

Heartlines



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Spring Banquet

Friday, April 17
6:30 p.m.
At Sault Wesleyan
Church
Kathy Sparks, Speaker

Upcoming Events:

Garage Sale

June 26-27
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
At Care Net

Tough Year Leads to Mission Focus

“But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. If they were all one part, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, but one body.”

1 Corinthians 12:18-20 NIV

2019 was a very busy year for Care Net. Looking back, however, the “busy-ness” also provided a good opportunity to refocus on our mission: to affirm the value of life by compassionately presenting Biblical truth to those experiencing pregnancy related crises, along with providing a network of care, resulting in changed lives to the glory of God.

The main reason we added ultrasound services in 2014 was to increase our ability to serve those facing unplanned pregnancies. We can answer questions like, “am I really pregnant?” and “how far along am I?”. But, through the first three months of 2019 we had only 2 medical client appointments.

We talked to other pregnancy centers offering ultrasound services in Michigan. They also were experiencing a drop in the number of medical clients they were seeing. We continued to pray. But by July, we had had only 1 more medical client.

During Lakerpalooza at Lake Superior State University, we conducted a survey to determine how students search to find us. We found that students look at online advertising and social media platforms almost exclusively. Our social media presence was very limited.

One of the main questions we wanted answered at our national conference was how to conduct online advertising, social media advertising, which platforms to use, and how to do these things effectively,

without wasting time or money. After the conference, we felt it was best to hire a company focused on social media advertising for pregnancy centers. They would be able to best provide advertising and posting that resonates with younger generations (namely those born in 1995 or later).

We hired a company that has since redesigned our client website, redesigned our Facebook page, established a Care Net Instagram account, manages posts to both of these on an almost daily basis and creates online ads. Since these efforts began, we have seen a slow increase in the number of medical clients seeking help from Care Net.

Why was this so important? According to Michigan’s Department of Health and Human Services website, the number of women living in Chippewa, Luce and Mackinac counties that had abortions increased from 42 in 2016 to 61 in 2018. If the number of women having abortions is increasing, we want to see more women for medical services, not less.

Please pray with us that God will continue to guide our efforts to reach these women, to help them see their own value, and to affirm their lives – and the lives of their unborn children.

2019 Service Statistics

# of Appointments	426
# of Unique Clients	55
Female Clients	41
Male Clients	14
Pregnancy Tests	15
Ultrasounds	2
Gospel Presentations	2

MART ITEMS DISTRIBUTED In 2019

Total # of Items Distributed	2,306
Used Baby Clothes	816
Formula/Food	261
Diapers (packages)	226
Wipes (packages)	124
Toys	116
New Baby Clothes	90
Baby Toiletries	77
Adult Toiletries	56
Shoes/Boots	52
Toilet Paper Rolls	38
Bottles & Supplies	35
Cloth Diapers	35
Books	31
Laundry Supplies	31
Crib Sheets/Bedding	26
Feeding Items	26
Maternity Clothes	22
Paper Towels	16
Sippy Cups	14

(Not all items distributed are listed above.)

MI Biggest Baby Shower

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."

Philippians 4:6 NIV

Each year, during the month of January, the Promise FM Christian radio station holds what they call "Michigan's Biggest Baby Shower." During airtime, they visit pregnancy centers around Northern Michigan to share with their listeners what is happening in ministries like ours.

There are quite a few pregnancy centers in the Promise FM listening area, meaning that not all of us can participate in this radio event. Since we have been blessed to participate the last three years, we were not slated to participate this year. However, we received a phone call saying one of the centers had to cancel. Could we host a baby shower? Yes!

We were so excited to have Dennis Hutchens and Scott Blackwell here. We were excited to share what God is doing here. But we were even more excited to share how much our communities take care

of the women and men seeking help from Care Net. We received almost 1200 diapers, 7 cans of formula, toiletries for both men and women, as well as lots of baby clothing and other items. Thank you so much for your generosity.



"UNPLANNED" Shown at LSSU

"For God will bring every deed into judgement, including every hidden thing, whether is it good or evil."

Ecclesiastes 12:14 NIV

Last year the movie UNPLANNED was released in theaters across the nation. I was not able to go see it but heard from several of our partners that we needed to show this movie in the EUP. I started looking into how to get a license to show the movie publicly.

God – in His marvelous ways – had Randy Peasley from First Church of Christ contact me to say they had a license to show the movie. We arranged a showing for September. After this showing, several people donated money and offered help to show the movie at LSSU.

Sunday, January 26 we held the showing at LSSU. Thank you to all who made this possible and worked so hard

to advertise it on campus and in the community.

