

## Contact Information:

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- Phone: 330-722-1190 Email: [info@birthcaremedina.org](mailto:info@birthcaremedina.org)
- Website: [www.birthcaremedina.org](http://www.birthcaremedina.org)

## Open Hours:

- Monday and Tuesday: 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
- Thursday: 12 Noon - 2:00 p.m.
- Saturday: 10:00 a.m. - Noon

# Birthcare of Medina County

September 2022

Providing for little ones what love cannot buy since 1976

## Two Scholarships Awarded



Birthcare of Medina County is pleased to announce the recipients of our 2022 scholarships and wish them continued success as they pursue their education. Since 1997, we have awarded scholarships to 82 clients for nearly \$73,000. The two current year scholarships total nearly \$5,700 and are drawn from 2021 interest earned from our Scholarship Endowment Fund.

**Jessica Turpin** is attending Ashland University full-time, working toward a bachelor's degree in biology. She is a mother of four and also works part-time in the lab at Medina Hospital. Her long-term goal is to become a physician's assistant. Jessica has overcome many obstacles to be able to attend college. She wants to be able to teach her children never to give up, no matter what life throws at you.

**Jozette Mehota** is currently a graduate student in the psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner program at Northern Kentucky University's on-line accelerated program. She is a mother of three and also works at Southwest General Health Center. As a nurse practitioner,

Jozette plans to work with the vulnerable population of mentally ill individuals in the community. She wants to be the best role model for her children so they will value education as she does and succeed in their lives.

The two young women submitted their applications accompanied by a personal essay on their needs and goals. The scholarship committee includes board members Sally Pap, Meg Benninger and Michele Fusillo and executive director Barb McCoy.

## New Board Member

Gina Betti was introduced as a new board member at the June board



meeting. Gina is a financial advisor. She works out of the Edward Jones office in Fairlawn. She has been an employee there since

2009. Gina and her husband Alan have three rescue pets. Gina is a member of five professional boards: North Coast Job Seekers, Limitless Ambition, Summit Artspace, Chapter EX of P.E.O. International and now Birthcare. She also volunteers and is an

advocate for Copley Community Outreach, Stewart's Caring Place and Birthcare of Medina County. Gina first connected with Birthcare in 2018 and has been a strong, reliable volunteer. With her financial background, she will be an asset to our board.

## How Birthcare Helps

In recent months Birthcare has assisted many clients with basic, critical needs.

One evening, a client came in who was fostering two children. When the opportunity came to foster the children's young sibling, this client needed clothing, diapers, wipes, baby wash and formula for her new charge.

Another young parent was homeless and living in a hotel with three young children under the age of five. The parent came to Birthcare one evening needing clothing, diapers, baby wash, and wipes.

## Current Needs

- Baby Food/Cereal
- Baby Shampoo/Wash
- Baby Wipes
- Clothing (only sizes 2-3-4)
- Infant Formula

## Client Report

At August 31, 2022, volunteers served 109 client families on 312 office visits. We have met:

- 232 requests for infant clothing
- 45 requests for formula
- 52 requests for baby food
- 407 requests for diapers
- 353 requests for wipes
- 6 requests for car seats
- 3 requests for cribs
- 4 requests for mattresses
- 9 requests for infant layettes
- Volunteer hours – 606 hrs.

## Sincere Thanks for Financial Gifts, June – August

- Sandy Bevec

***In Honor of Agnes Bevec, Phyllis Brandt; In Memory of Bobbi Reither, Jill Schubert***

- Janet Burns
- Robert/Linda Bux

***In Memory of Jim Gowe***

- Catholic Charities
- Catherine Connolly
- Mary Corall
- John/Jen Graham
- Irene Hill
- Knights of Columbus, 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Joseph Bender Assembly
- Davie/Ruth Ann Manley
- Patricia A. Marvin
- Milam Family
- Modern Telecom Consulting
- Erin/Elaine Rankin
- Renaissance Charitable Fdn.
- Adrienne Riggerbach
- Rosanne Summerville
- Tax-Pada Processing, Inc.
- The Patriotic Angels
- Mark/Denise Tomecko
- United Way of Greater Cleveland
- United Way of Summit County
- Jeff/Jackie Wolff

