

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. - Noon

Birthcare of Medina County

September 2021

Providing for little ones what love cannot buy since 1976

Three Scholarships Awarded



Birthcare of Medina County is pleased to award academic scholarships to three

clients for the Fall 2021 semester. Since 1997, we have awarded scholarships to 76 clients! The three scholarships total \$6,000 and are drawn from 2020 interest earned from our Scholarship Endowment Fund.

All three recipients are single mothers with one child. Two are in nursing programs.

The first recipient is enrolled in an accelerated RN to BSN program through the University of Texas. She hopes to eventually continue her education to be a nurse practitioner. She wants to be independent in order to provide for her daughter and to encourage other single moms to be able to do the same.

The second recipient is attending an accelerated nursing program through Chamberlain University. She finds joy in caring for others. Being a mother has given her the strength to get through other difficulties.

The third recipient is studying to attain a degree in social work at Cleveland State University. After graduation she hopes to work

within the court system to advocate for vulnerable children.

The young women submitted applications accompanied by a personal essay on their needs and goals.

We applaud our scholarship recipients and are happy to help them reach their career goals. The scholarship committee includes board members Sally Pap, Meg Benninger and Michele Fusillo and executive director Barb McCoy.

Current Needs

- Clothing (sizes 2-3-4)
- Diaper rash cream

How Birthcare Helps

In recent months Birthcare has assisted many clients. How you ask?

Recently, a client came in who had lost almost all her stored clothing for her children and self when her storage unit flooded and everything was full of black mold. The client was very grateful that we could give her adequate supplies of clothing, blankets and towels for her children.

A 31-year old single mother of one, who also is one of our current scholarship recipients

working on a nursing degree, was helped on five visits with diapers, wipes, clothing and books.

Another 31-year old married mother of four came five times for diapers, wipes, clothing and formula. One visit was for a multitude of items needed as she escaped her abusive husband. On that visit she asked for blankets, towels, washcloths, baby wash, shampoo, lotion, wipes and diapers.

A 20-year old single mother of one, also expecting a new baby in a few months, needed diapers, wipes, food, blankets, clothing and start-up supplies for the new baby. She had no funds at all to rely on!

Client Report

At August 31, 2021, volunteers served 103 client families on 286 office visits. We have met:

- 190 requests for infant clothing
- 33 requests for formula
- 30 requests for baby food
- 339 requests for diapers
- 283 requests for wipes
- 2 requests for car seats
- 3 requests for cribs
- 2 requests for mattresses
- 6 requests for newborn layettes

Sincere Thanks for Financial Gifts, June – August

- Amazon Smiles
 - Robert/Linda Bux
 - Catholic Charities
 - Catherine Connolly
 - Ronald E. Decker
 - Michele Fusillo
 - Kenneth Garber
 - Irene Hill
 - Kiwanis Club of Medina
 - Jennifer Kmitt
 - Laurel Maier
 - Gerhardt Martin
 - Patricia A. Marvin
 - McDonald Advisory & Planning via Sean Kriak
 - Erin/Elaine Rankin
 - Renaissance Charitable Fdn.
 - Adrienne Riggerbach
 - Ann Salek
 - James/Lucie Sovey
 - David/Susan Taylor
- In Memory of Michael David Taylor**
- United Way of Greater Cleveland
 - United Way of Summit County
 - Jeff/Jackie Wolff

Sincere Thanks for Material Gifts, June – August

- Amy Brown
- Erica Brown
- Mark Bugner
- Patsy Chesbro
- Dawn Ciocca
- Lakeisha Crump
- Ronald/Janet Decker
- Diapers for Medina
- Olivia Dunn
- Donna Foradori
- Tobias Forman
- Tammy Heaton
- Elaine Korud
- Linda Lambert
- Bill/Kathy Matthews
- Leslie Messmer
- John Monhemius
- Paul/Joelle Rose
- Jenny Shanno
- Western Reserve Masonic Community Crochet Group

- Working Women Connection
- Carmen Young

Kiwanis Support is Strong



In August, the Kiwanis Club of Medina sent us a check for \$800 “to benefit your organization’s efforts to promote healthy families and children”. We thank the Kiwanis for their regular support, both materially and financially, of our mission to help families with young children.

