

Contact Information:

- 620 East Smith Rd., Unit E-5A, Medina, Ohio 44256
- Phone: 330-722-1190 Email: birthcaremedina@aol.com
- Website: www.birthcaremedina.org

Open Hours:

- Monday and Tuesday: 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
- Thursday: 12 Noon - 2:00 p.m.
- Saturday: 10:00 a.m. – 12 Noon

Birthcare of Medina County

February 2015

Providing for little ones what love cannot buy since 1976

Generosity Abounds!

With the help of parishioners of **St. Francis Xavier Parish, Medina**, and their Giving Tree, Birthcare was able to provide abundant Christmas gifts for 11 families in need. In addition, **Dave and Marie Edmonds** adopted one family and a group of families, including the **Salek Family**, the **Reilman Family**, the **Straslicka Family**, the **Sweet Family** and the **Gallagher Family**, adopted a single mother with six children. In all, 13 Birthcare client families were recipients of wonderful Christmas blessings which touched the lives of 15 adults and 26 children.

Other significant gift collections arrived from **St. Martin of Tours Parish, Valley City; St. Francis Xavier School, Medina; Church in the Valley, Peninsula; Traci Winkler's language arts students at Medina High School; Padua Franciscan High School, Parma; Westfield Insurance Employee Penny Parade and Drs. Benninger, Schween & Schmidt staff.**



number 61% while 69% are age 29 or under and 73% are single, separated/divorced or widowed. A mere quarter are supported by a full-time job. 325 individuals and groups donated new and used items in 2014. Diapers were the top reason for 958 office visits. (See full stats report on page 5.)

Meet A Client

One of our Christmas gift families is a single mother in her twenties with a young daughter. Volunteers are impressed with her hard-work ethic and her determination to have a better life for herself and daughter. With a full-time job, this client currently walks to/from work. She is taking Driver's Ed to learn to drive and has long-term goals to complete her education and find a good job.

Our Needs

- Baby wash/shampoo
- Pajamas, 2T-5T
- Socks
- Winter clothing & coats, 2T-5T

January Service Statistics

Volunteers met 81 clients on 84 visits in January with these needs :

- 67 requests for infant clothing
- 27 requests for infant formula
- 6 requests for baby food
- 93 requests for diapers
- 3 requests for car seats
- 1 request for crib/ mattress



St. Francis Xavier School student council member Matt Russo leads the procession of baskets bearing basic needs for Birthcare at a prayer service.

Board Members Needed

We are currently accepting applications for two board positions. Applicants should be able to attend three board meetings annually, have a strong interest in helping families with young children and be able to serve a three-year term. Email your request to birthcaremedina@aol.com and a board member will contact you.

Valuation Process Complete

Volunteer **Suzie Milam** has coordinated the demanding task of assigning values to all new donated material items given to Birthcare during the year. For 2014, her summary shows Birthcare was the recipient of 3,286 new items valued at \$17,418. Nearly \$5,000 was given to us in diapers/pull-ups and more than \$3,400 in baby food and formula! Although we receive lots of new donations throughout the year, December is especially challenging to keep up with incoming items. Those gifts sustain us for many, many months!

2014 Client Report

Our 50 adult and 17 teen volunteers compassionately served 347 client families during 1,049 visits in 2014. The client count is 10 less than served in 2013. Those families contained 694 children whose lives were improved by help from Birthcare. Medina City clients

Sincere Thanks for Financial Gifts, December - January

- John/Kathy Batchelder
- William/Alice Batchelder
- John/Michelle Bevec
- Carol Bianchi
- Kevin/Chris Carpenter
- Catholic Charities
- Thomas M. Chester
- Church in the Valley, Peninsula
- Beatrice/Phyllis Demko
- Dave/Marie Edmonds
- Doug/Stephanie Edwards
- Janet Grimm
- Gary/Jolly Hallman
- Philip C. Heath
- Jeff/Mary Kase
- Patti Kornowski
- Sean/Kelly Kriak
- Catherine B. Lynch
- Mike Malloy
- William/Carol Metzinger
- Mr./Mrs. Joseph Olexa
- Brian/Susan Orians
- Padua Franciscan High School Christmas for Others
- Positive designations from United Way of Medina County, United Way of Summit County, and Truist
- Adrienne Riggerbach
- Paul/Joelle Rose
- Dominic/Mary Pat Salomone
- Jeffrey/Suzanne Simmons
- Evelyn Stang
- Jon/Barb Steingass
- Gloria Stephens
- Ric/Sue Sturm
- Linda A. Sullivan
- Westfield Insurance Employee Penny Parade
- Jeff/Jackie Wolff
- Kenneth & Barbara Wolff Foundation
- Wolff Bros. Supply Co. Board of Directors

In Memory of Maria Bedocs

From Sandra Bevec

In Memory of Brenda Fay

From Kathy Richards

In Memory of Kristen Holderead

From Sandra Bevec

In Memory of Jane Leaver

From Sandra Bevec

In Memory of Russ Metzger

From Sandra Bevec

In Memory of Kaylee Grace Posa

From Mary Renee Meyer

In Memory of Marita Tulisak

From Ric/Meg Benninger

From Sandra Bevec

From Stephen J. Brown Co, LPA

From Tad/Jan Coleman

Special Thanks To:

Sister Sandy Bevec for inputting our client statistics and **Joanne Weiler** for summarizing the client data.

