

Caring and Sharing

A PUBLICATION OF PREGNANCY HELPLINE, INC. OF MADISON

OCTOBER, VOLUME 2016, ISSUE 2

A Circle of Support

Our families call upon us when in need. They usually have a sense we provide a lot of material support and are looking for those free diapers, baby clothes, and gear. But all our volunteers are trained to go deeper. Not only do we want to meet that immediate urgent need, but we want to help solve the next problem before it becomes the next crisis.

The Pregnancy Helpline is creating a circle of support around our families. During our Sharing Center open hours, when we have over 35 families stopping in, we want to bring positive family experiences,



LIBRARIAN TAMMY READING TO CHILDREN VISITING THE SHARING CENTER

resources, and additional services right to our clients. Saturday morning has brought a volunteer from the local library, singing songs and reading to our families' kids. Other weeks bring in educators on topics like nutrition and child development. And we have brought in specialty consultants on lactation and the effects of smoking on pregnant moms and babies.

Healing the Gap

What else? While we think we are meeting the needs of our families, we want to know for sure! We are in the process of having 200 of our clients complete a Needs Assessment. The information they share with us will help us continue to enlarge these circles of support around our families. We not only want to stop the current crisis, but stand in the gap for families and give them a fresh start so they can be the best parents they can be! Thanks for your partnership in the Pregnancy Helpline!

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Director's Corner

"Coming Together"

I was so glad for the opportunity to help host "Voiceless," the pro-life movie that came to Madison earlier this month! I love when several like-minded groups and people can come together for an event or project. Thanks to those of you who joined us and made that happen!



I also love the two women focused in our Volunteer Spotlight this edition. By trade, I am an Occupational Therapist, but have spent more time the past few years focused on my family and the Helpline. When we were approached by Angie from Create-ability to see if we could partner with them to give a volunteer experience to a client with Autism, it made my heart sing! As an OT and the director of Pregnancy Helpline, I was able to bring my two passions together to help another person find meaningful work. What a blessing to work with the Helpline! Thank you for the opportunity!

Alessia Hasker



Client Story

"I'M ALWAYS
TELLING PEOPLE
TO COME SHOP
AT THE SHARING
CENTER!"
-ANNIE, SC
CLIENT

Annie lives in Madison with her husband and four children: 11, 7, 4, and 1. She started utilizing our services at the Sharing Center a little over a year ago when she found out she was expecting her fourth child.

"It was a tough time—we weren't expecting to have another baby and my husband was unemployed." She was referred to us

through the Women's Care Center. She started coming to the center before her baby was born and signed up to receive both the Baby Care Package and the pack n' play from our Safe Sleep Program.

"I'm so grateful for everything I received from you! My baby was premature and I'm especially grateful as I needed extra

support during that time." She's always found our volunteers very helpful and had nothing but good things to say about our organization.

Annie brings back any baby item that her child no longer uses in hopes that other families will benefit from it. "I'm always telling people to come shop at the Center!"

Thanks Annie!

Annie

Volunteer Spotlight

"Can I go sort?" This is what Rae Marie asks each week of her job coach, Angie, from Create-ability.

Angie started working with us this summer through Love Begins Here, a local Catholic mission group. She thought sorting baby clothes at our Sharing

Center would be a good fit for her client, Rae Marie.

Rae Marie and Angie have worked together for 15 years in a worker and job coach relationship. Rae Marie likes books, toys, and sorting the baby clothes in our Sharing Center. She also likes music, museums,

Angie and Rae Marie

and her other job at Babes.

Their plan is to come a couple times each week to help get our Sharing Center ready for the next week.

Thanks for sharing your time and gifts with us, Angie and Rae Marie!



ANGIE AND RAE MARIE

Updates



Upcoming Phone Volunteer Training

January 14

9:30am - 12:30pm
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.

**Coming in early
2017...**

**Comedy
Night!**

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PregnancyHelplineMadison



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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> Anonymous
<u>March:</u> In memory of Victor and Carol Dorn	<u>June:</u> In memory of Maria E. Welton	<u>September:</u> Hartberg Family	<u>December:</u> 2016 PH Board of Directors

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 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.



PO Box 5261
MADISON, WI 53705