



## SPRING 2025

### From the Director.....

#### Current Board Members

President - Veronica Woll  
Vice-President - Lloyd Sutterer  
Secretary—Mary Jo Niehoff  
Treasurer - Angie Weidemann  
Jack Quinn  
Mary Ellen Griese  
Diana Smith  
Theresa McDonald  
Patty Biehle  
Dana Hellebusch  
Corey Deeken  
Christa Petry  
Rachel Anderson,  
Outreach Coordinator  
Holly Haberberger, Director

We now have over 100 active clients. We enjoy seeing all of them come in— some for a short stint and others stay on as clients for years.

Such a rewarding opportunity for us to assist them in this season of their life!



Happy spring to everyone! It's a time for *new life* and this year, we are feeling it even more than usual. Peek inside at some recent happenings at our Birthright office!

- \* We are looking at a revamped way to do our annual plant sale that so many of you look forward to and support us with.
- \* We say goodbye to our friends as board members and volunteers while making new ones as they come our way.
- \* Check out just a few of the adorable babies that participated in our Christmas photoshoot. Photography was donated by a local photographer!

We love helping all of the mothers who walk through our door and some days are much busier than others. Those days go by so quickly as we listen to their needs, hear about baby's milestones or delays, and maybe offer some helpful advice, if Mom is looking for it.

On a recent busy day, a mother walked in who very much appeared to have everything 'together' and I wasn't sure what she could possibly need from us.

She ended up staying quite awhile and explained that she had recently sought emergency housing in a shelter because of domestic violence and we were one of the resources listed for assistance with baby needs. Her infant twins needed diapers and formula plus a few miscellaneous things, while she only asked for conditioner for her super curly, but *beautiful* hair! Thankfully, we had most items requested and we were so glad to be able to fulfill her needs. She walked out stocked for the next month and hopefully, a confidence and realization that she has much more support than she did before coming in. Sometimes they need a lot, but someday it's just a 'hand up' for a little while. I am so proud of her strength and we wish her the best possible life from here on! Thank you all for helping us be that 'hand up' to our mothers and babies every day!

God bless you all,  
Holly



## Saying Goodbye and Hello...

We want to say THANK YOU to two board members who have ‘retired’ this year from our Board of Directors. Mary Kluba and Carolyn Hanneken have been with Tri-County Birthright for, well... a long time! We appreciate their time and talents that they have been able to offer through the years. I will miss them on a personal level, as they have always been very encouraging and loving to the crew of volunteers and myself.

At the same time, we have welcomed a few new members to the board in recent years and we are looking forward to seeing where we go from here. Yes, people will always come and go, but all who volunteer at Birthright on our board and within the office are incredibly special people!

## We Give Thanks....

### 2024 Year Statistics

Requests for Information	492
Crib & Car Seat Vouchers	28
Utility/Rent Assistance/ Gas Vouchers	81
Pregnancy Tests	11
Babies Born to Clients	30
Clothing Pickups & Diaper Packages	1694
Office Volunteers	12
Newborn Layette	30

- Adopt-A-Family, Pacific
- Assistance League of STL
- Eastern MO Newborns in Need
- Christ Prince of Peace, Manchester
- KC Council 8887, Valley Park
- KC Council 8073, Villa Ridge
- St. James, Catawissa
- Boeing Gift Match Program
- St. Mary of Perpetual Help, Villa Ridge
- Magnolia Soap Co., Wildwood
- Loving Stitches, Eureka

We are also grateful for the many *individual* donors who give financially and those who bring in supplies for our families!

### In Memory Of:

*Mary Wuschke*

by: Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Gleich

*Larry & Jean Ford*

by: Randy & Denise Smith

*Elaine Henry*

by: Larry Allen

*Ray Romine*

by: Jay & Mary Schultehenrich

*Dave Holdinghausen*

by: The Holdinghausens

*Judy Goring*

by: Kerry & Spring Messer

Sherry Burns

Betty Lamb

**In Honor of: *Special Neighbors***

by: Anonymous



## New beginnings at Birthright:

Towards the end of last year, a high school counselor reached out to us. She was looking for a teen mom support group for one of the students she was working with. We checked around but did not find anything local. Then we thought, why not start one ourselves?

We are starting this spring with monthly meetings and we hope to see it grow through the year. After touching base with a few teen mothers that already utilize our services at Birthright, we feel a steady group will be possible.

Imagine being in high school and trying to keep your grades up while being awakened several times a night with a baby. Or, just dealing with postpartum issues while your peers are picking out colleges. Thankfully some schools are making accommodations for these young mothers to continue their education but they are still looking for others going through the same situations.

We hope to help them form friendships and feel less alone in their circumstances by providing a safe place for them to share. After all, they have each chosen LIFE for their child, and we will strive to help them be the best parent they can be for their babies.

## Just a few of the little ones we get to watch grow up!