## Sincere Thanks for Material Gifts, June – August

- Leanne Boring
- Betsy Bradley
- Mark Bugner
- Patsy Chesbro
- Claudia Cihlar
- Diapers for Medina
- Mary Donnelly
- MaryBeth Esterburg
- Donna Foradori
- Brittany Geistslager
- Kaitlyn Hamilton
- Pat/Amanda Harris
- Kelsey Inman
- Rachel Ivanov
- Aaliyah Jackson
- Junior League of Akron via Becca Hobbs
- Knights of Columbus, 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Joseph Bender Assembly
- Shannon Mahone
- St. Francis Xavier St. Vincent de Paul Group
- Kim Tobias
- Western Reserve Masonic Community Crochet Group
- Ed Young



On August 21, The Gabriel Project, invited director Barb McCoy to speak at their initial volunteer gathering. The Gabriel Project, based out of St. Ambrose Parish in Brunswick, is a ministry created to mentor and support families expecting new babies and point them to resources that will improve their quality of life. In addition, the parish is currently promoting its annual October Fill the Crib drive and will

devote its second week to collecting Birthcare's five most needed items.

Birthcare is also starting to collaborate with Help Me Grow and Woven With Promise.

## WIC Farmers' Market

On Friday, August 19, Birthcare was a participant in the WIC Farmers' Market. Staffing our display were: Sister Sandy Bevec, Donna Lavelle, Christina Collins, Marga Hill, Maryjo Hecker, Janice Rihm and Sue Taylor. Besides sharing information and explaining our services, volunteers passed out fruit snacks and logo bags. We are grateful for these volunteers and their enthusiasm to promote Birthcare on a beautiful sunny summer day!



**Donna Lavelle chats with visitors at the WIC Farmers' Market.**



**Christina Collins and Marga Hill soak up the shade while waiting for passersby.**

## Diapers for Medina Collection 2022



Birthcare supporter Natalie Boothe reports that she and her helpers collected just over 11,000 diapers this year for families here in our community in need. "Thank you for your continued support," Natalie says. "I am grateful to all the contributors and volunteers who help make this a success each year."

For the eighth straight year, Medina resident Natalie Boothe has made sure that any client coming to Birthcare will never be turned away when asking for diapers. Despite the continuing global pandemic, she orchestrated a month-long collection of diapers and wipes from July 1 to July 31. 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 \$993 in monetary donations which she used to purchase more larger size diapers and pullups! At drop-off on August 3, the collection included 11,977 diapers and pullups, 270 packages of wipes and a bag of shampoo/wash bottles. Most of the collection included the larger sizes 5 & 6 diapers and toddler ranges of pullups to meet the pressing demands of our clients. Natalie spreads word of the Diapers for Medina via a private Facebook page posting that is read by family and friends, including the community of St. Francis Xavier Parish.

Natalie and her group of drivers and helpers packed and then unloaded four very full vehicles. Kathy Stucker, Kathy Flemming, Julie Sturgill, Kara Reilly, and Natalie's mom, Nancy Slisko were the drivers and helpers. Assisting with muscle power were

Declan and Jackson Reilly. Asst. director Diane Bugner, board member/volunteer Sister Sandy Bevec and teen Lucy Bugner sorted and organized the huge collection once it was unloaded.

Why does Natalie do this? So that no family that visits Birthcare is 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. Barb Judson-McCoy, the executive director of Birthcare, says, "Natalie, thank you for your continued efforts to assist Birthcare with our goal of providing for little ones what love cannot buy."

Asst. director Diane Bugner said: "Birthcare has been able to increase the amount of diapers and pullups that clients receive in recent years all due to the drive and passion of Natalie Boothe." Sister Sandy Bevec, diaper packaging coordinator, commented: "Most clients are getting about 60 diapers when they come for their once/month visit. Those receiving pullups are leaving with a package of approximately 40."



## Board of Directors

## On the Calendar

**Mary Corall**, *President*

**Mary S. Kase**, *Secretary*

**Diane Bugner**, *Treasurer*

**Meg Benninger**, RN

**Gina Betti**

**Sister Sandra Bevec**

**Michele Fusillo**, RD, LD, CLC

**Sally C. Pap**

**Joanne Weiler**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

6:30 pm, Wednesday, October 19, 2022

## 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.*

*Birthcare of Medina County*

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