



# SUMMER 2021 NEWSLETTER

## SAVE THE DATE FOR:

**SATURDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 25TH,  
2021 AT THE  
MIDWAY VILLAGE  
WALKING PATH**

**REGISTRATION OPENS SUNDAY,  
AUGUST 1ST. REGISTER BY  
MONDAY, AUGUST 30TH TO  
SECURE YOUR T-SHIRT.**

More details to come soon at  
[www.thepregnancycarecenter.org/events](http://www.thepregnancycarecenter.org/events)

Interested in sponsoring the Hike? Call  
Amanda at 815-680-5107 or email  
[amanda@thepregnancycarecenter.org](mailto:amanda@thepregnancycarecenter.org) to  
learn more.

## OUR NEW ULTRASOUND MACHINES ARE HERE!

Our new Ultrasound machines have arrived! The nurses are getting trained and are so excited to start using them in the center and on our Stork Bus. These two machines are going to provide a much clearer picture to our clients of the life within and will help them make their best decision!

THE LOIS DIXON MEMORIAL

# HIKE

for *Life*

2021

*Love Leaves a Legacy*

**VIRTUAL BANQUET UPDATE  
\$113,463 RAISED!**

WOW. God is SO good! We can't begin to thank you all enough for what this means for our center and for the pro-life movement in Rockford. We were able to move forward with the purchase of two new ultrasound machines! We are also able to continue to expand our marketing budget and reach more abortion-minded women. We have the wiggle room to bless our clients with even more as they earn while they learn! Lives will be saved because of your generosity!





# CLIENT PHOTOS - LIVES SAVED AT THE PCC

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mary Beth Clausen, President  
*Morrissey Family Businesses*

Brian Mulder, VP  
*Ortho Illinois*

Paul Loner, Treasurer  
*Service 1 Financial*

Cheryl Sio, Secretary  
*Members Alliance Credit Union*

Joey Clapp  
*Morning Star Church*

Paul Kehoe  
*Knights of Columbus*

Danna Krischke  
*State Farm*

Sharanda Warren  
*Staff Management, Inc*

## STAFF

Tracy Breit  
*Executive Director*

Amanda Geaschel  
*Director of Marketing and Finance*

Robin Griffin  
*Nurse Manager*

Ellen Groenwald  
*Client Services Advocate*

Kathy Harms  
*Mobile Unit Director*

Lauren Paulsen  
*Summer Intern*

Laura Sage  
*Director of Education*

Vicky Steege  
*Center Director*

Sheila Swanson  
*Nurse Manager*





# LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR GIFTS GIVEN

June had its ups and downs of emotions for me. I got to enjoy nearly 10 days away with my family at a beach in Florida, but as I have gotten back to life here, I received word about two amazing women in my life who had passed away within 24 hours of each other. One was a friend from church who was always such an encouragement and could make me laugh with her sarcasm and wit. She also pointed me to Jesus and taught me what it meant to love your husband well in sickness and in health. She could never have children of her own, but loved her nieces and nephews as her own and all those around so well. She supported The Pregnancy Care Center and the work we do to save lives! Kris, you leave a hole in our hearts and on this earth, but may your legacy live on by the way we love others.

The second person was one of The PCC's founders and a hero to us all, Lois Dixon. Lois had a short but fierce battle with pancreatic cancer, and as her family said, "her smile and love are strong" and they were strong, along with her faith, to the very end. Lois and her husband Paul, along with 2 other couples, founded the Rockford Area Crisis Pregnancy Center in 1983. For 38 years, Lois was on the frontlines of the battle for LIFE. She loved babies and life, but she also had a tender place in her heart for our clients, the women and men who find themselves in very vulnerable and sometimes scary situations. I am so thankful that I got to have lunch with her in February before her diagnosis. She shared with me how The PCC began and the journey it has been to get us to where we are today. I listened intently that day. I learned. I was encouraged. I was inspired by the soft spoken, gentle woman who sat across from me to stand strong, to fight, to love, to lead. She truly was the picture of a servant leader. Lois served on our board, volunteered in other ways, gave financially, and prayed often for The PCC. She taught her own kids to love life and stand up for it, and I'm pretty sure at least one of the Dixon crew were always in the top fundraisers of our Hike for Life each year!

Lois, today we will offer help and hope in the name of Jesus, but with you in our hearts and minds. We commit to keep your legacy strong through the work of The PCC, and we are forever grateful for your vision, direction, and leadership. Well done, good and faithful servant. I'm pretty sure your crown is big, and God might have a special place in heaven for you to hold the babies who never got their chance at life on earth.

Loving Life,

*Tracy Breit*



In Honor of **Avery & Sammy Bartel**  
Michael & Linda Jones

In memory of **Dr. Robert Behmer**  
Jerry & Jackie Rudolph

In honor of **Sylvia Bloseis**  
Jeff & Debbie Denny

In memory of **Lois Dixon**  
Nicole Conway  
Daniel & Sheryl Galvez  
Dr. David and Lori Girenti  
Pam Hanley  
Hopkins Insurance Agency  
Janis H Iverson  
Amy Johnson  
Luke & Nicole Jones  
Dr. John & Dena Koehler  
Michael Martin  
Dr. Kelly & Julia Moore  
Douglas & Carol Palmer  
Jerry & Jacqueline Rudolph  
Marissa White  
Many more to be listed in next newsletter.

