Creating Families
“Freely you have received; freely give” Matthew 10:8

I shouldn’t be surprised at how often God returns the blessings we give to others. At the core of Nikki and Anwar’s story is generosity and bounty. I met them last spring when Renée asked me to film and document their Hope Clinic journey knowing only that they were superstar clients who have a heart for our ministry, but also have an incredible story of God’s provision in their life. I would later grow with them and learn about their dreams, renewed relationships, Nikki’s 84-year-old great-grandmother, an inter-woven family, and strength that can impact an entire community.

Aniyah Marie at just five months old already reflects her parent’s resilience and strength and my husband and I are so honored Nikki and Anwar would invite us into their story by being her godparents. I invite you into this story and into this family that has so impacted mine and hope you can see the blessings that come when God directs our paths.
We are from Lancaster, Pennsylvania. We woke up one day and decided it was time for change.

We have so many dreams and goals and we wanted to move to a place where we could pursue them. We both had very troubled backgrounds. Both of my parents were murdered. I was also a teen mom and a high school dropout. Anwar- “I dealt with having to raise my siblings because my mother was on drugs as well as being incarcerated at the age of 17.” So after everything we have been through, we grew up to wanting to be and do better.

Through a crazy series of choices, a hurricane, and God’s ultimate plan, we decided to up and move to Nashville, Tennessee.

We started to fill out job applications and it was a blessing because we were getting responses left and right. A lot of places were ready to hire me because I have a background working in a middle school as a paraprofessional. I got a position at a middle school in the Metro Nashville School District and of course I took it. Anwar got a good position at a popular restaurant, Virago, because he
has a culinary degree. We ended up going through some things back in Pennsylvania that held us back from moving and caused us to lose the house we were supposed to move in to. On top of that, money was stolen from Anwar made sure everything was done during the day while I worked.

While we were going through this difficult time I ended up being late for my time of the month, us, but by the grace of God we at least had jobs secured.

We arrived by the beginning of December. We had several bags of clothes, my 84-year-old great-grandmother who raised me, and $500 to our name. We didn’t even have enough to bring our belongings with us but we were determined to still make this move. We had jobs but wouldn’t get paid for another three weeks and were staying in a hotel. It was a really difficult time for us. Knowing money was running out, I decided to work for Lyft so I can make enough money to pay for a hotel room every night. Anwar worked nights so he was staying with grandma and my kids making sure they were getting settled and taken care of.

and honestly we weren’t in the position to handle the news I could be pregnant. We had no extra money to spare, like not even enough for a pregnancy test so we decided to look for places that do free pregnancy testing and we found Hope Clinic.

When we went to Hope Clinic we already felt very welcomed and like we were in a good environment. We took a pregnancy test and it was confirmed that I was pregnant. We were both very ecstatic and also confused. We don’t like to question God ever but we were just wondering like why now? We have seven children between us from our previous marriages, but because of the move, we only get to see them part of the year.
Parenthood wasn’t unfamiliar to us, but this time we wanted it to be different. We decided we still wanted to pursue what we came here for. We wanted to give back, do speeches, volunteer and help in any way we could. About six months into our pregnancy, I was working during the day so I asked my husband if he could search for some place to volunteer. He found Hope Clinic. Now this is crazy because at the time with us being new to the area, we weren’t familiar with places even though we knew we went to Hope Clinic; we just didn’t connect the dots.

After reaching out and attending the Introduction class, we realized it was the same place. Our names eventually got back to Renée and we told her our story. She was touched and said we should receive benefits of Hope Clinic before we start to volunteer so we can share our story and experience of the program. Kailey started filming us every week to see how we were doing. We proceeded to go to Hope Clinic and receive the benefits and we can honestly say we have been blessed by them in so many ways. We now have a beautiful baby girl, and from the point we started going to Hope Clinic we haven’t had to buy anything for the baby which enabled us to be able to get back on our feet. The couples counseling has strengthened our young marriage and showed us more and more how possible it is for us to stay together and build a strong, inter-woven family despite our pasts. We’ve even been able to connect and influence those around us, like Kailey and her boyfriend, now husband. She was the only person able to visit us in the hospital after Aniyah was born and we asked them to be the godparents for our daughter.

View their entire story on video at www.hopeclinicforwomen.org/nikki-anwar/ or visit our Instagram highlight “Nikki & Anwar” (@HopeClinic)
Today we can honestly say we have taken full advantage of Hope Clinic, the Bridge program, and the counseling and we absolutely love it. We can’t imagine going to any other organization. We are especially glad Hope Clinic allows men to be a part of their wife’s journey. Being in this big city, not knowing anyone nor having any family around, we definitely consider Hope Clinic as family and our home away from home. Anyone who is involved with keeping Hope Clinic going has been such a blessing to us and we know others can say the same. We are so grateful we have Hope Clinic in our lives; we wouldn’t be where we are today without them.

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List of services:

Hope Clinic offers a range of comprehensive services to serve clients dealing with a variety of issues including physical, clinical, emotional, practical, and spiritual needs.

Services Include:

PREGNANCY
- Initial consultation: pregnancy tests, options counseling*
- Follow up care: 1st prenatal visit ultrasound/blood work
- Bridge program: case management, mentorship, counseling, education, material assistance

PREVENTION
- Women’s annual well women and all related problem visits
- Sexual Risk Avoidance education for youth, young adults, parents, youth leaders

COUNSELING
- Post-abortion
- Pregnancy loss (miscarriage, stillbirth, infant death, failed IVF/Adoption)
- Postpartum depression
- Healthy relationships
- Medical consultations for anxiety and depression

*we do not perform nor refer for abortions

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A Safe Place for Tough Choices