John and Ann Marie Krynock, for delivering items from the St. Martin Parish Christmas collection.

Sally Pap and Barb Harris, for coordinating the Christmas gift program, including meeting clients and picking up gifts. They had help from **Mimi Thompson, Mary Riley, Mary Kase and Sue Sturm**.

Ed Bugner, CPA, for preparing our financial statements and reviewing monthly financial reports plus quarterly payroll taxes.

Sincere Thanks for Material Gifts, December - January

- Sharon Anderson
- Leanne Baker
- Drs. Benninger, Schween & Schmidt Staff
- Rachel Biedenbach
- Paul/Pamela Bugner
- Paula Chase
- Church in the Valley, Peninsula
- Amanda Dillon
- Lisa Dreaden
- Bill Elligott
- Diane Gay
- Mary Frances Heyer
- Theresa Kalka
- Danielle Kocurkovic

- Lisa Kolecki
- Michelle Lutz
- Kayla Nagy
- Karen Peacock
- Laura Rice
- Lisa Santiago
- St. Francis Xavier Parish & School
- St. Martin of Tour Parish
- St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Francis Xavier Parish
- Rebecca Smith
- Deb Stewart
- Terry Tulisak
- Westfield Companies
- Melissa Willetts
- Traci Winkler and her Medina HS language arts students
- The Gingerbread House
- Ellen Zavagro

Volunteer Notes

Welcome to new adult volunteer **Claire Hurteau**, recent Xavier University graduate who works at Maxim Healthcare Services and St. Francis Xavier Rectory. Claire was a former teen volunteer. Our newest teen volunteer is **Megan Risser**, a senior at Walsh Jesuit High School.

Thank you to all our amazing volunteers who are so attentive to staffing, handling clients with respect and making sure that they leave with necessities to sustain their small children.

The same can be said for our dedicated board members and our faithful corps of donors who give the overwhelming support needed to make all Birthcare does possible!

Barbara Harris

Executive Director
(330.441.2071)

Diane Bugner

Assistant Executive Director
(330.723.5955)

***In Memoriam:
Marita Tulisak
Birthcare Director 2003-2009***

We are saddened to report Marita Tulisak, former director of Birthcare of Medina County, died December 11, 2014. Marita served Birthcare of Medina County first as an office volunteer starting in 1991. She volunteered routinely and was always available for extra projects from fundraisers and cleaning, to sorting, shopping and purchasing inventory, to helping with our Christmas gift program.



In August of 2004 she became our director, succeeding Sally Pap. She was a conscientious director and took her role seriously and did her job thoroughly. As director one must be available around the clock to supervise staff, manage scheduling and programs, handle communications with staff and community, and answer emergency calls for critical needs.

Her compassion to assist clients was always evident, meeting them at odd inconvenient hours and readily subbing for volunteers who could not staff a shift due to a family emergency. She pushed Birthcare to be more accessible to the public by adding another shift on Monday evenings so that instead of meeting needs three times per week, Birthcare would now be open four shifts per week. The client always came first! She saw that their immediate needs were always in stock in our office. She shopped monthly for best prices on client needs.

Marita ably managed a growing corps of volunteers, both adults and teens. She implemented volunteer informational sessions several times per year to build skills

in meeting client needs. Marita even added her own unique touches to our office setting: brochure holders, educational signage, labels for items awaiting pick-up, bin labels, items needed list, wooden book bin stand for housing children's books, clothing racks, diaper bins all labeled by sizes, neatly organized binders, files and racks, white board, Community Resource Binder and many loving touches here and there.

She was our face to the community, representing Birthcare at many United Way functions and meetings, Baby Fairs, Family-A-Fair, business and volunteer fairs, group sponsored showers, talks to community and church groups and charitable organizations. To enhance presentations Marita redefined our tabletop display with catchy graphics, information and charts. Marita helped build relationships with donors and resources within the county.

To make certain we had funds other than donations to utilize for our needs, she had the ability and perseverance to write and research grants that brought us more than \$25,000 in a 5 year period. To that end, Marita also created what has become Birthcare's Annual Mother's Day Appeal in 2008 which is now an annual source of income to our agency.

