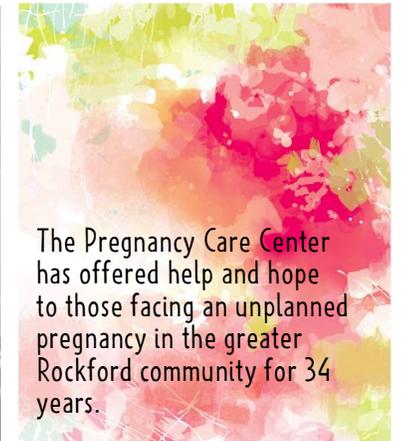




THE  
**pregnancy**  
care center  
OF ROCKFORD

Spring 2017



The Pregnancy Care Center has offered help and hope to those facing an unplanned pregnancy in the greater Rockford community for 34 years.

## Signs of New Life & Deep Growth

At our board retreat in January, we celebrated our new facility and God's amazing provision. We celebrated the mobile unit and growth in clients. We celebrated God's goodness in providing gifted leaders and needed finances. And we asked God, "What's next?"

We began praying. We started asking the question, what would it look like to serve our clients more holistically?

The truth is, we are seeing more pregnant clients than ever who are homeless, living in their car, or couch surfing from friend to friend... clients who have dropped out of school, are not working, and are living off whatever public aid they can. The fastest growing homeless population in Rockford is the single, twenty-something mom with children.

**Moreover, did you know... 62% of teen moms drop out before completing high school; less than 2% complete college by age 30?**

**Or that the median income of a teen mother is less than \$26,000, and 80% will spend part of their life on welfare?**

**Or that 80% of fathers do not marry the mother, leaving them with little or no support at all and their child without a father figure in their life?**

**Or that 70% of these mothers will have a recurring pregnancy *within the next 24 months* of the first child unless there is intervention, trapping them in a never-ending cycle of depending on welfare from generation to generation?**

We have seen this to be true.

And we believe God is leading us to do something about it.

As a result, we announced at our Annual Banquet that we are developing a brand new holistic case management program to help clients create a plan to change their lives.

By assessing all areas of a client's life, a case manager can help a client capture a greater vision for her life, create a customized plan with attainable goals, and hold her accountable- one accomplishment at a time.

**The outcome will be women who capture a vision for a different life and are empowered to overcome whatever obstacles are in their way so they can finish high school, pursue additional education, secure jobs, become independent, contributing members of their community without relying on government assistance.** (cont. p.2)

4108 Morsay Drive, Rockford, IL 61107  
815.997.1200 [thepregnancycarecenter.org](http://thepregnancycarecenter.org)  
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8 am-4 pm; Friday 9 am - 1 pm



## From the Executive Director



## Signs of New Life & Deeper Growth (cont.)



As a child, I loved winter with its giant snowflakes and lopsided snowmen and flying sleds down thrilling hills. As a teenager, I loved summer with

freedom from school, hot sandy beaches and cool swimming pools. As an adult, I have loved autumn with its crisp cool air beckoning sweatshirts and bonfires and trees ablaze with color. But lately, I have fallen in love with spring... with life emerging everywhere from what seemed frozen and dead. The four mama robins building nests on each side of my house bring me joy and daily anticipation. Maybe I love spring because it represents new growth, new life, new hope for change. In her song, *Every Season*, Nicole Nordeman sings:

*And everything that's new has bravely surfaced  
Teaching us to breathe  
What was frozen through is newly purposed  
Turning all things green  
So it is with You and how You make me new  
With every season's change  
And so it will be as You are re-creating me  
Summer, autumn, winter, spring*

We often think of our clients as the ones needing to experience new life, growth and hope for the future. And while that's true, I have been reminded this year, that I, too, need to *re-learn* how to breathe, how to let God re-purpose what has become frozen inside me. I, too, need to be made new each day and each season. *I cannot depend on last season's growth.* I must be willing to undergo change if I invite and expect our clients to do the same.

May God renew you this spring, making this a beautiful season of growth, life, and change for you and yours.  
With great joy,

*Siffany*

(continued from page one)

**Their children will be raised in homes that are more stable, secure, and healthier. They will have less repeat unplanned pregnancies and break generational cycles of poverty that impact both the lives of the mothers and their children.**

To that end, we have hired our first full-time case manager. God provided an amazing woman, Brittney Fry, to fill this critical role.

Brittney Fry is a Belvidere native who has worked for the past four years at the Rosecrance Ware Center as a case manager in an adult outpatient mental health program.