In memory of **Grace Guerrero**  
Catherine Wilcox

In memory of **Carol Kelsey**  
Rebeca Brubaker

In memory of **Maggie Rudolph**  
Jerry & Jackie Rudolph

In Honor of **Becky Soderling**  
Ferrari Family

In memory of **Judy Stechschulte**  
Tony & Marlena Stechschulte

In honor of **Baby Zellie**  
Steven & Jean Shoudy

**Lois receiving the Life Saving Individual award at our 35th Anniversary Gala in 2018.**

**Lois at our Women's Illuminate Banquet in 2016.**

**Lois and former Executive Director Tiffany pictured with the key to our new building in 2016.**

# WELCOME, LAUREN!

# FAREWELL, LAURA!



Lauren Paulsen has joined our team as a summer intern, and we couldn't be more grateful! Lauren is completing her Business Management degree from Judson University. Lauren reached out at the beginning of the year, and it only took a few minutes of talking to hear Lauren's passion for life. She is a driven and smart woman who would love to see abortion ended, but also see every woman and family find a place for help in their times of need. She hopes to one day open her own Family Resource Center that would have pregnancy resources, adoption resources, foster care resources, and more! We are thankful to have her with us this summer to learn more about the work of The PCC and to help prepare her for whatever God has for her future! Dream big, Lauren; we serve a big God who is able to do immeasurably more than we could ever ask or imagine.



Our Director of Education, Laura Sage, has accepted a position at Life Church in Tulsa, OK, and she will be greatly missed here at the center and in our community. Laura has beautifully led our Positive Choices team through two of the most trying years we have seen. She helped grow our program into new schools, and when Covid-19 halted nearly all of our work in the schools, it didn't stop her from thinking creatively and looking for new ways to connect with students. She has brought a joy and level of faith to our team that has made us all better. Laura truly lives her life by her faith, and we know God is going to use her to do incredible things in Oklahoma as she helps pastor and lead a student ministry there. Laura, we love you dearly and will miss you greatly but will forever cherish our time serving alongside of you!

## BABY BOTTLE BOOMERANG

## CHURCH TOTALS

This year, most churches participated in our BBB from Mother's Day to Father's Day. We had 28 churches participate in BBB and raise an ongoing total of **\$42,342.29!** If your church would like to participate in BBB in 2022, please reach out to Amanda at [amanda@thepregnancycenter.org](mailto:amanda@thepregnancycenter.org).

Broadway Covenant Church- \$1,364.79  
Central Christian (Rockford)- \$2,980.97  
Community Bible- \$454.07  
Concordia Lutheran- \$534.46  
Cornerstone Byron- \$1,898.30  
Crosspoint Church- \$1,069.06  
Crossroads Winnebago- \$1,069.06  
Faith Center- \$3,663.82  
First Baptist of Machesney Park- \$1,027.12  
First Free Church- \$5,528.86  
Forest City Fellowship- \$206.47  
Forest Hills Church- \$328.68  
Grace Reformed - \$942.34  
Immanuel Lutheran- \$2,676.29

Hallstrom Homeschool Workshops- \$719.98  
Journey Church- \$1,553.82  
Kishwaukee Community Presbyterian- \$1,041.44  
Maywood Free Church- \$3,788.38  
Mt. Olive Lutheran Church- \$1,172.05  
Park Hills Winnebago - \$363.54  
Redeemer Lutheran- \$1,530.19  
Rock Church- \$1,451.17  
Rock Valley Bible Church- \$1,137.28  
Stateline Kids- \$325.11  
St. Mary's- \$2,515.34  
Turning Point- \$533.57  
Windsor Baptist- \$392.44

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# VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION 2021

Our volunteers are amazing, and we couldn't do all we do without them. We were able to celebrate and appreciate them with a breakfast on Saturday, April 17th as well as enjoy some fun games together. They are a gift to us, so we even competed to see who could wrap the best "gift."

On Tuesday, April 20th, AFP Rockford, IL (Association of Fundraising Professionals) hosted a "Parade of Heroes" at their Honor Your Own Volunteer Appreciation event. The PCC nominated 2 of our amazing volunteers, Kim Boyden and Judy Dooley. Judy and her granddaughter were able to make the drive thru event and hung out with Ellen and Amanda for a bit while other volunteer heroes from the community drove through.

Our volunteers deserve to be celebrated and appreciated for the lifesaving work they do each week! We are SO GRATEFUL for each and every one of you.





# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



Thank you to MercyHealth Mother Baby Unit for your donation of items!



Thank you, Calvary Baptist of Rockford, for dropping off these full baskets!



Thank you, Rockford's MOMS Club for your donation! We are so grateful!



We are thankful for Alyssa! For her 5th grade leadership project at Rockford Christian, she chose to raise money for The PCC!



Instead of receiving gifts for her 15th birthday, Liv asked for monetary donations for The PCC! Thank you for your thoughtfulness to our center, Liv!



Big thanks to the First Free Women's Bible Study ladies who came out at the end of April and served throughout our center. They pulled weeds, cleaned throughout the center, bundled diapers, filled info bags, and so much more!

**MidWest MailWorks**

Experts at putting your message to the right hands.

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



Thank you, Statline Church, for your collection of donations! We were blown away!

Thank you to Jon and Warren who came to trim and clean up our trees around the building!



Ms. Moore's Anatomy & Physiology class at Hononegah High School learned about the gestation of a baby, and as they learned, they chose to collect baby items for The PCC!