While we did not have the student turn out we were praying for, we are eager to see how God uses this movie in the lives of those who were there.

Again, thank you to all who helped make this possible and prayed for the event.



2020 Care Net Events

Caring for Care Net Sunday

At your church, any Sunday you choose. Let us know if we can come share updates with your congregation.

Spring Banquet

Friday, April 17, 2020
Speaker: Kathy Sparks
At Sault Wesleyan Church

Garage Sale

June 26-27, 9a.m.–4p.m.
At Care Net

Chippewa County Fair

September 1 – 7
10:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.
each day
Fair Grounds in Kinross

Fall Auction & Dessert

Thursday, October 15
6:30 p.m.
Location TBD

Make a Joyful Noise

January, 2021
Location & Exact date to be determined.

Our Greatest Need? YOU!

“The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”

Matthew 9:37-38 NIV

Care Net Pregnancy Center is operated solely through donations from its friends. Because of this, we do not have any full-time staff. Our paid staff is only part time. However, that also means much of the work done by the center is taken on by volunteers.

We need you. Currently we have a few very specific volunteer needs. However, if you feel God is leading you to help in a way we might not yet recognize, please let us know.

Male Advocates: available 2-4 hours per week, meeting with male clients. Must be available the same hours each week for scheduling purposes.

Female Advocates: available 2-4 hours per week, meeting with female clients. Must be available the same hours each week for scheduling purposes.

Receptionist/Clerical Worker: available 2-4 hours per week to answer

phones, greet visitors, and help with light clerical work. Looking specifically for someone available Thursday afternoons.

Board Members: available 3-5 hours per month, plus help with fundraising. We are looking specifically for those with financial, legal or medical backgrounds or those willing to take on board training.

Housekeepers: available 2 hours per week to clean bathrooms, dust, and vacuum both buildings.

MART Helpers: available 2-4 hours per week to organize items in the Mart, conduct in-take for new donations, and help clients with their shopping.

Applications are available at the center or by calling to have one sent to you. Training is provided for all positions.

Make A Joyful Noise

“I will praise you with the harp for your faithfulness, O my God; I will sing praise to you with the lyre, O Holy One of Israel.”

1 Corinthians 12:12 NIV

We are looking forward to a great event in January 2021. Alan Jacobus has agreed to organize a concert fundraiser to help bring awareness to the work Care Net does in the EUP communities.

This event will truly be an area wide event. While Alan is organizing the musicians needed for this event, it is open to all those desiring to sing. The music will be made available soon and then monthly practices will begin.

If you desire to sing in this event, please let us know. If you are a choir director and would like to help prepare singers from your congregation, let us know that as

well so we can put you in touch with Alan.

While this may seem a long way off, it will come up very quickly. Please be sure to let us know soon if you would like to participate.





Kathy Sparks – Spring Banquet Speaker

A Person's A Person No Matter How Small

"My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be."

Psalm 139:15-16 NIV

The Spring Banquet annual fundraising dinner is scheduled for April 17th at 6:30 p.m. at the Sault Wesleyan Church. We encourage you to join us and bring neighbors, friends and co-workers to learn how Care Net serves EUP communities and help us raise funds.

Our theme this year is from Dr. Suess' Horton Hears a Who. Throughout the book, Horton the elephant emphasizes that just because he is the only one to hear the Who's on a speck of dust, it does not diminish the value of the Whos. Horton says repeatedly, "A Person's A Person No Matter How Small."

Often a woman feels so small herself that she can't see a way to survive an unplanned pregnancy other than abortion. One of our goals at Care Net is to empower her to see that she can be a mother and still reach her dreams. She does not

need to feel small to save her baby that is so small.

Our speaker this year is Kathy Sparks. Having facilitated the horrors of abortion in the past, Kathy Sparks is now a fierce pro-life advocate. "Called out of darkness and into His marvelous light" may best describe the testimony of Kathy who, having once worked as a medical assistant in an abortion clinic, is now serving the Lord Jesus Christ as President/CEO of Mosaic Pregnancy & Health Centers in Granite City and Belleville, Illinois. Kathy's testimony of the supernatural intervention of God in her life brings to reality the Holy Scripture, which declares, "...and we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose." (Romans 8:28)

Invitations will be mailed in March. Please RSVP by April 6 to 906-635-1103 or cnpcfoeup@gmail.com.

