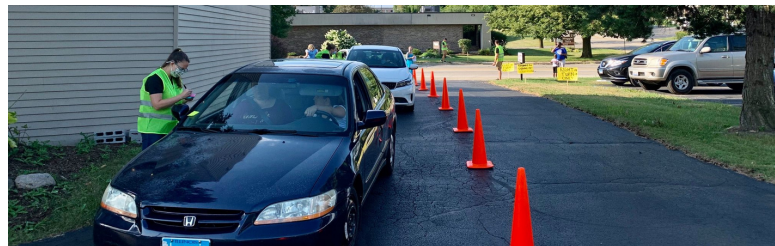
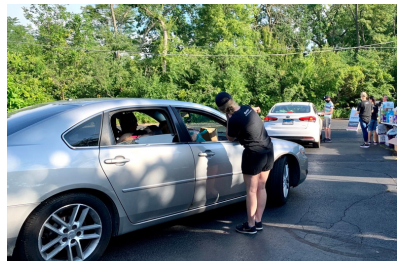
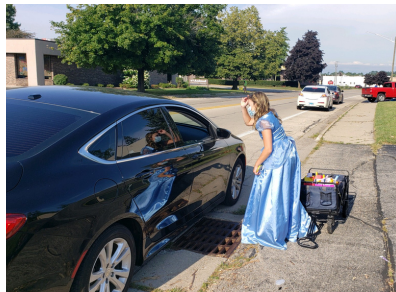




THE pregnancy care center OF ROCKFORD

SUMMER CELEBRATION

Our 3rd Annual Summer Celebration looked a bit different this year! On Saturday, August 15th, we did a drive-thru event due to COVID restrictions. We handed out diapers, wipes, food, toiletries, clothing, kids' goodie bags, Chick-Fil-A sandwiches, and more to 200+ people! We couldn't have done it without the amazing volunteers and donors, including Rasmussen College, Chick-Fil-A, Maywood Church, Bucciferro Family McDonalds, area dentists- Dr. Tuneberg, Dr. Kelly Moore, Dr. Dreir, and others! A special shout out to Warren and Jon for working late into the night to clear all of the damaged trees from the storm that hit just days before. Our event would not have been safe without all that they did!



VIRTUAL BANQUET

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Michelle Bowman,
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Amanda Geaschel
Administrative Assistant

Robin Griffin
Nurse Manager

Ellen Groenwald
Client Services Advocate

Kathy Harms
Mobile Unit Director

Laura Sage
Director of Education

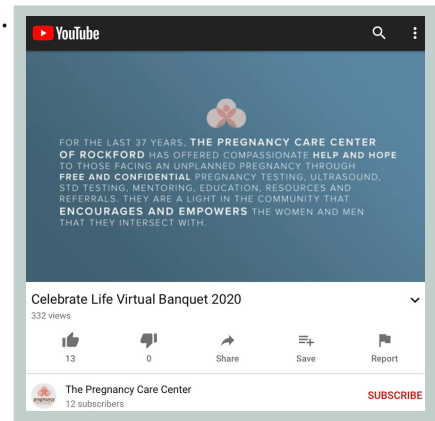
Vicky Steege
Center Director

Sheila Swanson
Nurse Manager

COVID-19 has affected so many people and events this year. We were scheduled to have our Annual Celebrate Life Banquet on April 16th at Giovanni's but by mid-March we knew that was not going to be able to happen. So we pushed our date out to June 25th thinking we would for sure be able to be back in person by then, but no. So we went virtual. And now looking back on it, this gave us an incredible opportunity to bring the work of our center right into the homes of our supporters all over the country. They met our staff, saw the center, heard our client Kaitlyn's powerful story and were challenged to donate in spite of the pandemic our world is facing. And you did! Because our expenses were lower than normal we were able to net more than we ever have! Thank you so much to all of those who tuned in with us that night or have since watched our banquet online. Your support means so much to us. If you still haven't been able to watch it, you can check it out at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o67abUo9UvU>.



