

Breaking the Cycle of Abuse

CARE HELP HOPE

Throughout her young life, Christine* had endured unimaginable horrors. Some of her earliest childhood memories involve physical, sexual, and emotional abuse at the hands of her parents and their acquaintances. Years of terror led her to have a distorted view of the meaning of love and family. Given her history, it is

not surprising that as a young adult, she sought love from an abusive boyfriend. When she moved in with him and his friend, she found herself with two men—each with histories as prior child abusers.

Ironically, **Christine's pregnancy led to the beginning of the end of her years of abuse.** In September, when her cousin, Lisa, found out about the abusive situation and Christine's pregnancy, Lisa rescued Christine from the quagmire and sought support from local service organizations. On the very day of the rescue, Lisa introduced Christine to Pregnancy Services and we were able to meet with her immediately to discuss her situation and show her how we could help.

While Christine was certainly abortion vulnerable, she planned to carry the pregnancy to term and parent with the help of Lisa and her family. She realized she had no first hand experience of what a good mother was like, and she expressed the overwhelming desire to learn as much as she could about parenting so she could become a first-rate mom for her baby.

Christine eagerly met with her advocate every two weeks while supplementing those sessions with online parenting classes. Some of the topics she covered included pregnancy expectations, what is safe during pregnancy, bonding, healing from abuse, jobs vs. careers, childbirth, and infant care. In particular, she has learned about the permanent effects of child abuse and how to prevent it.

Through our *Earn While You Learn* program, Christine has been accumulating Baby Bucks, which she will use after her daughter is born to redeem for needed supplies—such as baby clothes, diapers, wipes, and baby furniture. She is very grateful for the support she is receiving from Pregnancy Services which will help her become an outstanding parent and break the cycle of abuse.

Christine is enthusiastically turning her life around and is committed to breaking the cycle of abuse in her family. She is currently working part-time, and she feels that her sessions with us are preparing her well for the birth of her daughter in two months.



Each day at our center, Moms and Dads are turning their lives around and making the decision to break cycles of dysfunction. Your partnership with Pregnancy Services is invaluable to making this happen. **Thank you for your support in allowing us to be there for clients like Christine** who want a better life for their children. We could not do this without you!

Together for Life,

Jamie Fisher, LAS, Executive Director

*Names and some minor details changed to protect identity.

FIELD TRIP FOR LIFE

Bark River homeschool group had a field trip to the center. The kids learned about our services and how we help families in our community. They were able to tour the facility, complete a craft and watch a demonstration with our new ultrasound machine. We ended our time together reading a book about being pro-life and each student received a reward for being a

voice for the unborn!





Even the smallest person can change the course of the future.





READY TO SERVE



We are blessed with the BEST! Our medical team is ready to serve Pregnancy Services. Together, they will continue to work to oversee the medical committee and they are committed to providing life affirming help to anyone experiencing an unexpected pregnancy. We are grateful for their willingness to share their time, talent and treasure with the ministry.

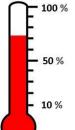
Medical team (pictured from left to right): Dr. Stephen Manier, Dr. Mary Whitmer, Dr. Keirsten Smith holding baby Charles, Dr. Czerkes, ultrasonographer Mary Ann Severyn, pharmacist Diane Kobasic and ultrasonographer Mary Beth Darion.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Because of the generosity of many donors, we are currently at 72% of our capital campaign goal of \$750,000 which will pay for the new building and needed renovations. Please consider a gift or pledge to help us reach our goal. For more information, please contact Jamie at (906) 786-7474, ext. 105.

Scan our QR code to make your onation via our safe online page today!

Thank you for your support!





WAYS TO SUPPORT

There are various ways to give a gift to PSDC that will have a lasting affect on our community. Is estate planning in your future? If so, a portion of your assets could be distributed to PSDC. Wishing to make a one time gift or a multi-gift pledge? Support our capital campaign with a gift of \$500 or more, and a leaf will be placed on our *Tree of Life* in honor or memory of your loved one. For information about the various ways to give or to become a *Partner for Life*, bequeath a gift, or to *Sponsor a Visit*, *Day*, *Client*, *or Room*, please contact Jamie Fisher at directorofpsdc@gmail.com or at (906) 786-7474, ext. 105.

GRATEFUL FOR SMOOTH TRANSITIONS

We are very grateful for the servant hearts of both **Diane Kobasic** and **Pastor Tim Haugen** who served on the Board of Directors during a time of exponential growth of the ministry. Both Diane and Pastor Tim's service was essential. Although Diane's three year term has come to an end she is committed to serve on the medical team and help with the Walk 4 Life, which holds a special place in Diane's heart. Pastor Tim is faithfully committed to praying for the center regularly as him and his wife, Ann, prepare to move closer to their family. Both Diane and Pastor Tim will be greatly missed.

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS



Judi King has been elected as the new Vice President. Judi previously served on the Board of Directors for Pregnancy Services. Judi felt called by the Lord to come back and begin another term serving in the ministry. Judi brings an exceptional amount of knowledge from the past years she has served. Judi enjoys spending time on her farm with her animals and side by siding with her husband Jim and family.

