# november 2023



i-County Birthrigh

# From the Director..... Sirthright



Happy Fall!

Our Birthright office has been buzzing with activity lately. Many new clients are looking for a helping hand and thankfully, a few new volunteers have been training to give them just that! We are excited for our trainees to learn the ropes and we are hoping to be open an additional day once they are ready. Our volunteers TRULY LOVE making a difference in the lives of women who come through our door.

Many clients simply need common baby supplies, but some require more- we dig a bit deeper to uncover their true need. Pride often gets in the way of asking for help with the nitty grittiness in life, some require financial assistance and others need love to cope with mental health issues. Often, a listening ear will be sufficient to discover this true need. We aspire to give the mom as much as we can.

We have been putting significant effort into our outreach program and it has made such a difference! Our online presence has also worked to our benefit (see more inside this issue) and we've even gotten some great Google reviews from a few of our sweet mothers who have benefited from our services. Take a peek inside!

-Holly Haberberger, Director

# **NEWSLETTER NEWS!**

We are online! You can now receive the newsletter through email or simply view it on our website.

https://tricountybirthright.org/about/



Hover Your Smartphone over the image to sign up for email communication.

Or share with a friend!

Also check out our Office Tour Video! https://tricountybirthright.org/about/see-our-office/

# **DONATIONS, WETHANK YOU!**

We want to thank all of you who donated so far in our

# 2023 HEARTBEATS PLEDGE CAMPAIGN!



\$13,800 Jul-Sept 2023

We are so grateful to those give regularly. If you would still like to make a pledge, it is never too late.

- Newborns In Need
- Archdiocese of St. Louis
- Heritage Presbyterian Church, Wildwood
- St. Paul's, Fenton
- Most Sacred Heart, Eureka Loving Stitches, Women's Club, Pro Life Chairs
- St. Mark's Lutherans for Life, Eureka
- Sacred Heart, Valley Park
- St. Mary of Perpetual Help, Villa Ridge
- St. James, Catawissa
- Eureka Food Pantry

- Honeybee Flower Boutique, Wildwood
- St. John the Baptist Church, Villa Ridge
- Clancy's Irish Pub, Ellisville
- K of C Council 9522
- Genesis Church, Eureka
- Christ Prince of Peace, Manchester
- Numerous individual donors who bring supplies in each week!



In addition, a special thank you to Clancy's Irish Pub, Genesis Church, St. John's Gildehaus, the Wednesday Club of Eureka, Honeybee Flower Truck and Most Sacred Heart Pro-life Chairs for doing diaper drives recently. Our ability to provide these items is greatly supported by the abundant material donations from these community organization.







Honeybee Flower Truck

# IN MEMORIUM, BIRTHDAYS, AND ANNIVERSARIES



# **Dave Holdinghausen**

Holdinghausen 20

Elaine Henry

Delbert Henry
Irwin & Lois Jacobs

Theresa Walker

Irwin & Lois Jacobs

# **IN HONOR OF**

Fr. Mark Bozada-Happy Retirement Gary Marklin- Happy Birthday

Randy & Denise Smith



Donations can be made in Celebration! If you are forgoing gift -giving for birthday or Christmas this year, please consider asking for donations to Birthright.



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#### **ANOTHER CHANCETO MOTHER**

Recently, we reached out to one of our past clients who had tragically lost her infant to SIDS after a treacherous pregnancy the year before. She possessed amazing courage to face the pregnancy and bravery following her child's death. We wanted to check in and see how she was doing, just to let her know that we were there for her in the event she needed anything or wanted to talk.

This mom was a confident, well rounded young woman who had everything planned out the first time around, but was crushed when her child passed so unexpectedly.

Imagine our surprise when she opened up and stated that she was expecting another child this year, after being told she might have similar complications with subsequent pregnancies. She was quite nervous at that time and of course, was hoping this child would not face the same fate as her first.

She (and we) are awaiting this child's arrival and of course we are hoping for the best outcome for both mom and baby. It is so wonderful to be a part of her life, to assist where we can and be able to witness HER become stronger and more independent.

Parenting is one of the most rewarding and yet challenging accomplishments in many people's lives. Our hope is that when a mother comes into Birthright, she doesn't feel that she has to do it alone!

#### VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

We love seeing Sandie on
Wednesday mornings. Sandie
has amazing energy. She runs
around the office, filling
requests, organizing, and
chatting with clients. She brings
a gentle, no-nonsense attitude to
her interactions.. And yet, she is
easy to laugh. With years of
experience as a nurse, she



Sandie - 4 Years

brings a unique gift in understanding client's medical concerns and praying for their needs. One day, in response to a mother's concern over her child not having his needs met by a study-citing doctor, "Well your child wasn't in that study."

So much compassion for a worried mother!

# A Volunteer's Prayer

I thank Thee, Lord, as a volunteer: For the chance to serve again this year; To give of myself in some small way To those not blessed as I each day. My thanks for health of mind and soul, To aid me ever toward my goal; For eyes to see the good in all, A hand to extend before a fall. For legs to go where the need is great Learning to love, forgetting to hate; For ears to hear and heart to care When someone's cross is hard to bear. A smile to show my affection true, With energy plenty the task to do; And all I ask, dear Lord, if I may Is to serve you better, day by day.