Thank you Abbey from Birdzeve Media for filming our virtual banquet. You did an amazing job piecing it all together!



CLIENT QUOTE

Pictured: Kaitlyn and son Ozzy and Mentor Kathy and Ozzy during the Mom Spa Night.

Kaitlyn, whose story we shared in our virtual banquet, also participated in our Ages & Stages classes, which are designed for parents to learn more about the newborn through one year stage. After coming to our Ages & Stages: Mom Spa Night, Kaitlyn had the following to say.

*"The Pregnancy Care Center of Rockford have outdone themselves yet again!...As a new mom any break I can get is always appreciated, and it was extra heart warming to have Ozwald spend the hour with who was my mentor back from when I was pregnant. The center isn't just a place to receive countless free things. **The staff is what makes the place so inviting to the point it feels like a second home. It was my favorite part of being pregnant. I'm proud of their work and happy that they're continuing their classes and activities past pregnancy...**"*

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

My husband can attest you probably don't want to be next to me during a worship service because you might hear me sing off tune or a little pitchy, but I love to worship and I know God doesn't mind my voice...it's just the people next to me that might. I also know that my two sons don't mind, at least not yet at the ages of 7 and 5 because every night when I tuck them in to bed, I sing to them. This started when my oldest was just an infant and ever since then the song that is on repeat is *Jesus Love Me*. I never want my boys to question how much Jesus loves them! Over the years I have added songs or sang one for a season, etc. At the beginning of the year the old hymn *Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus* popped into my head. I only knew the chorus but what a powerful reminder that song has been for a year like 2020. I must keep my eyes fixed on Jesus otherwise the things of this world will bring me down. When our focus and eyes are on Him, it truly makes the things of this world grow strangely dim in comparison to His glory and light. So as we finish out 2020, turn your eyes upon Jesus. As we go to the polls to vote, turn your eyes upon Jesus. As you work from home or try to figure out remote learning for your kids, turn your eyes upon Jesus. When the fear or worry of COVID-19 hits, turn your eyes upon Jesus. I looked up the lyrics from the 1918 hymn by Helen Lemmel and the rest of the words say this, *"O soul, are you weary and troubled? No light in the darkness you see? There's light for a look at the Savior, And life more abundant and free! **Turn your eyes upon Jesus, Look full in His wonderful face, And the things of earth will grow strangely dim, In the light of His glory and grace.** Through death into life everlasting He passed, and we follow Him there; O'er us sin no more hath dominion— For more than conqu'rors we are! His Word shall not fail you—He promised; Believe Him, and all will be well: Then go to a world that is dying, His perfect salvation to tell!"* At The Pregnancy Care Center we are keeping our eyes upon Jesus and each day we show up into a world that is dying and share the gospel and salvation to each person that walks through our doors...and sometimes we use words.

I am praying for you through this season! We appreciate your support and prayers as well, God bless each of you as you turn your eyes to our Savior.

Loving Life,

Tracy Breit

WELCOME ELLEN!



In July, we welcomed Ellen Groenwald to the team as our Client Services Advocate! Ellen is a New York native who was introduced to volunteering in helping ministries at St. John University, where she earned her bachelor's and master's degrees. She developed a love for serving the homeless population of New York City through homeless shelters, after school programs, and Midnight Runs, which all focused on providing needed resources while knowing and loving those being served. Ellen then worked as a social worker for 7 years providing comprehensive case management services to adults and children with developmental disabilities and traumatic brain injuries. This work helped to solidify her appreciation of the dignity of all human life, created in God's image and loved immeasurably by Him. This conviction led her to her work as client services director at Hope Pregnancy Center in Cheshire, CT. Ellen hopes to be a blessing to all of the moms and dads she meets at The Pregnancy Care Center through authentically loving them and meeting them right where they are at. Ellen and her husband have a teenage daughter and three young sons. Their family recently moved to Rockford from Connecticut, and they are enjoying all that the city has to offer. She especially enjoys all things outdoors, playing board games, and any genre of music. She is often found trying to keep up with her crazy kids with a Diet Coke in hand.