2019 Fiscal Statistics

Total Revenue	\$109,161
# of Donors	292
Average Gift.....	\$125
Avg # of Gifts/Donor	3
# of New Donors	62
# Repeat Donors	230

Amount Per Event:

Spring Banquet.....	\$11,952
Baby Bottles	\$5,782
Garage Sale	\$3,633
Fall Auction	\$3,186
Caring for Care Net Sunday.....	\$3,141
Freewill Offerings.....	\$1,369
Christmas Letter	\$1,152
Walk for Life.....	\$1,078

Medical Center Update

"A joyful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones."
Proverbs 17:2 NIV

We are so pleased to welcome back Angela Thompson, RDMS, to work as ultrasonographer on Tuesday afternoons. Angela's expertise is very evident in her work. Her heart for women facing unplanned pregnancies is so gentle and compassionate.

We continue our search for a pro-life doctor that works as an OB/GYN or MD to be our medical director. This person must agree with our Statement of Faith and have experience with OB ultrasound.

We are also looking for nurses willing to volunteer a few hours' time each week to conduct pregnancy tests. We are hoping to receive help on Mondays and Thursdays.

Please continue to pray that women and men seeking abortions would come to Care Net instead. Please pray also that we will know how to reach them to let them know we are a safe and confidential place to receive compassion, hope and help.

Pray For Our Staff and Volunteers!

Noel Rupprecht – Executive Director

Debra Kobes – Center Director

Dr. Madeleine Guevara, OB/GYN D.O. – Medical Director

Brenda Jones, RN – Nurse Manager

Angela Thompson, RDMS - Ultrasonographer

In Office Volunteers:
Linda Bush, Pamela Ellis, Chasidy Keyser, Amy Lane, Joyce Mastaw, Mary Myton, Renie Smart, Jordan Tremblay

Pray for Our Board of Directors!

Don Cole – Sault Ste. Marie

Phil Becker – Rudyard

Norm Sampson – Sault Ste. Marie

Bryanna Murray - Brimley

We are looking for additional members to join the Board. Please pray that God would lead the right people, maybe you, to these roles.

From Noel’s Perspective

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.”

Colossians 3:23-24 NIV

Ministry burnout is a very real problem among pregnancy center workers. It is something that Deb and I have discussed on numerous occasions, and something addressed at the national conference. These discussions usually focus on how to avoid and recover from burnout; however, I recently realized that the cause of burnout can be a wrong focus.

Many times we take a job or are on a committee or hold a place of responsibility where we are focused on the numbers and data to gauge and determine progress or growth. This is a good thing to do. We are supposed to evaluate our work to determine effectiveness and productivity. The problem comes in ministry when we only try to gauge and measure results through numbers.

Care Net Pregnancy Center has many members – employees,

volunteers, board members, churches, prayer partners, financial partners, business partners. BUT – the ministry does not belong to any of us. This ministry is GOD’s ministry. HE is responsible for the results.

We are responsible to do the work He has given us to the best of our abilities. I am accountable to Him to use the abilities He has given me in a way that honors Him and brings Him glory. Some of these things can be measured and evaluated for improvement. Some of these must be evaluated through prayer. However, none of my efforts or my work should ever determine the results of this ministry. God is in charge of the results. They are as grand or as limited as He determines. He directs the paths of those we serve – and He already knows the outcome.

Are you being faithful in the ministry God has given you to do? Or are you trying to be responsible for the results?

Needs List

Client:

- Cribs, bassinets and mattresses
- New car seats
- **Disposable diapers (sizes 4, 5, 6)**
- Pull-ups and potty training disposable diapers
- Baby food and formula
- Single serve beverages (juice, water)
- Household supplies: laundry detergent, dryer sheets, toilet paper, facial tissue and paper towels
- New toys for children birth to age 4
- New and gently used clothing up to size 5
- **Feminine Hygiene Items**

Ministry and Building:

- Copier Paper
- Rubberbands
- Postage Stamps
- K-Cup Beverage Pods
- Batteries (AAA – D)
- Bleach for laundry & Cleaning

People:

- **Board Members**
- **Advocates** for clients (both men and women)
- Committee members for fundraisers
- In office volunteers
- **Liaisons** to represent CNPC within local churches
- Building maintenance
- Building cleaning help
- Gardener

Filling Baby Bottles

We need people in local churches to help us by handing out baby bottles! We have bottles that can be used by churches, families, and organizations to fill with money to help support our ministry. The bottles can be picked up at the Center (or mailed to your church or organization) and you return them when they are filled. This little fundraiser provides a big portion of our day to day operational needs!

Finances to meet these and other needs!

April 17, 2020
6:30 p.m.
Held at Sault Wesleyan Church
3556 Seymour Rd., Sault Ste. Marie, MI

Spring Banquet Dinner

Care Net Pregnancy Center of the EUP's

from Dr. Suss' Horton Hears A Who

A Person's A Person - No Matter How Small

CARE NET[®]

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www.eupforlife.org

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