

# Heartlines



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Medical Center Update	2
Opportunities at Care Net	2
What is a Medical Director	2
Community Corner	3
Dirty Job for Good Cause	3
Volunteer Recognition	3
Financially Support Care Net	4
COVID Brings Mission Focus	4
From Noel's Perspective	5
Needs List	5
Prayer List	5
2019 Service Report	Insert

## October Banquet Has New Look

*“And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.”*

Hebrews 10:24-25 NKJV

Due to the circumstances surrounding the COVID pandemic, and Michigan’s current restrictions on gatherings, we feel it is prudent to cancel the banquet scheduled for October 2. However, there are two important things you need to know.

First, even though our banquet is not happening the way it has in the past, there is another option: Home Banquets. The purpose of a banquet is for partners in this ministry to invite friends and neighbors not involved with Care Net to an event that showcases what Care Net is doing for the EUP. Since we can’t meet in a large group, how about inviting those same people – people you think would want to be involved with Care Net if they knew what we do – to your home for a party? The “home banquet” can take any format you choose. It can be a morning coffee gathering. It can be a backyard barbecue. It can be a fancy dinner with 3-4 courses. It can be whatever you would like to make it. Invite your friends. Let us know when it is, and we will come and present what Care Net does. We will bring literature to share. We will answer questions. The only thing we will ask you to share is why you support Care Net.

Second, even though we are not having a banquet, our financial needs remain the same. We are continuing to meet with clients for our *Earn While You Learn* program and we welcome anyone facing an unplanned pregnancy. We continue to maintain our buildings, pay our bills, and pay our staff (currently down to 2 people). Please consider making a special gift to Care Net, maybe one you would have given at the banquet. Also, consider getting involved as a monthly donor. While a gift of \$1000 is greatly appreciated, 12 gifts of \$100/month adds up to more.

Care Net is God’s ministry. He is our head and our inspiration. What we do here is what He is leading us to do. This pandemic is not a surprise to Him. Cancelling our banquet is not a surprise to Him. He is providing in ways that have surprised us and encouraged us. I believe He is prompting you to be involved prayerfully, financially, and perhaps personally through volunteering. Pray for His guidance and joyfully join this amazing ministry that is hundreds of people strong across all three counties of the EUP.

### Home Banquet!

Call Noel Rupprecht at 906-635-1103 to schedule a “mini-banquet” for your friends and neighbors who don’t know about Care Net.  
(See article to right.)

### Upcoming Events:

#### Adopt-A-Highway Clean Up

September 26  
Meet at Care Net

## What Is A Medical Director?

- A Licensed physician (MD or DO) who provides guidance, leadership and oversight for a medical practice
- Preferably Board Certified
- Appointed by Care Net's Board of Directors
- Must comply with state and professional licensing, certification and continuing education requirements
- Must be informed of the standard of care concerning services provided.
- Can practice any specialty although OB/GYN is preferred
- Supervises all medical services
- Reviews, updates and approves medical policies and procedures



*A medical director is someone God calls to use his or her medical knowledge to share His gift of life with women and men facing unplanned pregnancies.*

## Medical Center Update

*"A joyful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones."*

Proverbs 17:2 NIV

January 2014 we opened a pregnancy medical clinic, providing pregnancy testing and ultrasound confirmation of pregnancy. Dr. Madeleine Guevarra and Brenda Jones, RN, were both instrumental in getting the clinic up and running. Since that time, both have served faithfully, providing 105 pregnancy tests and 58 ultrasound exams. We want to extend our sincerest thanks to both women for their heart and compassion toward the women and men they have served.

In 2019 Dr. Guevara moved out of the area. She agreed to continue reading ultrasound images for us while we searched for a new medical director. Last month, Brenda Jones resigned from her position as nurse manager. Dr. Guevara felt this is a good time to make a clean transition, so she has fully resigned as well.

God is good! He has given us a desire to improve our medical services and refocus on His 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." Therefore, we are forming a **Medical Advisory Committee** to review our current clinic operations, to evaluate clinic needs and feasibility, and to give us clear direction going forward. This committee will help locate a Medical Director and hire a nurse manager. Going forward, this committee will bi-annually review operations and procedures to ensure we are above reproach and providing the best service possible – full of compassion, hope and help for those making pregnancy decisions.

