



## Dear Friends,

Welcome to our quarterly newsletter! We are thrilled to share with you the latest developments in our mission to make a positive impact in our community.

First, we would like to express our gratitude to all of our supporters and volunteers who have continued to give to us. Your generosity and dedication have allowed us to keep our programs running smoothly and effectively.

This year we have seen **115** unique individuals for a total of **576** client visits! We have surpassed last year's visits (January - December 2023) in the number of pregnancy tests, material aid, and referrals. This month, we will surpass last year's visit numbers for ultrasound visits.

With this growth in services, we are moving to a larger facility. This move will be to accommodate the increased number of clients, need for additional staff/volunteer space, group meetings and a boutique for clients to shop.

We are so excited to be able to update you on what is happening at the center, offer program highlights and provide client testimonials. Let us know if there are other updates you would like to see in future newsletters by calling Kathleen at 231-224-6466.

Together, we can make a real difference in the lives of those who need it most. Thank you for your continued support!

Enjoy this quarter's newsletter!

*PCC Team*

# Program Spotlight - Earn While You Learn

This educational and mentoring program is designed for parents or prospective parents to watch videos with a volunteer mentor on various topics such as parenting, pregnancy, birth, and life skills. Sessions occur in-person at our office or virtually. Participants earn points during these mentoring sessions which can be used in exchange for diapers, wipes, cribs, and many other baby necessities.

Each in-person Earn While You Learn session offers a spin on the wheel to earn extra points for larger items or a gift bag prize! Clients have the option for worksheets to complete at home to further reinforce the concepts learned.

The coolest part of this program - it's not just for women who are pregnant. Parents of young children are also welcome to participate, and we love it when dads want to learn and earn points as well!



## Parent Mentor Volunteers Needed!

We are looking for parent mentors to facilitate Earn While You Learn sessions.  
In-person or virtual options available.

**Commitment is 2-4 hours per week based on your schedule.**

If you are interested in joining this ministry, call our office 231-348-3388 or email [admin@petoskeypcc.org](mailto:admin@petoskeypcc.org)



# Thank You, Friends

## For your attendance and gifts at the summer Gala

Amazed. Blessed. Grateful. Your generosity for the 2024 fundraising Gala at Grand Unity Event Center this summer left us speechless! We had nearly **300** attendees who contributed to raise over **\$40,000**! The annual Gala is our biggest fundraiser of the year and helps to support our mission to provide education, material aid, ultrasounds, and pregnancy tests to anyone in the community seeking our services.

Thank you to staff, volunteers, and attendees who contributed to the success of this event!



## New Staff Welcome

We welcomed two new staff members to our team this year. Through a generous gift by the Manthei Group, we added the position of Director of Mission Advancement as of this year. We are looking forward to connecting with you more throughout the year!

### Kathleen Director of Mission Advancement

Kathleen joined the PCC team in late June after 13 years in public health where she has vast experience in program coordination, grant management, grant writing, and budgeting.

Kathleen lives in Alanson with her husband, twin 4-year old boys, and their dog, Sparta.

Kathleen will be working on initiatives in marketing, fundraising, and increasing awareness of our services in the community to better reach clients in need.

Why she loves her job: I enjoy meeting new people and learning their stories. I feel so blessed to be using my gifts and talents for this ministry!



### Michelle Office Administrator/Volunteer Coordinator

Michelle joined the PCC team in late June. She has abundant experience in office management, coordination of services, and scheduling. She is the backbone of our office!

Michelle lives in Indian River with her husband, two daughters, dog Lilly and cat Sebastian.

Why she loves her job: I love meeting and interacting with our clients and being part of sharing God's love with them through the many ministries of the PCC!



## Center Stats

Comparing 2024 year to date to Jan - Dec 2023 visits

27%

increase in all PCC appointments

Earn While You Learn  
appointments increased by

25%

96%

increase of material aid provided

volunteer hours provided

over  
957



## Baby Bottle Boomerang Campaign

Because of your support, the Mother's Day to Father's Day Baby Bottle Boomerang event was a huge success!

Sixteen churches participated to offer parishioners the opportunity to fill a baby bottle with change, cash, or checks. We had an astounding 331 bottles filled and returned to support our mission! This generous giving resulted in over \$23,000 to equip women and men in our community who are at-risk for abortion with the solutions, resources, and support that they need to choose life for their unborn baby and thrive as parents!

Thank you to all who participated in this event!

