

Where to find us:

- 620 East Smith Rd., Unit E-5A, Medina, Ohio 44256
- 330.722.1190
- Email address: BirthcareMedina@aol.com

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


February 2008

A United Way Agency serving Medina County since 1976

Dear Friends, Supporters and Volunteers,

Overwhelming Community Support at Christmas

During this past Christmas season, Birthcare received overwhelming support from so many in the Medina county community. Through the generosity of the parishioners of St. Francis Xavier and their annual giving tree as well

 as two anonymous families, 11 client families were helped with Christmas gifts (13 adults and 38 children).

St. Martin of Tours Parish collected an array of items for Birthcare through their Christmas giving tree including clothing, diapers, wipes, formula, and so much more. St. Francis Xavier School students, during their yearly Advent project, collected hundreds of specific baby care items by class including bibs, bottles, diapers, wipes, books, crib sheets, lotions, baby wash, formula and juices. Families from Hobbitts Preschool donated both new and used items such as wipes, clothing, formula, toys, crib bedding and books. Parishioners of St. Stephen Parish

donated diapers, new clothing, wipes and onesies. We also received a visit from a class of students at St. Peregrine School in who donated clothing and toys. The Medina



High School class of Traci Winkler collected infant clothing, diapers, baby food, socks, toys and toiletries. Students in Bob Capito's class from Claggett Middle School collected infant clothing, baby food, diapers and toys. We also received donations of clothing, afghans, lotion and wipes from Living Hope Church.

Thanks to all of you for your generous support of Birthcare during the Christmas season!!

Computer Request Granted

Thanks to Ruth Rodgers, a former Birthcare volunteer, Pieri Levandofsky of Computer Quest Services and the Gulyas family we have been able to receive a newly updated computer for our office use. Ruth contacted Pieri who was able to find us a computer donated by the Gulyas family and then Pieri installed it for us. We are grateful to each of them for their time and generosity.

Web Site Design

We are currently looking for someone who has experience with website design that may be able to assist us with this much needed endeavor.

Client Report

During the month of January, our volunteers have served 112 clients during 130 visits. We have met:

- 86 requests for infant clothing
- 33 requests for formula
- 29 requests for baby food
- 111 requests for diapers
- 16 requests for car seats
- 14 requests for cribs/mattresses
- 20 layettes delivered to hospitals

Our Needs

- Winter coats (18m - 4T)
- Winter clothing (18m - 4T)
 - High chairs
 - Bassinets
- Isomil Advance formula
 - Diapers, sizes 4, 5, 6
 - Pull-ups, sizes 2T- 5T
 - Wipes

Grants Received

In December, Birthcare received a check in the amount of \$1,000 from the Charity Fund of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, Medina Aerie

#2224. This donation allows us to purchase many needed items for our clients. This is the third year Birthcare has been the beneficiary of the Eagles generosity.

A check in the amount of \$1,500 was also received in December from the **Willard Stephenson Charitable Foundation** for the purchase of 40 child safety seats.

A Recent Thank You Received from a Client

"Thank you so much for your generosity and kindness with the crib and mattress for my three month old daughter. We have hit a rough patch and to receive this was a blessing. My daughter sleeps well through the night in her new crib! Thank you so much! God Bless!"

A Job Well Done!

Last year we were asked by United Way to evaluate the monetary value of the new material donations we receive from our community that are then given out to our clients during the year. Volunteer **Suzie Milam** agreed to take on this task for us and, as a result of all her hard work, we have learned that we received a total of 2,653 new items totaling \$16,318.02 in 2007.

Special Thanks to:

* **Joanne Weiler**, for inputting all our client data throughout the year, enabling us to compile our statistics in a more efficient manner.

* **Caitlin and Sandy Naples, Bethany and Lisa Rice, Amanda and Claudia Cihlar**, for their help transporting all the items from the St. Francis Xavier Advent Project to our office.

* **John and Ann Marie Krynock**, who delivered all of the items from the St. Martin Parish giving tree to our office.

* **Lisa Rice**, our new volunteer trainer. Lisa has trained almost 10 people in the past six months.

* **Anna Wiley**, for putting together and delivering over 30 layettes to local hospitals in the last few months.

* **Sally Pap**, for organizing our holiday gift program for our clients this year.