Marita was responsible for enhancing the professional image of our agency. She had the forethought to improve our image with a professionally designed logo giving us a corporate identity which carried through to stationery, envelopes, brochures and our newsletter. She had the insight to improve the newsletter quality by using a heavier weight paper, color print, photos and clever artwork.

She had the wisdom to plan for the future of Birthcare, too. Her vision to push us into the 21st century began with the design of a website guided by her brother, Gary Nolan. She worked to create a working board of directors which first met in 2007, creating board manuals and providing a welcoming atmosphere at each and every meeting. She began our process to develop a Code of Regulations to guide Birthcare's future and keep it a viable organization with expert guidance by caring citizens. Marita served on Birthcare's Board of Directors from its inception in 2007 to 2012. Marita retired as director at the end of 2009.

Marita's focus during her years as director was instrumental in the success that Birthcare continues to build on today!

Our Board of Directors

Sabrina Cochran Marshall, President
Joanne Weiler, Secretary
Diane Bugner, Treasurer
Meg Benninger
Ed Bugner, CPA
Atty. Marie Edmonds
Jennifer Kmitt, LSW
Sally Pap
Ken Wolff

Important Dates

Board of Directors Meeting
March 11, 2015

Family-A-Fair visit Birthcare's table!
11am-3pm Saturday, April 25, 2015
Medina County Community Center



Birthcare's mission is to provide assistance and sympathetic support to families with young children to help assure their safety, warmth and health.

Want your newsletter emailed? Want to be removed from our address list? Contact: birthcaremedina@aol.com

Birthcare of Medina County

620 E. Smith Road, Unit E-5A
Medina, Ohio 44256



Catholic Charities Health and Human Services
Diocese of Cleveland

Birthcare of Medina County

2014 Statistics

Client Family Total: 347

Visit Total: 1,049



Registered Client Profile

Residence					
Medina	212	61%	Chippewa Lake	7	2%
Brunswick	34	10%	Homerville	7	2%
Wadsworth	33	10%	Litchfield	5	1%
Lodi	21	6%	Other in County	16	5%
Seville	10	3%	Out of County	2	

Ages			Marital Status		
14-19	29	8%	Single	212	61%
20-29	210	61%	Married	83	24%
30-39	70	20%	Sep/Div	37	11%
40-up	31	9%	Widowed	4	1%
Unknown	7	2%	Unknown	11	3%

Pregnant in Year		Race		
89	26%	Caucasian	266	77%
		Black	35	10%
		Hispanic	6	2%
		Other	21	6%
		Unknown	19	5%

Sources of Income		
Full-Time Employment	82	24%
Part-Time Employment	87	25%
Family Help	29	8%
ADC	1	0%
Child Support	42	2%
Ohio Works First	21	6%
Unemployment	48	14%
Social Security	29	8%
Other	20	6%
No Support	20	6%

Receiving WIC Assistance: 232 (67%)

High School Diploma or GED: 239 (69%)

Currently Students (HS or College): 34 (10%)

# Visits/Client			Ages of Children	
1-4 visits	272	78%	0-2 yrs.	375
5-10 visits	64	18%	3-5 yrs.	164
11-18 visits	11	3%	6-12 yrs.	109
			13 & over	31
			Total	679

Service Units	
Infant clothing requests	792
Formula requests	267
Baby food requests	94
Diaper requests	958
New cribs given	28
New mattresses given	24
New car seats given	41
Scholarships awarded	2
Christmas gifts provided for	13 families (15 adults/26 children)

Financial Donation Highlights	
Annual Mother's Day Appeal	\$ 20,790
Church and Community	\$ 4,157
Grant Income	\$ 2,309
Positive Designations:	
Greater Cleveland UW	\$ 143
Medina County UW	\$ 1,573
Summit County UW	\$ 1,074
Greater Triangle UW	\$ 1,279
Other Payroll Deductions	\$ 343
Total	\$ 4,412
Number of Donors: 169	

Material Donations Count	
Private individuals, church & community groups	325

New Donations Fair Market Value	
3,286 items	\$17,418

Volunteer Activity in Year		
Volunteer total at 12/31/2014	50 adults	17 teens
Volunteers trained in 2014	14 adults	5 teens
Total hours of volunteers	1,013.50 hrs.	

Referrals Received From:
WIC Department, Job & Family Services, Help Me Grow, Battered Women's Shelter, Early Head Start, Oaks Family Care Center, Medina County Health Dept. Medina Baby Fair, St. Francis Xavier St. Vincent de Paul Society, Catholic Charities, Community Service Center, Marian's Closet, churches, medical facilities, website, families and friends.