

Three Healthcare Providers Join Forces To Launch Charitable Project

Fertility & Women's Health Center of Louisiana, Women's & Children's Hospital, and Sheridan Healthcare of Louisiana have joined forces to launch Gift Of Hope 2006, a project created to help one infertile couple overcome the financial barriers to building their family through the gift of one in vitro fertilization (IVF) cycle.



The people in the pic, from L to R are John Storment, M.D., one of only seven reproductive endocrinologists in Louisiana, Larry Myers, M.D. Anesthesiologist, Sheridan Healthcare, and Women's & Children's CEO Kathy Bobbs.

Gift of Hope seeks to ease the high costs, both financially and emotionally, of infertility treatments for one couple who demonstrates both financial and medical needs for IVF. According to Resolve, the National Infertility Association, only a quarter of healthcare insurers offer coverage for infertility care. As a result, only a quarter of healthcare insurers offer coverage for infertility care. As a result, as many as 50 percent of American couples who fail to conceive do not seek treatment due to financial reasons.

Gift of Hope has secured donated services to provide one couple the chance of pregnancy through in vitro fertilization. Donors include John M. Storment, MD, a board certified reproductive endocrinologist with Fertility & Womens Health Center of Louisiana, Women's & Children's Hospital in Lafayette, LA and Sheridan Healthcare of Louisiana. The combined value of these donations is estimated at \$15,000.

According to Dr. Storment, the national average of conception after a cycle of IVF is about 35 percent. However, as stated by Women's & Children's CEO Kathy Bobbs, Dr. Storment has enjoyed a higher rate of success than the national mean, seeing a 50 percent conception rate after only one cycle.

For information including eligibility requirements, please access www.fertilityanswers.com or call 337.989.8795. An independent committee will review all submitted applications and select one couple to receive the gift. Gift of Hope will be awarded on May 1st, 2006.