## Upcoming Events



**Car Seat Safety Check**  
Indian River Baptist Church  
6214 Hemlock St., Indian River  
1 PM - 4 PM



**Fall Baby Bottle Boomerang Campaign**  
Is your business interested in having a change drive? **Join our fundraiser!**  
Contact Kathleen to sign up.  
231-224-6466 or [kathleen@petoskeypcc.org](mailto:kathleen@petoskeypcc.org)

PSALMS 29:11

*The Lord gives His people strength.*

THE LORD BLESSES THEM WITH PEACE.

## Stories of impact: Mercades' Journey

After 11 years of trying for a second child, Mercades and her husband didn't think the moment would happen. When Mercades found out she was expecting, she was nervous about waiting so long for an appointment with her OB. Mercades had heard of the Pregnancy Care Center (PCC) from a friend, but didn't give it a second thought until she was discussing how anxious she was with the ladies at the WIC office. Mercades found herself making an appointment with our office.

*"The ultrasound eased my anxious feelings about truly confirming my pregnancy. The moment I saw his little body on the screen, I cried happy tears and it was such an emotional moment. Just to have that precious picture of him knowing that he's truly there after all this time just fills my heart and soul with so much happiness and gratitude."*



Once she received her pregnancy confirmation at the PCC, Mercades immediately knew she was going to participate in our programs.

*"I am grateful for the earn while you learn program. From the donated maternity clothes to helping me with purchasing a pregnancy pillow. I have saved a majority of my points to earn my son's bedside bassinet and eventually his very own crib. I'll forever cherish the connections I've made with the women who volunteer there."*

Mercades looks forward to the day when she is able to give back to the community as a volunteer with Pregnancy Care Center.

*"I'm personally looking forward to volunteering one day when my son is bigger. Just so I can be that person to help someone else like me because I'm familiar enough with starting over from nothing but it will be easier with help."*

Mercades' story is a testament to the power of the Pregnancy Care Center's staff and volunteers. Our main source of advertising services is through word of mouth and how lives can be changed for the better.

# How to talk about the Pregnancy Care Center

As shown in Mercades story, talking about the PCC in the community is a wonderful way to spread awareness and why so many people reach out to us. Nearly half of new clients have learned about PCC by word of mouth, allowing women and men to see their sweet baby on an ultrasound! **Help us reach more people in need with these talking points about what we do.**

## A safe place to navigate an unplanned pregnancy

A calm environment to talk with staff about their situation and **gather medically accurate information** about their options.

## Free & Confidential Ultrasounds

An **ultrasound is the essential next step after a positive pregnancy test**. It confirms pregnancy, and due date.

## Ongoing Support & Resources

Some feel alone and like abortion is their only option, the PCC **provides tangible ongoing support for people facing pregnancy.**

Our generous donors make it possible for us to provide all services completely free to our clients. We are funded by individuals, foundations and small private grants. **We do not accept any government funding.** This gives us the freedom to share about Christ with our clients.

## Our Board of Directors

Sharie Plain  
*Chairwoman*

Rachel Manthei  
*Secretary*

Margo Damoose  
*Treasurer*

*Directors*  
Bill Atkins  
Jennie Cope  
Jeff Haven  
Greg Law

## Staff

Rachael Morford  
*Executive Director*

Naomi Bruin-Slot  
*Nurse Manager*

Michelle Gwilt  
*Office Administrator & Volunteer Coordinator*

Kathleen Jakinovich  
*Director of Mission Advancement*

## Recurring Volunteers

Karen Doublestein  
Pam Bjorkman  
Rachel Manthei  
Janet Manthei  
Marjorie List  
Sharie Plain  
Cara Black



## Bountiful Life Starts with You...

We can do so much more because of you. Because of your generosity we were able to provide updates on events, programs, and clients in this newsletter. If you are led to transform the lives of more people in our community who are facing an unplanned pregnancy, there are three ways you can make an impact!



### Pray

Pray for our clients, staff, and volunteers. Our ministry can always be lifted in prayer.



### Donate

Monthly and one-time gifts can be set up on our website, checks can be mailed or dropped off, and cash can be given at our office.



### Tell Your Friends

Spread the word about our ministry to your church, friends, and family.



### Mailing Address:

PO Box 633, Petoskey, MI 49770

### Physical Address:

2206 Mitchell Park Dr., Ste 9  
Petoskey, MI 49770

### Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 10AM - 4PM  
Wednesday 10AM - 5PM

### Websites:

Client: [petoskeypcc.org](http://petoskeypcc.org)  
Supporter: [supportersofpcc.org](http://supportersofpcc.org)

If you wish to be taken off our mailing list, please let us know by calling our office at 231-224-6466 or emailing [kathleen@petoskeypcc.org](mailto:kathleen@petoskeypcc.org).