Welcome New Volunteers

Birthcare is excited to welcome seven new volunteers this summer to help us serve the needs of clients in our open shifts.

Mary Kase, board president, recently trained and orientated the following trainees during two August sessions:

- Marilee Allison
- Kevin Conyngnam
- Rebecca Hobbs
- Maureen Hoch
- Debbie Liebler
- Sally Rance
- Janice Retzer

Evolving Pandemic Service

As of July 1, 2021, Birthcare made a step forward in client service. During the first year of the pandemic, clients were only served at their cars. No clients entered our facility.

As the pandemic appeared to be subsiding, the board and directors decided to invite one client in at time – who must be masked – have them check in, state their needs and then give them 10 minutes to search for clothing in our bins. The next client is invited inside to begin the process. Special attention is given to sanitization of surfaces used by clients and volunteers.

As the pandemic continues, we are continually evaluating our services to keep both volunteers and clients safe. And, we are trying to determine why client visits have dropped by 50%. Is there something more we need to be doing?

Ways To Give

- ✓ Are you a Kohl’s shopper? If so, and you have earned some Kohl’s cash, consider picking out some winter toddler clothing and pajamas for Birthcare clients.
- ✓ Do you use  PayPal for online purchases? Then consider donating to us via this app through our website.
- ✓ Do you shop online through the Amazon website? Then consider donating to Birthcare via Amazon Smiles as you begin your Fall/Winter and holiday shopping.



Diapers for Medina 2021



One in three US families struggle to provide the overwhelming number of diapers needed for a child from birth through the toddler years. For the seventh straight year, Medina resident Natalie Boothe has made sure that anyone who will listen, knows all the facts surrounding the diaper need. Even through a second year of a global pandemic, she has orchestrated a month long (July) collection of diapers and wipes. Various sites, including her home and the St. Francis Xavier rectory, were drop-off points. Monetary donations were also accepted. By the end of July, she had amassed \$1,622 in monetary contributions which she used to purchase more diapers and pullups! At drop-off on August 5, the collection included 19,819 diapers and pullups and 287 packages of wipes.



Natalie spreads word of the Diapers for Medina via a Facebook page posting that is read by family and friends, including the community of St. Francis Xavier Parish. Natalie and her group of enthusiastic drivers and helpers packed and then unloaded seven very full vans and SUVs. Beth Bugner, Kathy Stucker, Kathy Flemming, Mary Zolkowski, Becca Hobbs and Maureen Oblander were the driver-helpers.

Why does she do this? So that no family that visits Birthcare is ever turned away when they need diapers. She discovered, through research, that a baby can go through more than 2,000 diapers in its first year. Other research shows that about one-third of parents often have trouble funding their diaper needs and many must choose between food and diapers. Birthcare executive director Barb McCoy cheered "Birthcare and the families who will benefit from this wonderful effort are genuinely moved and grateful for the generosity of the Medina County community!"

A local Medina group, Compassion in Action, picks one cause per month to donate materially or financially to. Their group donated 3,479 diapers and 120 packs of wipes plus \$250 to Diapers for Medina. What a great response from their members!

Board of Directors

On the Calendar

Mary S. Kase, *President*
Joanne Weiler, *Secretary*
Diane Bugner, *Treasurer*
Meg Benninger, RN
Sister Sandra Bevec
Mary Corall
Marie Mirro Edmonds, Esq.
Michele Fusillo, RD,LD, CLC
Sally C. Pap

Board of Directors Meeting
6:30 pm, Wednesday, October 27, 2021

Staff

Barbara M. McCoy, Executive Director

Diane M. Bugner, Assistant Executive Director



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

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