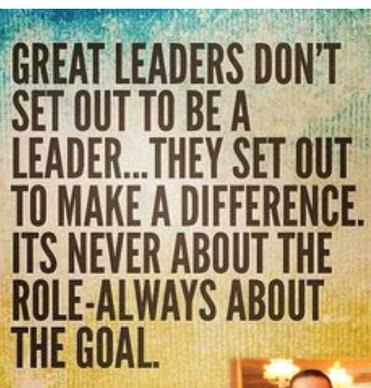
She has been a volunteer for Rockford Sexual Assault Counseling since August 2010, providing crisis services to girls and women following a sexual assault or dealing with the ongoing trauma of a past assault. She also serves on the board for Rockford Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation, providing services and support to women in our community who are sexually exploited and trafficked.

Brittney is fun loving but passionate about empowering women, and she works tirelessly to improve the lives of individuals and our community as a whole. We can't wait to see what God does in the days ahead!



## Servant Leaders

The Pregnancy Care Center of Rockford is fortunate to have a strong Board of Directors who deeply desires to make a difference. They have servants' hearts and are actively engaged in the work of the ministry, raising awareness and funds, as well as providing strategic guidance and insight. We are so thankful for their commitment and leadership!



Pastor Alvin White (pictured with his wife, LaToya) leads Empowering Word Christian Center and is our newest board member.



Left to Right: Scott Richert, Tiffany Staman, Dr. Luke Herman, Michelle Bowman, Janine Schneider, Anita Countryman, and Lois Dixon. Not pictured, Pastor Alvin White.

## Positive Choices Sees Leadership Change

In January, Director of Education, Aimee Orem, announced her retirement from Positive Choices, a program she helped birth and lead for the past five years. Positive Choices seeks to empower students to win in life, love, and relationships. It has grown from a dream to a thriving program with eight



committed volunteers who invest in several schools every week – West, Kennedy, Eisenhower, Guilford, Harlem High School, Belvidere South MS, and Belvidere High School as well as Rockford Christian High School each semester. In 2016, the team facilitated more than 225 presentations and impacted hundreds of lives with their creativity and love.



We are so grateful for Aimee's strong leadership of this program, and we will celebrate her ministry with an **Open House** at The Pregnancy Care Center on Friday, May 19 from 4-6 pm. We would love for you to join us!

God faithfully provided an amazing woman to step into this role, and we are overjoyed to welcome Tracy Breit to our staff. Tracy was born and raised in Oklahoma City. She attended Ozark Christian College and Missouri Southern State University where she attained an associate's degree in Biblical Knowledge and a bachelor's degree in Secondary Education (Math).



In May 2006, she began working full-time in Student Ministry at Northeast Christian Church in Rockford and has served there ever since.

She met her husband, Danny, at Northeast and they now live in Rockton with their two boys, Garrett and Connor. Tracy is extroverted, loves people, and has always had a passion to help teenage girls know their worth and identity in Christ. Words cannot express our gratitude that God has provided Tracy to carry this critical ministry forward!



## The Stork Delivered Right on Time...

"Stork Bus" Director, Amanda O'Neil, went into labor hours after our Annual Banquet, giving birth to a healthy, baby boy, Cillian Wolf (pronounced Killian, a traditional Irish name!). Congratulations to Amanda and John!

With Amanda transitioning to her new role as a full-time mom, we welcome to our team a new Mobile Unit Director, Kathy Harms, to operate our "Stork Bus."

Kathy is not new to The Pregnancy Care Center. She has volunteered for the last nine years as a mentor in our center before sensing God nudge her to apply for this position. Kathy has a deep sense of calling to The PCC.

Kathy was a career banker prior to taking an early retirement. She served Amcore Bank for 29 years, progressing from the position of teller to Vice President of

Retail Operations. She grew up in Stillman Valley, the place she still calls home with her husband, Tom. They have three grown children and four grandchildren. She actively serves in her church, particularly in the area of Missions. Kathy has a contagious love for God and people, and we are thrilled to have her join us!



CELEBRATE LIFE ANNUAL BANQUET

# JOIN THE JOURNEY

## Hundreds "Joined the Journey" at the 2017 Annual Banquet!

On Thursday, April 6, 2017, more than 320 people gathered at the Radisson for The Pregnancy Care Center's Annual Banquet. The room was filled with Celtic music flowing from Emerald Wind's harp and flute, delicious food and laughter around the tables, and a powerful video featuring one of The PCC's clients.

We also honored four extraordinary life-saving partners: Temple Baptist Church, Subway JPW Inc, Knights of Columbus #4330, and Linda Doherty, RN. Executive Director, Tiffany Staman, shared the vision for adding case management to our services, empowering women beyond their pregnancies to capture a different vision for their future and redirect their life. The event raised nearly \$65,000 thanks to generous sponsors and partners!



Linda Doherty, RN, was honored for her volunteer service on our ultrasound team.



Temple Baptist Church was honored for it's long-term partnership. Senior Pastor, Bill Patterson is pictured with The PCC founder, Lois Dixon.

Jeff & Phoebe Wilhelm of Subway JPW, Inc. were honored for their many years of generous support.



Board President Anita Countryman welcomed guests.

Below Center: Liz Feehan and Karen LaFollette enjoy their dinner.



