

Caring and Sharing

A PUBLICATION OF PREGNANCY HELPLINE, INC. OF MADISON

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Empowering Women—Clients and Volunteers

The Pregnancy Helpline has been serving motivated but underprivileged women and families for over 30 years. But we noticed that there is another group of people that we are investing in and empowering- our volunteers. Many mothers choose to stay home with their young children, and while that time is precious, it can often be monotonous. Our volunteers who stay home are women with a variety of backgrounds: marketing, sales, healthcare, ministry, and education. “I’m on ‘maternity leave’ (10 years and counting!) from teaching,” Erin Ebersole, Safe Sleep Coordinator shares. Volunteering with us works for her as she raises her kids. “I can do the paperwork and emails any time of day that I can grab a few free minutes, or while children are napping or doing homework.”

When these mothers use their talents to help others, it empowers them as well. Courtney Jablonski, Phone Coordinator, inspires her volunteers, “The skills you gain here, coupled with your volunteer energy, say a lot about what you can bring to any setting- career, family, or school!” Bridget Yallaly, Board Secretary, likes how her work with PH demonstrates love: “It gives me the opportunity to witness to my children the importance of service both to our own family and those in need.” We are grateful for what our volunteers bring us and are so happy they can gain new skills to use in their families and in the future!



2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 7 OF WHOM ARE MOMS WHO STAY HOME PART OR FULL TIME.

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Director's Corner

"You are my person."



I don't often give out my personal phone number to clients at the Helpline, but once in awhile it seems appropriate. A long-time client who is becoming a friend called me at home one morning. She has 2 kids and was surprised by another pregnancy. A few months in she started bleeding and was concerned she was losing her baby. After several doctors appointments, tests were still inconclusive as to whether she was still pregnant or not. When receiving this confusing news, she was sent home and told to call someone. I was the person she called. I got the privilege of being "her person." I will never forget that precious phone call and being invited into something scary and sacred. This is the reason for the Pregnancy Helpline, to be there in a moment of need for another mom. Thanks so much to our volunteers, donors, supporters, and friends for making the Pregnancy Helpline something special in our community!



Alessia H. H. H.

Tara



TARA'S BOYS

Client Story

Tara became a single mom at 33. "I didn't plan for that, nobody knows what it's like unless you've been there." She had left a bad relationship and moved to Madison.

A WIC nurse told her about the Pregnancy Helpline. She initially used our Helpline and Sharing Center. "If I didn't have you guys, there would be

days when my baby wouldn't have a pamper on his butt."

Here's what Tara says about our services: "It makes you feel more like a mom, like you can do it!. Your [Sharing Center] volunteers give me a big hug."

Tara has her own ways of giving back. Noticing a woman with a small child at the bus stop on a cold day,

Tara went to a local shop and bought a hat and mitten set. "I've been there, I told her."

Tara's positive attitude about her life is something we can all learn from. "You can sink or swim, and I choose to swim."

Thanks for being an inspiration to us all, Tara!



ABBIE AND HUSBAND,
PAUL

Volunteer Spotlight

Abbie first got involved with Pregnancy Helpline when another Board member found out she was an accountant.

"I was excited to use my talents to further such a worthy, pro-life cause," Abbie shares. She has served on the Board of Directors as the Treasurer

for over 6 years. "I believe whole-heartedly in the mission of this organization to encourage a pro-life culture by showing families they are not in this alone. As a mom (of 5!), I am glad to be a part of an organization that cares about helping moms in a compassionate and

Abbie Rozeski

respectful way so families don't feel like they are getting a hand out as much as a helping hand." As we have grown so much over the past 6 years, Abbie's leadership in taxes, payroll, and budgeting has been incredibly helpful. Thank you Abbie for your time and expertise to the Helpline!

Updates



Upcoming Phone Volunteer Training

February 20
May 14
July 23
9am - 1pm

Catholic Multicultural Center

Answer all calls from home. On-going training and support at monthly meetings. Sign up for shifts that fit your schedule.

Contact Alissa Hirscher, if interested:
info@pregnancyhelpline.net.

Pregnancy Helpline
DIAPERDASH
5K Run/Walk

Save the Date

Second Annual Diaper Dash

Saturday, September 24
McKee Farms Park

Like us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/PregnancyHelplineMadison

Donate using PayPal on our website
www.pregnancyhelpline.net

Partners in Caring — 2016 Sharing Center Sponsors

<u>January:</u> Ripple Management	<u>April:</u> Ganser Company	<u>July:</u> North and South BBQ, Anonymous	<u>October:</u> Kapur Family
<u>February:</u> Total Care Dental	<u>May:</u> Bellissimo Family	<u>August:</u> Springtime Chiropractic	<u>November:</u> Sponsor Needed
<u>March:</u> In memory of Victor and Carol Dorn	<u>June:</u> In memory of Maria E. Welton	<u>September:</u> Sponsor Needed	<u>December:</u> Sponsor Needed

Sharing Center sponsors pay a month's rent (\$600).
To become a sponsor in 2016, please contact Alissa Hirscher at info@pregnancyhelpline.net or call 608-222-0008.

Opportunities

VOLUNTEER

- Sharing Center sorters. Come 1-2 times a month for 2-3 hours to sort and size baby clothes.
- Phone volunteers. Answer calls from home. We especially need Spanish-speaking phone volunteers.

DONATE

We depend entirely on donations of time, material goods, and financial assistance from generous people in the Madison area. Donate online or by check. Checks can be made out to: Pregnancy Helpline, Inc. and mailed to: PO Box 5261 Madison, WI 53705

CONTACT US

If you are interested in getting involved, please contact:

Alissa Hirscher, Pregnancy Helpline Director
Phone: 608-222-0008
Email: info@pregnancyhelpline.net

OUR PROGRAMS

- Helpline (phone)
- Sharing Center & Diaper Bank
- Baby Care Package
- Safe Sleep



Sign up for our monthly newsletter at www.pregnancyhelpline.net/news.cfm, or scan this code.

SHARING CENTER HOURS

Saturday 9am-12noon
(closed Holiday weekends)
Tuesdays 5-7pm

Catholic Multicultural Center
1862 Beld St. (off Park St.)
Lower Level

Call 608-222-0008

OUR MISSION:

The Mission of Pregnancy Helpline, Inc is to provide life-affirming, compassionate care; giving accurate information, material support, and community referrals to women and their families before, during, and after pregnancy.



Pregnancy Helpline is a non-profit, non-political organization supporting Madison-area families for 30 years. We depend entirely on donations of time, material goods, and financial assistance from generous people in the Madison area. If interested in volunteering, donating, or for more information, please call (608) 222-0008 or email us at info@pregnancyhelpline.net.



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