-From a 2001 Issue of the BR Newsletter

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# **SLEEPING SOUNDLY, TRAVELLING SAFELY**

One of the most frequent requests is a new crib or car seat for a new baby. Thankfully, we are able to fulfill most of those requests. One young mother opted for a Pack n Play as they were tight on square footage in their home. She only had her bedroom to share, as she was living with her parents. We purchased a Pack n Play for her (pictured below) that came with a few extras— a storage place for diapers and wipes and a removable bassinet piece to grow with the baby. These modern conveniences may not seem like much but it made all the difference to her as she prepared a space for her firstborn.

I am incredibly grateful that we have such generous supporters who make this possible. And, as a HUGE bonus, we are the lucky ones who get to let the mother know that she qualifies and will be able to pick the item up soon. The humble appreciation is often quite evident on their faces or in their voices when we discuss what they are receiving. What a gift!



# **ONLINE— Social Media and More**

#### **NEW FACEBOOK "GROUP"**

Please consider joining or sharing our private Facebook Group—Friends of Tri-County Birthright! We post pictures from the office and may occasionally ask for items that are running low. It is a place for friends of Birthright to gather and share information! Contact Rachel to be added—outreach@tricountybirthright.org.

#### FROM GOOGLE REVIEWS:

"I love this place, the people are respectful and so sweet. You can tell they care about your children and you. They help out so much and will reach out if they haven't heard from you in a bit. Thank you all for the amazing help you guys have done!!" - Cassy

#### TAX TALK

#### **ESTATE PLANNING**

Please remember us when planning for the future.

Consider a Qualified Charitable Distribution

(QCD) to donate directly from you IRA without federal income tax. This will also fulfill the Required Minimum Distribution. Share this decision with your children. Often, younger generations aren't aware of the reasons their parents choose to donate to LIFE!

#### TAX CAPS AND FORMS

There is no cap on credits and the amount of tax credit is currently at 70%.

If you donated over \$100 to Tri-County

Birthright in the calendar year of 2023, you will be receiving a tax credit application in January. Let us know if you expect one but do not receive one.

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# FIRST BLOG—"The Modern Mother"

#### Here's a teaser.....

In our modern world, girls and women are inundated with messages about pregnancy: "It's not the

right time." "Get your education first." "Get married first." "Get your starter home first."



For so many reasons, some good reasons, women today are told that un-timely pregnancies can and should be controlled. All these messages are strong and getting stronger, but when is enough actually enough? When is there enough education? Enough money? Enough stuff? Enough love?

Modern mothers are facing more pressure than ever to consume products, education, and achieve more "to do it

right," "to have enough," "to keep baby safe enough," and to be "lovable enough."

What we believe at Birthright is that every woman has a right to give birth, regardless of education, age, relationship status, location, or income. Sure, there are "ideals," specific and perfect ways that things could go. For instance, it may be ideal to have a committed partner, secure job, a stable home, and a robust education.

But real life often falls short of perfection, of ideals.....

Read the full blog at www.tricountybirthright.org/blog

#### **OUTREACH IN THE COMMUNITY**

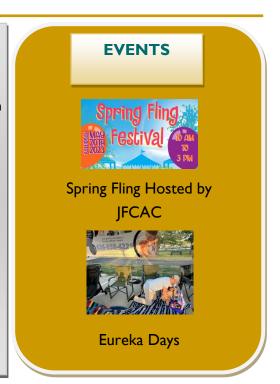
#### **DIAPER CHANGE KITS**

This year we have implemented a new idea—Diaper Change Kits! Every kit has 2 diapers and a package of 3 wipes, plus information about our services for an easy, on-the-go diaper change for *any* mom who has run out. So far we have stocked WIC offices, doctor's offices and churches with these kits.



Can we stock the diaper changing station at your church or business?

Email Rachel—
Outreach@tricountybirthright.org



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Our Board of Directors

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Lloyd Sutterer

Jack Quinn

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Patty Biehle

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Holly Haberberger (Director)

Tri-County Birthright, Inc. 300 W. 4th Street, Suite E Eureka, MO 63025

(o) 636-938-4221

- (e) eurekabirthright@gmail.com
- (e) outreach@tricountybirthright.org
  - (f) Eureka Birthright

www.tricountybirthright.org

# Hours:

Mon, Wed & Thurs 9:30-3:30



# **CHRISTMAS IS COMING AROUND AGAIN!**

We would LOVE donations of holiday gift items for our clients...

\*\*PLEASE BRING IN BY THE END OF NOVEMBER!\*\*

#### Moms:

Gloves & Socks - Lip Balm- Chewing gum - Body Spray-Toiletries- Makeup- Hair clips- Small purses

#### Babies:

- \*New or like new winter coats, gloves and footie sleepers (Boy & Girl)
- \*New or like new toys for children ages 0-3 years

