby bottle fundraisers.

## Acknowledgements

- The authors would like to express appreciation to Dr. Hess, the ETSU College of Pharmacy CPFI Chapter Advisor, Beth Koscak, Agape's Executive Director, and Liesl Wright, Agape's Educational Coordinator.