HIKE FOR LIFE

Huge thank you to our many generous sponsors this year!



Ellie Schneider, AKA Princess Anna, was our Top Fundraising Individual!



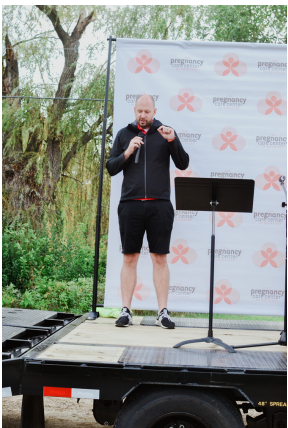
St. Bridgetts, our Top Fundraising Team!



Hallstrom Homeschool Workshops, our Top Fundraising School/ Youth Organization!



Thanks for joining us, Caratta Chiropractic Orthopedic!



Hike for Life 2020 sets record for funds raised- \$72,419!!

It was an incredible morning at Midway Village Walking Path on September 26th. We hosted 2 different start times and participants were able to take a hike around the path as they prayed for the work of the center and read signs about the development of life within the womb. They also were able to enjoy refreshments and the kiddos played a few contactless games or ran the obstacle course. It was a beautiful day and God was so gracious with his provision. We can't thank our sponsors enough for making the day possible as well as many others who donated food, time, services, or even our stage- thank you AJ! And a huge thank you to every person that participated in person or from home and all those that raised funds! This will definitely be a year we never forget!





Thank you Rockford Police & Fire Departments for coming out to our Hike!



Thank you Food 4 Fuel, Chick-fil-a & Meg's for providing fruit, sandwiches & coffee!



Staff: (Top) Amanda, Vicky, Tracy, Robin, Kathy (Bottom) Sheila, Laura, Ellen



Thank you Bob from Reflex DJ Service for DJing & bringing the fire!

THANK YOU FOR THE SUPPORT!



Huge thank you to Tianna from Swedish American's Maternity Care Unit for donating gift baskets for breastfeeding moms!



Thank you Rockford Rescue Mission for your several donations this summer of diapers and wipes!



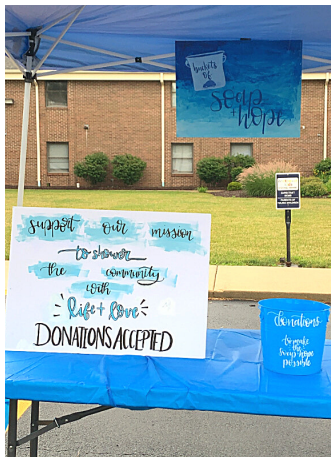
Thank you to the Student Advisory Board for organizing the Buckets of Soap & Hope car wash, and thank you to all that came out! They raised just over a \$1000!



Thank you Rep. Joe Sosnowski for the funds raised at your Bike-a-thon in July!



A huge thank you to Jason Bonomo and his State Farm agency for this generous donation!



GIFTS GIVEN

In memory of **Grace Guerrera**
Catherine Wilcox

In memory of **Jim Mays**
Allan & Catherine Levandowski
Burdette & Phyllis Larson
Bradley & Michele Huffman
David & Jennifer Gomel
James & Susan Moon



Thank you to Joey Clapp and his group from Morning Star Church for tackling some major weeds in our lawn as we prepared to receive a generous donation of mulch from AJ and his crew of Vallez Construction, Inc. Thank you both so much for helping us keep up our curb appeal!



Thanks Johnny and Skyler from All Seasons Carpet Cleaning for cleaning our carpets! This is an amazing gift that All Seasons provides for us a couple times a year.

Thanks to Doug Price and his incredible team at Midwest Mailworks for donating the mailing of this newsletter!

