

# Caring and Sharing

A PUBLICATION OF PREGNANCY HELPLINE, INC. OF MADISON

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## *Happy Anniversary, Pregnancy Helpline!*

Pregnancy Helpline has been serving our community for 35 years! In 1982, eight volunteers started the Helpline in a cozy kitchen. They quickly realized that the moms also needed practical baby items—clothes, cribs, and supplies. So the Sharing Center was born, and the Crib Program and Layette Program soon followed.

### Statistics from the past 35 years

	1989	2005	2016
Sharing Center	336	998 visits	2266 visits
Safe Sleep (Cribs)	40	59	165
Baby Care Packages	142	94	221
Phone Calls	Not recorded	1297	895

### Fun facts from 1992, our 10th anniversary

- Pregnancy Helpline boasts 90 volunteers and already our four current programs are running. (Today we still have 90 volunteers and our only new program is our Diaper Bank at our Sharing Center site.)
- PH had two support groups for moms
- The Schoenstatt Sisters, a local group of nuns, used to help on the Helpline! They were responsible for helping calls get forwarded, a big job in the days before our current technology!



*Declan and Sophia wish us a Happy Birthday!*

It's encouraging to see the many volunteers and supporters that have gone before us, carrying out this important work! Thank you!

## 35 DOLLARS FOR 35 YEARS

WOULD YOU CONSIDER A GIFT OF \$35 TO HELP US CELEBRATE OUR 35TH ANNIVERSARY?

THANK YOU!

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### OUR BOARD

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## Director's Corner

“Unity versus Uniformity” was the topic of a homily I heard at church a few weeks back. I think this perfectly describes our work to help moms and babies in relation to the other two main pregnancy resource centers in our community. We are often along side **CareNet and Women's Care Center** at events or speaking engagements, and we are honored! While we provide different services, we are sisters in the mission of providing help and support, and ensuring the dignity and care of both Mom and Baby. We are frequently referring clients back and forth and even sharing extra baby supplies. We don't want to be the same—we want to be complimentary! Unified in mission, but not uniform in services. Lots of styles and approaches and services are needed by our families. We are blessed to have three organizations right in our community dedicated to the same mission!

For those of you who joined us at **Comedy Night**—thanks for coming! We had a great turn out and response. It was fun to share a night together and to see many new faces supporting our cause!

*Alessia Hasker*



## Client Story

### Marsha



MARSHA'S TWINS, BORN FEB 2, CECELIA AND CITLALI (“STAR”)

Marsha stopped by the Sharing Center when she was just a week away from delivering twins. Her friend, Tara, also a PH client, told her she was stopping by on her way home from work and Marsha wanted to join her.

Marsha was able to get diapers and clothes for her two year-old son, as well as baby clothes for the twins.

Twin girls Cecilia and Citlali were born just a month ago now. Tara helped her order two Baby Care Packages for her new daughters. “The Baby Care Packages were absolutely amazing!” said Marsha. “It felt like winning the lottery, to see all the baby items in there. It's amazing that people donated all this stuff to someone they don't even

know.”

Marsha plans to come back to the Sharing Center in the near future. “I'll get more diapers and clothes for the little ones, and I have a pile I'm starting of things to donate back.”

Thanks so much to Marsha and Tara for sharing their stories with us! Good luck to you, Marsha!

## Volunteer Spotlight

### Lou Havlik



LOU HAVLIK, BABY CARE PACKAGE VOLUNTEER

Lou has spent a lifetime working with young children. Prior to retirement, she worked at an early learning center as a principal.

Now she spends her time making homemade items for our Baby Care Packages. The love is in the numbers—Lou has created

up to 30 quilts a month for out Baby Care Packages! Now she has moved on to creating bibs and burp cloths as well. “I like designs that aren't too fussy, things that are easy for moms to use.” She likes a cut out in the neck in the burp cloths for moms. Years ago, Lou had found

us and donated her own baby items to the Sharing Center. Now she spends hours a month creating beautiful handmade gifts, making our Baby Care Packages really special!

Thank you for your generous donation of time and talent, Lou!

## Updates



### Upcoming Phone Volunteer Training

**March 25**  
**June 17**  
**October 28**

9:00am - 1:00pm  
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](mailto:info@pregnancyhelpline.net).

Pregnancy Helpline  
**DIAPERDASH**  
5K Run/Walk

**Save the Date**  
**Third Annual Diaper Dash**  
**Saturday, September 23**  
**McKee Farms Park**

**Like us on Facebook**  
[www.facebook.com/PregnancyHelplineMadison](http://www.facebook.com/PregnancyHelplineMadison)

**Donate using PayPal**  
on our website  
[www.pregnancyhelpline.net](http://www.pregnancyhelpline.net)

## Partners in Caring — 2017 Sharing Center Sponsors

<u>January:</u> Ripple Management	<u>April:</u> In in memory of Carl and Kathleen Regenfelder and Richard Meyer	<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> Cabinet Masters
<u>March:</u> In memory of Victor and Carol Dorn	<u>June:</u> In memory of Maria E. Welton	<u>September:</u> Hartberg Family— In Memory of our Children	<u>December:</u> In honor of Dorothy Riesch

Sharing Center sponsors pay a month's rent (\$600).  
To become a sponsor in 2017, please contact Alissa Hirscher at [info@pregnancyhelpline.net](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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 nearly 35 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](mailto:info@pregnancyhelpline.net).



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