

WomanKind clinic expands services with new location

BY JUDY WAGGONER
FOR FOX VALLEY INC.

Who: Operating as a non-profit corporation since 1983, WomanKind Free Pregnancy Test Center recently upgraded its services to area women and changed its name to WomanKind Medical Clinic.

Although the center routinely administered free pregnancy tests for women, "we could never confirm a pregnancy, only see positive or negative results," said Gloria Halbach, executive director of WomanKind.

Coinciding with the name change, WomanKind moved eight blocks farther west on Wisconsin Avenue to a larger 2,000-square-foot space that accommodates additional equipment and offices.

"Now we can offer limited ultrasound to confirm a uterine pregnancy," Halbach said.

What: WomanKind offers not only pregnancy testing, but also information on



Submitted photo

JODY NARVETT (left), nurse sonographer, and executive director Gloria Halbach stand in front of new ultrasound equipment that is now part of services offered at WomanKind.

adoption, abortion, parenting, relationships and referrals to a wide network of agencies who can help women with confidential medical, legal, financial and housing advice.

"We want to empower her with knowledge and inform her of all her options," Halbach said.

WomanKind is also a re-

source for information on sexually transmitted diseases.

Why it's important: With the upgrade in status to a medical clinic, WomanKind is now directed by Kristin Thomsen, a licensed general practitioner and staffed by a registered nurse manager and trained volunteers.

"We see women who don't know about the help that is

available to them and there are no charges at all for any service, including the limited ultrasound or advice from lawyers," said Halbach.

WomanKind is a nonprofit corporation that has been serving women and their families throughout the Fox Valley area and beyond since 1983. Funded by community

donations and in part by the National Institute of Family and Life Advocates, the newly designated medical clinic provides professional and confidential services within a caring and compassionate setting.

"We're grateful to the community, our donors and volunteers, because their contri-

butions and dedication have been instrumental in the expansion of our new facility," said Judy Massey, vice president of WomanKind's board of directors.

For more information: WomanKind Medical Clinic, 526 W. Wisconsin Ave., Appleton, 920-731-4354, www.womankindclinic.org.

