

# *Laura's Hope*

## **Selection Process**

We encourage couples and individuals to consider which options are the most likely to be successful for them in their application process. Assessment of the suitability of the ovarian reserve, uterine/tubal evaluation and semen analysis as well as other medical factors will be reviewed by our board which is represented by 3 - REI physicians, and 2 Maternal Fetal Medicine physicians. The board's experts will give their professional opinions regarding the suitability, and likelihood for applicants success in the requested treatments/adoption. Applicants will be selected by our 9 person board (7 active voting members) for the fertility grants based on financial need and other qualifying factors, such as likelihood for success with the chosen route for family building.

Grants can be used to cover costs associated with fertility care, including but not limited to ultrasounds, blood work, medications, donor gametes, legal contracts for custody of embryos or adoption, and adoption related fees. Grants toward donor oocytes, donor sperm, and adoption will also be available. Applicants may re-apply for grant in the event that applicant experiences another pregnancy loss after a grant was received and used to conceive.

Financial grants may be used at any fertility center or adoption agency in the State of Michigan.

Ultrasounds, bloodwork, and early pregnancy care will be billed to insurance as applicable, or financial grants may be used to cover these expenses, or cash pay.

Donated IVF cycles shall be completed at the donating center, e.g. - donated IVF cycles from Gago IVF are to be completed at Gago IVF, and include IVF cycle management fee, oocyte retrieval, embryology, and embryo biopsy, (genetic testing is not included in this donation, couples may apply a financial grant toward these fees), and embryo transfer. Embryo storage fees will be included for 2 years of storage. After that time, the patients will be responsible for storage fees. We will require a review of any decisions to discard embryos prior to 7 years of storage for couples receiving IVF cycles from Gago IVF. Regret is a common issue in discarded embryos, if done too early after embryo creation. Options for embryo disposition include: donation to other couples, donation for research, or to discard embryos, per our IVF consents.

Applicants will not be discriminated against for race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, or religion.

Body weight, age, and medical clearance for pregnancy can be valid medical concerns, and may be used as discriminating factors for ideal candidates for these grants. The patient must have a BMI under 40 and have medical clearance to carry pregnancy if they are not using a gestational carrier.