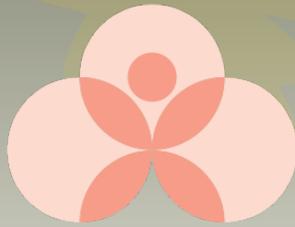


F A L L 2 0 1 5



THE  
pregnancy  
care center  
OF ROCKFORD



## The Support Sets Us Apart

In late 2008, 18-year-old Cassey had dreams and plans to attend Southern Illinois University when she discovered she was pregnant. Having lost her mother to illness when she was in fifth grade and having no contact with her father, she had moved around with family members for several years until finally settling in with her grandparents. Needless to say, they were not happy to hear about her pregnancy.

The father of the baby was in the picture but was unreliable at best. She was very close to her brother, but he had just shipped out to Afghanistan. Otherwise, she had a fourteen-year-old stepsister. For all intents and purposes, Cassey was facing her situation alone and didn't know what to do.

A personal friend had gotten pregnant the year before and had come to The Pregnancy Care Center and received help. So on a cold December day, Cassey entered The Pregnancy Care Center on West State Street. She took a pregnancy test to confirm she was pregnant followed by an ultrasound showing she was six and a half weeks along. Despite considering herself a very private person, she tentatively met with a mentor and listened to her options. Her "lovely mentor" prayed for her.

She decided to carry the baby and parent, and it was the amazing support that faithfully brought her back week after week for her appointments. Throughout her pregnancy, she endured a car accident, a home invasion, betrayal and (continued on page 5)

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One of our newest additions



# Celebrating Life!

On Thursday, October 8, 2015, more than 300 people gathered at The Radisson to celebrate saved and changed lives through The Pregnancy Care Center.

## Honoring Our Life Savers

One highlight of the banquet was honoring special partners that make our work possible. Pictured below is Doug Price of Midwest MailWorks, Executive Director Tiffany Staman and Board President Scott Richert, Dr. Robert Pierce with Nurse Manager Simone Locklund; Allan White on behalf of Maywood Evangelical Free Church and Thomas Muldowney of Savant Capital Management. It was a joy to celebrate and honor these individuals and organizations for their many years of support!



After5 Jazz graced us with music throughout the evening. A powerful video featuring the stories of our staff members expressed the heart of our ministry and why we do what we do. If you were not able to attend, you may view the video on The Pregnancy Care Center of Rockford's YouTube channel. It was a beautiful celebration of life!



*celebrate Life*  
Thank you to our sponsors!

**LIFE GIVERS**  
Belvidere Family Pet Hospital

**LIFE SAVERS**  
Thomas & Rosemary Muldowney

**LIFE PRESERVERS**  
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**LIFE LINES**  
Dr. Errol & Rosemary Baptist  
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Dr. John & Dena Koehler  
Dean Alan Olson Foundation  
OSF HealthCare

Another highlight was revealing our plan to purchase a medical mobile unit and have a sample "Stork Bus" for donors to see and tour following the banquet! There was definitely excitement in the air!





## We're Hitting the Road!

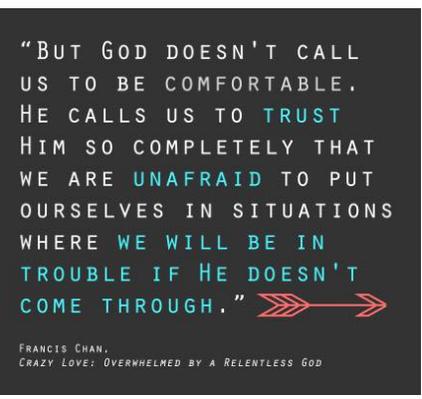
A highlight of the Annual Banquet was the exciting announcement that we are going mobile! Virtually a medical clinic on wheels, we will be able to do pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, STD testing and mentoring appointments all over town.

Going mobile will allow us to serve the various populations in our community and meet women where they live. We will be able to have significantly higher visibility and reach clients who have never even heard of The Pregnancy Care Center or who can't get to us. Through mobile units, other clinics have increased the number of women served by 400%. At least three out of five women who board a mobile unit choose to carry their baby. We believe our success will be no different.

After much research, we chose to partner with an organization called **Save The Storks**. We believe they have put together the most professional package, with a beautiful, custom-built, highly efficient, low maintenance, state-of-the-art mobile unit. Their partnership also offers marketing tools, strategic

planning, localized grants and monthly operational support. They offer a long-term relationship rather than a one-time business transaction.

Save the Storks has secured an amazing partnership with Mercedes Benz to build these mobile pregnancy centers out of their Sprinter buses. This is the best engine, making it the lowest cost per mile vehicle in its class. Unlike other options that offered one-year, 100,000-mile warranty, this one has three-year, 300,000-mile warranty. It's big enough to be fully functional but small enough to go anywhere and park in a regular parking space. And it doesn't require a special license to drive.



**We know that this is a huge act of faith.** Francis Chan wrote, "God doesn't call us to be comfortable. He calls us to trust Him so completely that we are unafraid to put ourselves in situations where we will be in trouble if He doesn't come through."