Sincere Thanks for Financial Gifts, December-January

- Angels in Red Hats (Valley City)
- John and Kathy Batchelder
- Catholic Charities
- John and Caroline Cherni
- William and Terri Clark
- Lawrence and Sharon Chorzelewski
- Connection Church
- Thomas V. Conway
- Joseph and Cynthia Gryzlo
- Edward and Nancy Hacker
- Knights of Columbus (Wadsworth)
- Dennis and Patricia Marvin
- Mike Malloy
- William and Carol Metzinger
- Brian and Susan Orians
- Jennifer and Serafino Piccoli
- St. Peregrine School (Richfield)
- St. Stephen Pro-Life Committee
- Evelyn Stang
- John and Barbara Steingass
- Carol Szakovits
- United Way of Medina County
- United Way of Summit County
- Westfield Group Employees
- Margaret M. Wolfe
- Wolff Bros. Supply
- George and Donna Wolff
- Thomas Chester
- Jack Dye
- Dr. Thomas Ebner

In Honor of....

Ric Benninger
from Dan and Connie Cevasco

Sincere Thanks for Material Gifts, December-January

- Project Linus
- Heather Soliz
- Erin Feeks
- Jill Joreski
- Kelly Schuerger/Girl Scouts and Knights of Columbus #4168
- Marilyn Sobotinic
- Gingerbread House
- Lisa Knight
- Francine Lacovic
- Justin Reed
- Hobbitts Preschool
- The Gulyas Family
- Keep Us in Stitches Quilters
- Marlene Arthurs
- Christin Kibby
- Medina High School class of Traci Winkler
- Mary Beth and Jeff Esterburg
- George and Donna Wolff
- Joanne Weiler
- Adam Stearns
- Megan Carlson
- St. Stephen Church
- Abby Naguki
- Reina Demopoulous
- Laura Irvine
- Claggett Middle School class of Bob Capito
- Life's Treasures (Hospice)
- Living Hope Church
- Holy Martyrs
- Jodi Burns
- Our Lady of Grace
- Gina Frimel
- Joseph Tendal
- Karen Haverdill
- Yvette Gerhart
- St. Peregrine School
- Chris Mansor
- Holy Martyrs St. Vincent de Paul Society
- Our clients

Volunteer Notes

1. We would like to welcome new volunteers **Betsy Chadwell, Elinor Judson and Robin M. Gray.** All three have recently been trained and will be joining our other volunteer staff during open office hours. We also are happy to have two new teens **Claire Hurteau and Amy Graham,** also volunteering with us.

2. Volunteers should remember to give each new client a scholarship application when they visit. The applications will not be mailed this year, but will be available in the office through the deadline in July.

3. We are asking that each volunteer sign up for one Saturday a year if possible. Saturday seems to be our hardest day to fill and, with everyone taking just one Saturday, our problem would be solved. We understand that this may not be possible for everyone, but we appreciate your consideration of this matter.

4. Just a reminder: All **new** material donations may be placed either on the back shelves marked for those items or in the other office on the sorting table near the window so that we can assess their value before they are made available to our clients.

5. In a recent Community Action of Wayne/Medina County newsletter there were several programs to note that may be useful to pass on to our clients:

Car Seat Program- Free car seats to income eligible individuals with a required 1-1/2 hour training session.

Mom's Support Group and Dad's Support Group- These groups meet twice monthly and provide support, educational

speakers and a mental health professional to guide the group.
Preschool Head Start and Early Head Start Programs- These programs include full-day child care, part-day pre-school (3-5yrs), a home-based program for pregnant moms and children birth to 3 and a pre-school home-based program serving children 3-5 yrs. Selection for enrollment in each of these programs occurs all year as vacancies occur.

- Home Weatherization Assistance Program
- Home Maintenance and Repair
- Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)

-Transportation
For information on any of these programs, call 330-723-2229. All of this information will be posted in the office and in the community resources binder for you to consult.

6. Finally, thanks to **all of our volunteers** for another amazing year of assisting our 416 client families. As you know, we are busier than ever, but thanks to you we have been able to help all those who come through our doors to the best of our ability. Thank you! We could not do what we do without you!

Sincerely,
Marita Tulisak LISW, Director
330.725.1118
Diane Bugner, Assistant Director
330.723.5955

Enclosed with this newsletter is a copy of our agency statistics for 2007.

DONATION OPPORTUNITY

Count on my help to assist Birthcare! I want my donation to help the....

- Scholarship Fund
- General Fund
- Crib & Car Seat Fund

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
Zip _____

I am making this donation

- In memory of
- In honor of
- In celebration of the birth of a baby

Please notify the following person(s) at the following address of my donation:

.....
Clip the above coupon and enclose with your donation.
Thank you!
All donations are tax-deductible.

Birthcare is a volunteer staffed non-profit agency aiding pregnant women and families with young children in Medina County. We provide clients in need with clothing, formula, car seats, We also provide infant diapers, baby food, and cribs. We also provide area hospitals, a Christmas gift program for our neediest families and award educational scholarships to clients. Birthcare is a 501 (c) (3) agency founded in 1976 and supported by United Way of Medina County and Catholic Charities.



