

Birthright of Cedar Rapids

"It is the right of every pregnant woman to give birth and the right of every child to be born." Fall 2018

Birthright International, Celebrating 50 Years of Service!

BIRTHRIGHT HELPS

...any girl or woman regardless of age, race, creed, marital or economic status, who feels distressed by an unplanned pregnancy.

BIRTHRIGHT IS THERE

...for every woman who calls for help. Whether that call is for nothing more than an anonymous pregnancy test or friendship and support lasting through the delivery and beyond, Birthright is there. Every woman is special and deserves to be treated as an individual.

BIRTHRIGHT CARES

...for every woman and does not pass judgement on the "quality" of life or circumstances of a pregnancy. We do not dwell on the past. Birthright instead asks, "How can we help?" No matter how difficult a situation may seem, Birthright helps each woman plan constructively for her future.

BIRTHRIGHT WAITS

At Birthright, a friend is waiting for you as long as you need one.



An Act of Kindness

I love hearing stories about strangers coming together, making connections, paying it forward, or doing something good for one another. This time I had the pleasure of being the recipient of a random act of kindness which benefitted Birthright.

Our layette room had run out of newborn pajamas and onesies. I went to a local consignment shop to buy gently used baby clothing. As I was trying to find the best bargains, I began talking to the cashier as I shopped. I explained that I worked at a non-profit pregnancy center and how we rely heavily on donations but were in desperate need of baby clothing. As I was checking out, the cashier rang up the bill and told me what the amount came to. When I reached for my purse, she said, "I'm going to pay for this". She took out her own wallet and paid for my purchases! I was graced with an act of unexpected generosity that day and I am grateful for her kindness and support.

-Deandra Chlystun, Co-Director

It is now more convenient than ever to support Birthright financially! Donate online securely on our chapter webpage: www.birthright.org/cedarrapids.

DONATE NOW



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**



Thank you to our area councils for organizing our annual Rose Drive. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year and we could not do it without their support. We also want to thank all of our area churches and priests that participated in the Rose Drive by letting us speak about our organization. Thank you also to all of the donors who generously gave to Birthright.

We cannot thank the Knights enough for all of their services for the unborn. They sponsor our annual Birthright Celebration in 2019. **SAVE THE DATE:**

2019 Birthright Celebration
Saturday, March 2
5-9 pm
St. Patrick's Church
Cedar Rapids

With grateful hearts...

As you give thanks for your blessings this holiday season, those in our care will be giving thanks too- for you and for the gifts of comfort, compassion and the life-changing opportunity you so generously provide for them.



In Loving Memory

On October 26 one of Birthright's dedicated volunteers passed away in her home in Mount Vernon. Darlene Allard was the wife of Dennis Allard, mother and grandmother – and dedicated volunteer for many years! Although she was very busy with her family and work, she made time to serve in the Birthright office twice a month. Her love and support for the unborn was an inspiration to all of us! Even when she wasn't feeling well due to treatments and other stresses on her body, she had a smile on her face. We miss her gentle manner and humility as she sat in our office, waiting patiently for an opportunity to minister to a woman in need! Many who knew and loved her sent in donations to Birthright at the request of Dennis. Thank you to the family and all who gave in Darlene's memory.



Birthright Office Hours

Monday: 10:00 am – 6:00 pm
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm
Friday, Saturday & Sunday: Closed

Birthright Blessings

We are grateful for all who donated throughout the year. We have had cash donations, Amazon smile funds, matching gifts programs with area businesses, memorials, handmade baby items, baby clothing and accessories.

Thank you to those who gave in memory of the following people...

Darlene Allard
Dolores Apel
Donald Davin
Emmit Dolan
Mary Kauffman
Milton Sopousek

Birthright Seeks Volunteers in Many Roles and Capacities!



- Working directly with clients
- Answering the phone
- Help with fundraising
- Professionals for client referrals
- Community resources

To learn more about how you might help Birthright, call 319-393-3251.

Ways to Help This Holiday Season

Here are just a few of the many ways you can fill hearts with gratitude and bring hope to many families:

- Respond to this newsletter with a monetary gift
- Donate a silent auction item for our Birthright Celebration
- Pray for the families and individuals your friendship allows us to serve
- Volunteer in our office
- Donate new or gently used baby clothing for our layette baskets
- Make handmade blankets, bibs, burp cloths and booties
- Make gifts in honor or memory of a loved one or friend
- Do your holiday shopping at smile.amazon.com and designate Birthright of Cedar Rapids as the recipient of 0.5 percent of your total purchases.



Please continue your heartfelt support with a gift today. Because you care, families in need can overcome their challenges and embrace a new beginning with their newborn!

Thank you for the many ways you support Birthright

- Volunteering regular hours in the office
- Special event volunteers such as the Annual Celebration or Rose Drive
- Providing items for layettes that Birthright gives to new mother
- Setting up speaking engagements for Birthright to speak to community groups
- Providing financial support to Birthright

Enclosed is my contribution with a check payable to Birthright of Cedar Rapids

Please accept my gift of \$ _____

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

My contribution is: In memory of _____ In honor of _____

Birthright of Cedar Rapids, Inc is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and donations are fully tax deductible.

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