So far, we've secured permission from the City of Rockford to park it around town, secured several partners in very strategic locations that will allow us to operate on a weekly basis, confirmed that a local auto body will service it, have overnight storage options, and are training new volunteers who will be ready to take a shift on the stork bus.

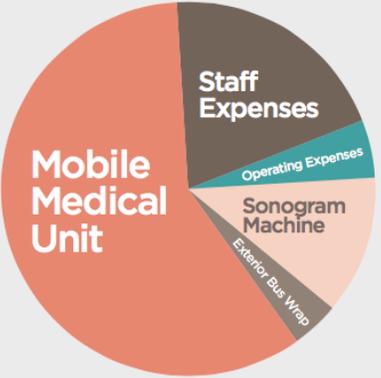
Now we have to fund it. While we got a great jumpstart at the banquet, we have a ways to go.

**If you are interested in finding out more about partnering with us on the Stork Bus, call Tiffany at 815.680.5101.** We are excited to watch how God will come through in the days to come!

### THE COST OF GOING MOBILE

We need your support in this venture to provide expanded, accessible resources and answers to abortion-vulnerable women in our community.

ITEM	INVESTMENT
Mobile Medical Unit	\$120,000*
Staff Expenses	\$40,000
Operating Expenses	\$10,000
Sonogram Machine	\$25,000
Exterior Bus Wrap	\$7,500
<b>Total (estimated):</b>	<b>\$202,500</b>





# Our Life Savers

## Better Health4Life Sets New Record

The 2015 Better Health 4Life was the most successful in its 22-year history! Dr. Carotta and his staff saw dozens of patients in one day and more than \$6,000 was raised as well as many in-kind donations. With Steve Benson at the grill, an amazing spread of treats, free t-shirts and giveaways, it was a fun, festive day! Patients received tours of The Pregnancy Center and saw firsthand how we serve our clients. We are deeply grateful to the entire staff at Carotta Chiropractic for hosting this incredible event!



*Lindsay Letters*  
- easy on the eyes -  
- smart on the soul -

## Lindsay Letters Decks Our Walls

As a generous gift to The Pregnancy Center, former Rockford resident, Lindsay Sherbondy donated more than 20 of her framed prints to hang in our two centers. "The Pregnancy Center has always been close to my heart. I pray the words on my prints can bring hope to a young woman or man who walks into the center!" Check out Lindsay Letters at <http://lindsayletters.com>.



## Generosity Knows No Age Limit

15-year-old Adam Locklund caught the vision for what we do at The Pregnancy Care Center and surprised us last August when he sent a donation with a note that this was money from doing odd jobs. Since then, he has sent five more gifts – his tithe from fixing up mowers and other lawn equipment and selling them. We are moved each time we see an envelope come from him in the mail. You inspire us all, Adam!



## Clean, Cool & Groomed...

Special thanks to All Seasons Carpet Cleaning for keeping our carpets clean and Rockford Heating and Air Conditioning for keeping us cool! Your generosity is a gift to our staff, volunteers and clients!

Thanks to Peter and Sanda Powell (pictured left) for overhauling all the landscaping at our West State Facility and maintaining it so beautifully!

Thanks to Vitamin Angels for granting us a year of pre-natal and children's vitamins for our clients and their children!

Thanks to Doug Price and our friends at Midwest MailWorks for providing the mailing services for our newsletters!



**allseasons**  
carpet cleaning

**Rockford**  
HEATING & AIR  
CONDITIONING



**vitamin angels**

**MidWest MailWorks**  
Experts at putting  
your message  
in the right hands.



# The Support Sets Us Apart

(continued from front page)

abandonment from the father of the baby. Any one of those stressors could have caused her to give up and change her mind. Instead, she slowly opened herself up and processed each challenge with her mentor. She attended additional parenting classes and received material resources like clothing, diapers, a crib, and car seat.

In July 2009, Cassey gave birth to a baby boy and named him Braedon. Courageously, she went back to school and graduated from Rockford Career College with a degree in Massage Therapy. Today, Braedon, pictured left, is a lively, six-year-old first grader and is his mom's pride and joy.

If Cassey could say anything to other young women facing an unplanned pregnancy, she would tell them that *they can do it*. "While pregnancy may not feel ideal and parenting may change your future plans, **it is doable, especially with the guidance and support of The Pregnancy Care Center.**"



## In The Words of Our Clients...

### What do you like best about The Pregnancy Care Center?

"These Christ-centered wonderful women of God touched me today. I thank God for them."

"I came in very nervous and left feeling much more comfortable and excited to start the process."

"Very warm and professional. Someone I don't mind opening up to."

"I like how they talk to you without judging."

"Services are free and everyone is very kind. I'm very grateful."

"Very welcome, loveable people."

"How sweet and nice everyone was to us."

