

## Contact Information:

- 620 East Smith Rd., Unit E-5A, Medina, Ohio 44256
- Phone: 330-722-1190 Email: [birthcaremedina@aol.com](mailto:birthcaremedina@aol.com)
- Website: [www.birthcaremedina.org](http://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 2013

A United Way Partner Agency serving Medina County since 1976

## Birthcare Proudly Awards

### Four 2013 Scholarships

We are delighted to announce the four recipients of the 2013 Birthcare scholarships. Since 1997, we have awarded scholarships to 48 women! What a great feeling it gives us to see that this fund has positively impacted the lives of 48 individuals and their families! The four scholarships totaled \$2,075 thanks to the interest earned in 2012 for the Scholarship Endowment Fund.

- **Patricia Coffey** is a single mother with two children and enrolled in the LPN Program at Lorain Community College. She is the only one in her family to attend college! Her goal is to work in a medical office setting and start a college fund for her children.
- **Amanda Gryniwicki** is a single parent with one child. She is enrolled in the Associate of Applied Science program at Cuyahoga Community College with a goal of entering the field of radiology and finding a full-time job.
- **Christine Szyrakowski** is married and has two children. She is close to obtaining her associates degree in human services

through the University of Phoenix and intends to next pursue a bachelor's degree.

- **Marissa Turner** is a single mother with one child and she is enrolled in cosmetology classes at the Akron Beauty School. Her long-term goals include attending college and opening her own salon.

Our scholarship program is supported by generous donations to Birthcare's Endowed Scholarship Fund. The scholarship committee includes board members **Sally Pap** and **Jennifer Knitt** and executive director **Barb Harris**.

## Our Community's Kindness

**St. Martin of Tours Parish in Valley City** once again collected items for Birthcare during their annual Christmas in July event. Donations included diapers, formula, clothing, and beautiful handmade blankets and quilts.

**The St. Vincent de Paul Society** generously gifted Birthcare with a donation this summer. Many families can be helped with diapers and formula with this gift!

**Former volunteer Donna Michetti** hosted a 4<sup>th</sup> of July cookout and invited all in attendance to bring a donation to Birthcare. She was overwhelmed by the huge response!

**The Medina Council Knights of Columbus** voted to make a substantial donation to Birthcare at their July meeting. The money will be used to purchase basic needs for clients. (Below) **Grand Knight Tom Schmidt** presents the check to **Diane Bugner**, asst. director.



## Our Needs

- Baby wash
- Diaper rash cream
- Baby food & cereal
- Baby blankets
- Baby towels
- Children's books
- Crib mattress pads
- Detergent
- Diapers (sizes 4-5-6)
- Pajamas & clothing (sizes 2-3-4)
- Pull-ups (sizes 4T-5T)
- Similac Advance formula



## Loyal Volunteers Retire

Two special and dear people who have impacted Birthcare in so many ways have decided to retire as Birthcare volunteers. **Walt and Marge Mikulski** have been dedicated volunteers since 1990 – 23 years! This couple has done not only client office duty but always spent extra time to keep the office free from clutter and even the bathrooms neat and tidy. Walt and Marge gave so much effort and care to their jobs as volunteers. It isn't often that you find a couple volunteering together. Marge and Walt are forever grateful for "the children they got to meet, hold and play with." We are forever grateful for the chance to know them and call them friends! We wish God's choicest blessings on them both!



Walt and Marge Mikulski

## Client Report

In eight months, through August 31, 2013, volunteers served 290 client families on 729 office visits. Monday (211 visits) and Tuesday (193 visits) evenings continue to be the busiest for client visits. We have met:

- 495 requests for infant clothing
- 185 requests for formula
- 66 requests for baby food
- 677 requests for diapers

- 28 requests for car seats
- 34 requests for cribs
- 32 requests for mattresses

Volunteers have served 658 hours meeting client needs and keeping the office and shelves organized. Material donors number 163.

## Special Thanks!

❖ **Volunteer Ann Marie Krynock and husband John** delivered items from St. Martin of Tours Parish Christmas in July collection.

❖ **Volunteer Marie Charek** loyally organizes all clothing donations! Marie logs many hours weekly in this task, sorting, folding, washing and keeping bins neat and full.

❖ **Gary Nolan** deserves continued thanks for loyally managing our web site, which he designed for Birthcare in 2009.

## Mother's Day Annual Appeal Success Again!

Thanks to the generosity of the Medina County community, our Mother's Day annual appeal generated

**\$5,635** from **50** donors in 2013 to date. Appeal gifts typically continue until December 31.

Last year the appeal collected \$6,025 from 58 donors. We thank our Board of Directors for their help in this project and the loyal supporters of this effort!