Rick Broderick, Rex Lowrance, and Santiago Montelongo of Knights of Columbus #4330. Their council was honored for raising more than \$31,000 for a new portable ultrasound unit.



### Thank You to our Generous Sponsors!

**Thomas & Rosemary Muldowney**  
Subway JPW, Inc.

**Dr. Errol & Rosemary Baptist**  
The Morrissey Family Businesses  
Caraotta Chiropractic Orthopedics  
Forest City Dental

**Dr. John & Dena Koehler**  
Perry K. Tuneberg, DDS  
Upper Cervical Care Center -Rockford





## Gifts Given In Memory Of...

**In Memory of Forey & Dee Block**  
Lawrence & Lisa Fountain

**In Memory of Cade Cedarleaf**  
Janell Cedarleaf

**In Memory of Grace Guerrero**  
Tom & Cathy Wilcox

**In Memory of Vivan Levin**  
Anonymous

Thomas & Helen Bleed

Paul Congdon

Bradley Holt

Mike & Kathleen Lang

Jonathan & Lynn Past

Psaltis Chiropractic Clinic

Stanley & Joan Tunnell

Rex & Holly Schrader

Arlene Wahlgren

Thomas & Linda Whitford

**In Memory of Linda's little one**  
Rick & Terri Borrett

**In Memory of the Siblings of**  
Dave & Mimi Streed  
Al & Donna Benson

## Spring Training, Spring Cleaning, Spring Blessings...



In April, the entire staff was privileged to attend the Heartbeat Int'l Conference in Chicago, IL. We joined 1200 other leaders of pregnancy centers from 22 countries. All of our new staff members were able to attend, and it was a great time of learning. We were also very encouraged that we are accomplishing our mission and doing it well! At right is the staff after completing a fun team building exercise.



At the Association of Fundraising Professional's "Honor Your Own" Breakfast, we honored RaeAnn Feehan who has volunteered as a mentor in our center for the last nine years. She has had more than 775 appointments with clients and impacted many lives! Thank you for your service, RaeAnn! Pictured at left is AFP President, Denise Noe, Larry & RaeAnn Feehan, and Liz Feehan.



Thank you to students and leaders from Northeast Christian Church for doing Spring Yard Clean-up! You were awesome!

Special thanks to Doug Price and team at Midwest Mailworks for providing the mailing service for our newsletter!



## In Their Own Words...

"5 stars! The staff is amazing, they helped me out when I found out I was pregnant. Showed me and gave me a lot of positive views. I can't thank them more for being so calm and helpful."



# Save the date!



# #HIKEFORLIFE

September 16, 2017  
Midway Village Walking Path, Rockford

Registration 8:30a/Hike 9:30a  
More details to come this summer!



## 10 Ways Your Partnership Sustains Us

The Pregnancy Care Center offers all our services for free and does not receive any state or federal funding. People are often shocked when they hear that and ask how we are "supported." We explain that there are hundreds of individuals, businesses, churches, and organizations that invest in the work we are doing and believe that their "return on investment" are hundreds of lives saved and changed. (To hear one story of a changed life, go to our website and watch Bethany's story.)

Our partners make changed lives a reality everyday through many avenues; you, too, can partner in any of the following ways:

1. Arrange for us to make a **presentation** at your workplace, church or community organization. We can speak for 5 minutes or 50, depending on what you would like. Or bring a new friend to **tour of our facility** at an upcoming **Lunch and Learn**. Your advocacy helps raise awareness, volunteers, and funds!
2. Participate in (or bring an entire team!) our **Hike for Life** in the fall or our **Annual Banquet** in the spring.
3. Organize a **baby bottle campaign** in your church or workplace. The average bottle collects \$25-30, and throughout the year, we raise around \$30,000 in loose change!
4. Organize a **collection** of new or gently used baby items or hold a baby shower to stock our charming baby boutique!
5. If you are a member of **Thrivent Financial**, we are approved for Thrivent Choice Dollars. You can also designate us to receive a small portion of every purchase through **AmazonSmile** and **Schnucks**. Every penny counts!
6. Make a **tax-deductible donation** by mail or online – safe and secure through our website. You can give a one-time gift or join the "**Circle of Life**" monthly givers by setting up an automatic payment. Call Liz at 815.680.5107 for more details.
7. Give a gift of **stock** or **real estate**. Many donors prefer to give through non-traditional methods due to tax benefits.
8. Include The Pregnancy Care Center in your **estate plan** or **will** and pass on the legacy of life long after yours!
9. **Volunteer**. We have 45-50 volunteers weekly serve as receptionists, mentors, nurses, and Positive Choices facilitators. Volunteers also enter data, organize events, and sort donations. We need you!
10. Last, but not least, please **pray** that God's love, grace, and truth will flow from our center and be a safe place for women and men in our community.



*Thank you for  
investing in saving  
& changing lives!*