Ali Leveille has also begun her term serving for the ministry as the Treasurer. Ali has felt nudged by the Holy Spirit, in the last couple years, to serve in some capacity. We are grateful for Ali recognizing the call and for saying "YES" to the Lord. Ali is a dedicated prayer warrior and a woman of deep rooted faith. Ali enjoys golfing, playing tennis, and listening to music. She and her husband, Rob, have two young children.

Father Robb Jurkovich is also new to the Board of Directors and will help with the Walk 4 Life and the Banquet. He will also fill any gaps, when needed. We are blessed to have Father Robb join the team as he is a wonderful spiritual leader and advocate for life. He enjoys golfing, playing trivia and spending time with his family.



OPEN HOUSE AND ULTRASOUND DEDICATION



Friday, January 26th
2 – 4 PM Open House
3 PM Ultrasound Dedication

Ultrasound services will be available starting in January.
We are grateful to the Knights of Columbus and those who helped make this possible!



THANK YOU FOR THEIR GENEROSITY



Special thanks to Bill at Escanaba Steam Laundry for donating their services to help keep our rugs nice and clean in the center.

Pregnancy Services Founder, Carol Carlson presents a check to Executive Director, Jamie Fisher, in the amount of \$2,470.57 on behalf of the Delta County Right to Life. Carol was thrilled to hold baby Alahnya Devin when she stopped in.

Sharon Caron and her ladies group from Grace Church held a Christmas event and all gifts given at their event were baby items donated to our center.

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Saint Francis De Sales, Ford River Bible Chapel, Saint Anthony/Saint Thomas, All Saints Catholic Church, Divine Infant of Prague and Saint Joseph/Saint Patrick FOR HOSTING CHANGE FOR LIFE.

Thank you to St. Anne Church, New Life Church and Grace Church FOR THEIR REGULAR SUPPORT. ***

Delta County Trades & Labor Council, Faith Lutheran Church in Rock, Garden Christian Fellowship Women's Guild, John & Melissa Besse Foundation, Knights of Columbus of Bark River, Our Savior Lutheran Church, Right to Life of Delta County, Robert & Jeanine Dagenais Foundation, Sackerson Charitable Foundation, St. Francis Fraternity of the Secular Order of Franciscans, St. Joseph Church Choir, Perkins, Watson Bible Chapel, and the Wells Lions Club FOR THEIR ORGANIZATIONAL GIFTS.



CARE HELP HOPE

2501 First Avenue North Escanaba, MI 49829



MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

In Memory of

Marie Ahles and Harold Cook by Gary & Lou Ann Cook • Clarence, Alice & Betty Bartosz, and Morton & Muriel Scheuren by Duane & Pat Scheuren • Ed Blahnik by the Blahnik Family • Richard Carlson by Joe & Denise Gillis • Rita Coulombe by James & Joann Aird • Jeremy Cousineau by Mike & Connie Cousineau • Adelore Gerou by Joe & Lori Salbert • Abe Getzloff, Sue McDonnell, Ray Mott, and Henry Polishak by Mitzi Barra • Walid Habo by Adam & Soraya Coble • Steve & Carol Hereau by Leroy Hereau
• Catherine Johnson by Sara Lustick • John Paul Lamberg by Dorothy Kollman • Cindy LaTulip by Paul & Janis Groleau • Lorraine Anne Lippens by Al & Jan Mott • Lilah Marenger by Ellen Chenail • Joe Mileski by Pam Mileski • Don and Robert Pellegrini by Pat Pellegrini • Paul & Dorothy Schram by Paul Schram • Frank & Mary Stoykovich by Gayle Stoykovich • Betty Taylor by Todd & Mary Hurley • Dick Thompson by Lynn & Katherine Thompson-Vanders • Margaret VanDamme by St. Joseph Church Choir, Perkins • Tom Way by Pat Way • Glen White by Tim, Patti & Kevin Gould • Unborn Babies by Roger & Amy Aho

In Honor of

- Thomas Kareckas III by Kim Kareckas Trey LaMarch by Rick & Lori LaMarch
- Char & Rod Rousseau by Dave & Carol Carlson Sr. Gloria Schultz by her Friends
- Amy VanElsacker by Luanne VanElsacker Rachel's Vineyard by Peter & Laura Strom
 - Thanksgiving for Healthy Grandchildren and the Magic of Christmas Miracles by Charles & Emily Moreau Life by Roger & Amy Aho Mothers by Donna Ritchie

FREE SERVICES PROVIDED

- Lab quality pregnancy tests
- Ultrasound services
- Pregnancy options education
- •Earn While You Learn parenting classes
- Material assistance
- Adoption support
- •Referrals to community agencies
- Post abortion support and recovery
- •24 Hour pregnancy helpline
- Prenatal and postnatal support
- Breastfeeding support
- •Man to man mentoring
- •Healthy relationship education

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Dr. Mary Whitmer, Secretary
Ali Leveille, Treasurer
Fr. Robb Jurkovich
Jamie Fisher

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