## Special Gifts Given



### In Memory of Marilyn Roden

Allan & Donna Benson

### In Memory of Michael & Rachel

Laurie Burnworth

### In Honor of Rick & Cathy Toledo

Pastor Allan & Marie Buss

### In Memory of Eva

Karla DeRose

### In Memory of Brad Moberg

Susan Moberg

### In Memory of Grace Guerrero

Cathy & Tom Wilcox

## Mark Your Calendars

The Rockford Chamber of Commerce Advantage Club Originals will host the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual **"Good Morning, Rockford!"** to benefit The Pregnancy Care Center of Rockford October 27 from 7-9 am at The Hilton Garden Inn (7675 Walton Street). Enjoy a hot breakfast, door prizes & networking for a donation of toilet paper, diapers or wipes!

### FREE Lunch and Learn

November 12, 2015 from Noon-1 pm at the YWCA (4990 East State Street, Rockford, IL Conf. Room C)  
RSVP to [Liz@thepregnancycenter.org](mailto:Liz@thepregnancycenter.org) or call 815.680.5107.

### In the upcoming weeks, The Pregnancy Care Center will be doing presentations at:

- The Cosmopolitan Club (Oct 15)
  - North Park Covenant Church (Oct 18)
  - Mt. Olive Lutheran Church (Oct 25)
  - Northeast Christian Church (Oct 25)
  - Poplar Grove United Methodist Church (Nov 8)
- To arrange a presentation, call Liz at 815.680.5107.



Administrative Offices & East State Center:  
4921 East State Street, Rockford, IL 61108  
West State Center:  
611 West State Street, Rockford, IL 61102  
Phone 815.997.1200 fax 815.997.1289  
[www.thepregnancycenter.org](http://www.thepregnancycenter.org)



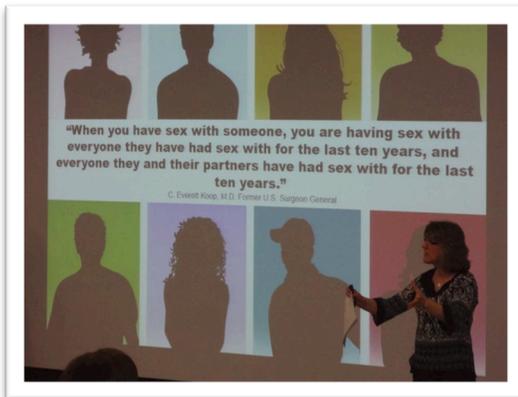
# New Volunteers Bring Positive Choices to Teens

Recently, Barna Research published a report in which 40% of 18 and 19-year-olds surveyed said they felt their contraceptive-based sex education made sex seem like an expectation. 32% said they felt more pressure to have sex from this type of sex ed than they felt from their boyfriend or girlfriend.

Hearing teens speak out affirms why The Pregnancy Care Center is so passionate about our Positive Choices program. We introduce the counter-cultural idea that the *only* way to avoid sexual risk is by waiting for sex, and we cast a vision for a healthy lifelong marriage relationship of freedom and fulfillment.

In spring of 2015, our Director of Education facilitated 69 Positive Choices

presentations to nearly 700 participants at West, Kennedy, Rockford Christian, Christian Life, Rockford Lutheran, Rock House Kids and Rockford Rescue



Mission. This fall, we added Eisenhower and Belvidere South Middle Schools to the mix.

This summer, God provided five new volunteers to go into schools (pictured left to right): Attica Porter, Carol Riemers, Kerrie Schlenker, Rachel LaMay, and Katie Littlefield (with Aimee Orem).

Each woman has a desire to relate with teens, gain their trust, and speak into their lives, challenging them to make wise choices. Each was willing to invest time and resources to become trained and certified as "Relationships Under Construction" instructors. We are thankful for this amazing team!

## Have you heard the buzz about online training?

This summer, we launched online training for new volunteers. Here's what people think of it:

"My experience with the online training has been great. It is very easy to use and full of wonderful information. I have especially enjoyed watching the videos." – Karen

"I think the online portal is a great way to get people through training throughout the year and more doable for some than a full day session. It's great to be able to pause if my child needs something and pick it up again later." – Erin

"The online training has been great! The videos are interesting, heart touching, and valuable. The exercises helped me to ponder the material and grow excited about opportunities to minister!" – Lori

"Doing the online training was such a benefit to me. It allowed me time to process the material and watch and re-watch videos as I found helpful. I appreciate having this option available." – Becky

"The training process was very flexible and engaging. I found the training materials to be both sensitive and compassionate. It was easy to complete at my own pace, and the staff was available every step of the way to answer any questions that I had." – Rachel

"I have really enjoyed the online training! I love that I can work at my own pace and I'm not overloaded with information. I feel like I retain more this way! I'm excited to begin my new journey with The Pregnancy Care Center!" - Sarah

With client numbers the highest they've been in years, we desperately need more volunteers, including men and Spanish speakers. We can tailor your skills, passion, and availability to the best volunteer fit for you. What's keeping you from getting started today?

If you are interested in volunteering, please email [aimee@thepregnancycarecenter.org](mailto:aimee@thepregnancycarecenter.org) or call Aimee at 815.680.5103. You can download the application at [www.thepregnancycarecenter.org/volunteer](http://www.thepregnancycarecenter.org/volunteer).