## Sincere Thanks for Financial Gifts, June-August

- Catholic Charities
- Positive designations from United Ways of Medina County, Summit County, and Greater Cleveland

- Anonymous
- Catherine Connolly
- Beatrice Demko
- Knights of Columbus, Medina Council #4168
- Adrienne Rikkenbach
- St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Francis Xavier Parish
- Evelyn Stang
- Mary Beth Stevens
- Linda A. Sullivan
- Robert Thompson
- Margaret Wolfe
- Jeffrey/Jacquelyn Wolff

## Sincere Thanks for Material Gifts, June – August

- Sheri Acierto
- Justin/Brianna Alaburda
- Marie Arena
- Paul/Pamela Bugner
- Mark Bugner
- Stacy Camera
- Terri Clark
- Connie Daum
- Marilyn Dempsey
- Liz Dugan
- Babara Effinger
- Claudia Evans
- Mark Hemery
- Christine Knudsen
- Jessica Korman
- Becky Lucas
- Renee Manchak
- Donna Michetti
- Alison Oswald
- Lori Peebles
- Tina Pilcavage
- Kate Reeves
- Anorea Reppa
- Anna Rickett
- Jennifer Rosario
- St. Martin of Tours Parish
- Cynthia Sejka
- Kelly Stepnowsky
- Shannon Studier
- Wendy Swantek
- The Gingerbread House
- Joan Walschan
- Mr. Williams
- Christina Winter

# Volunteer Notes

1. We want to sincerely thank several volunteers (many with long years of service) who are retiring: **Ann Scherbinski (volunteer since 2005), Lisa Knight (volunteer since 2003), Donna Michetti (volunteer since 2011), Amy and daughter Anna Jensen (volunteers since 2012), Linda Kramer (volunteer since 2007) and finally Walt and Marge Mikulski (volunteers since 1990)** for their many, many loyal years of service to our Birthcare clients. They have become our dear friends over the years and all will be hard to replace as dedicated and reliable volunteers! As **Linda** (who is moving to Florida full-time) returned her key, she wrote "it has been a pleasure and privilege to work at Birthcare with all the amazing volunteers. I wish all of you a wonderful year!" We think all our volunteers are AMAZING! On another note, we warmly welcome new volunteers: **Marilyn Griffin, Doris Letterle, Ali and Samantha Ross (teens) and Jacob Felber (teen).**

2. Please be aware of our posted donation guidelines. Do not be afraid to graciously turn away items not on our list. Due to our space restrictions we cannot store large furniture items, stuffed animals or large toys.

3. Start thinking about client families for our Christmas gift program. Leave suggestions in Barb's mailbox. And, whenever a client story/situation touches you, please share it with Barb or Diane via email or phone after your shift when it is fresh in your mind.

4. If baby food and infant formula are on the shelf with expired dates, please feel free to dispose of them. We try to set out those near expiration for client usage. When expiration has been reached, they should not be given out.

5. Finally, Barb would like to gather all current adult and teen volunteers, potential volunteers and supporters of our organization for a gathering at 7pm Wednesday, October 9 in our offices. Those interested in just finding out more about Birthcare are also invited. Tours of the offices will be given. After a brief meeting, there will be social time. Bring a snack or dessert to share if you wish!

**Barbara Harris, Executive Director**  
330-441-2071  
**Diane Bugner, Assistant Director**  
330-723-5955

## DONATION OPPORTUNITY

I would like my donation to help the:

- ☐ **Scholarship Fund**  
☐ **General Fund**



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**I am making this donation:**

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In celebration of birth of baby \_\_\_\_\_

**Please notify the following person of my donation:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**All donations are tax-deductible. Thank you!**

### Birthcare makes a difference!

**We were able to help a young father-to-be whose girlfriend was expecting their baby in jail. As he received custody of the baby, we provided him with a crib, car seat, mattress, diapers and clothing.**

**A divorced mother of four was not receiving her usual child support payments from her spouse. Then, she lost her job and came to Birthcare for diapers and clothing for her two youngest children.**

**A single father recently sued for custody of his one-year old. After winning custody, he turned to Birthcare for baby food, diapers, clothing, wipes, and toys. He is currently unemployed.**

Birthcare is a volunteer-staffed agency providing emergency assistance and support to families with infants and young children in Medina County. Our most visible goal is assuring the health, safety and warmth of young children. We assist clients in need with infant food and formula, clothing, diapers, car seats and cribs. We are a 501 (c) (3) agency supported by private donations, positive designations from area United Ways and Catholic Charities.

## Board of Directors

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

## Upcoming Events

**Wednesday, October 9, 2013**

7 pm Volunteer Gathering

*Potential Volunteers & Supporters Also Welcome!*

**Wednesday, October 16, 2013**

7pm Board of Directors Meeting

Want your newsletter emailed? Want to be removed from our address list? Contact us: [birthcaremedina@aol.com](mailto:birthcaremedina@aol.com)

*Birthcare of Medina County*

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Medina, Ohio 44256

United Way of Medina County  
[www.UnitedWayMedina.org](http://www.UnitedWayMedina.org)



Catholic Charities Health and Human Services  
Diocese of Cleveland