

Deep roots...

But blessed are those who trust in the Lord and have made the Lord their hope and confidence. They are like trees planted along a riverbank, with roots that reach deep into the water. Such trees are not bothered by the heat or worried by long months of drought. Their leaves stay green, and they never stop producing fruit.

Jeremiah 17:7-8

"The parenting classes were really helpful." - 2017

On Being a River Poverty Is not a concept.



Poverty, as a reality, walks through the DPC doors almost daily.

I have learned through our women that poverty is a state of physical being that looks like a brick wall. No foot or hand holds. No ropes. Ladders are non existent. It is only the assistance of others, providing the needed helps, that the wall looks less daunting and formidable.

The heat and drought of poverty dehydrates to the point of despair. In those moments, when they come through our door, we become the river where they can plant themselves and be restored. Loving, helping. . .and giving them hope that the wall can be tackled.

Our offerings of rope, foot holds, ladders are these: God never shames. God loves. God restores. God forgives. God is not a concept. He is REALITY.

> Blessings, Valerie Mangrum **Executive Director** valerie@durangopregnancy.com

Lives living at poverty or below in La Plata County -9.4 % overall 11.5% under the age of 18 U.S. Census Bureau

Keeping One's Dignity

Dignity is perhaps the most difficult trait, to keep in hand, when living in poverty.

For a woman pregnant, it becomes even more challenging. Our women have told us of encounters with people giving sideways stares, making "why" comments, being dismissed from employment and even

suggestions as well as offer of payments for an abortion being given.

Homelessness can happen at a moment's notice when living in poverty. How do you keep one's dignity when frantically wondering where you'll sleep much less where you'll find a bathroom? What about eating? What about everything else?

One of our women recently found herself suddenly homeless. But her dignified response was impressive - I am only camping now. I have been homeless before and know what it's like. Now I'm camping because I am looking for a new place to live.

She refused to be identified as homeless. She was grasping firmly onto dignity keeping hold of the rope of hope! And, a "home" was found!



Everything we offer to our women, men and babies is free!

That means with over 500 client visits each year it costs an average of **\$200 per visit**. If you have not donated, even \$10 per month makes a difference.

Durango Pregnancy Center needs you.

DONATE TODAY

or mail to: Durango Pregnancy Center, 1315 Main Ave, #230, Durango, CO 81301

Durango Pregnancy Center | 970.247.5559 | valerie@durangopregnancy.com

Durango Pregnancy Center, 1315 Main Avenue, Suite 230, Durango, CO 81301