If you or someone you know would like to join this group, please contact Noel at the center. We are looking for medical professionals, especially those with experience in clinic settings.

## Opportunities at Care Net

### VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

**Hours per week:** 22

**Responsibilities:** recruit and train volunteers and incoming staff, provide ongoing training, assess needs of volunteers and assist Center Director

### MART MANAGER

**Hours per week:** 12

**Responsibilities:** maintain and organize the items in the mart, process donations for the mart, assist clients in the mart, share mart needs with the Care Net community

*Full position descriptions, requirements and applications are available at Care Net Pregnancy Center or can be mailed upon request.*

## Volunteer Recognition

The following people helped move items, sort items, provide tables and tents, help shoppers, and clean up after the garage sale:

- Andrea Muench
- Carolyn Trumble
- Joyce Mastaw
- Sandy & Andy Thompson
- Eliana Walters
- Bob & Bonnie Novak
- Faith, Selah, David and Don Cole
- Marv Lalone
- Brian & Jordan Tremblay
- The Kowalski family
- The Murray family
- Phil Becker
- Deb Kobes
- Paul, Brittany and Rebekah Rupprecht



### Adopt-a-Highway Helpers: It's a dirty job!

Thanks to Phil Becker, Jody Landini, Amber Tusinowski, Adam and Aidan Valeski, Dan Hamel, Paul Muench, and Paul Rupprecht for their help with our July 26 clean up.

## Community Corner

*"Don't you realize that all of you together are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God lives in you?"*

1 Corinthians 3: 16 NLT



### SCRAP METALS DRIVE!

The weekend of **May 15-17** we collected a bunch of scrap metal from all over Chippewa county. A young man driving by the center saw our scrap metal sign and brought stuff as well. All in all – for a wet and rainy weekend – we were able to help many clean up their yards and property. We raised \$216. Thank you to all those who donated metal and to Reid Metals for providing the dumpster and processing the metal.

### GARAGE SALE!

August 7-8 saw our parking lot and lawn covered in treasures donated for our annual garage sale. It wasn't Engineer Days Weekend, it rained, and with COVID concerns fewer people were out and about, but we still were able to raise \$4019.03. Thank you to all those who donated items. We had some quality things that people were excited to buy.



## A Dirty Job for a Good Cause

Aidan Valeski said his dad, Adam, was talking about a scrap metal drive for Care Net when the idea came to Aidan that a can drive would be better. He told his dad his idea and they contacted Care Net. Aidan said he would be willing to collect cans and take them to the return centers when they opened again.

Since April, we have been collecting returnable cans and bottles here at the center. At one time, the basement was so full we could not go any further than the light switch. Aidan and Phil Becker came almost weekly to take cans and bottles back to the return centers. They brought the tickets back to us to cash in.

How much did Aidan's idea generate for Care Net? As of this newsletter, we have collected \$1097.20. This means Aidan and Phil and others have returned 10,972 cans and bottles! That is a lot! Add to that those cans that were not accepted (not returnable), and you can see how much time and energy this young man put into this fundraising event.



*Thank you, Aidan, for a great idea and for your willingness to be the hands and feet willing to take on a dirty job for a good cause.*

## Ways to Financially Support Care Net

Did you know, donors who set up recurring donations give 42% more annually? (from Mission Increase Foundation)

There are multiple ways to give monthly that can be set up easily.

- Use your bank's auto bill pay option (contact your bank with questions).
- Setup a recurring monthly donation at <http://eupforlife.org/Support-Financially> (bottom of page)

## Special Giving Opportunities

- Love to shop online? Use **smile.amazon.com** and select Care Net Pregnancy Center of Chippewa County as the charity of your choice. You get the same shopping experience on Amazon, and a percentage of each purchase goes to Care Net.
- **YourCause.com Employer Match Programs:** if your employer uses a contribution matching program, we are listed.
- **Thrivent Financial** now lists Care Net as a recipient of charitable giving for its members.

## COVID Brings Forward New Needs – and a Reminder of Mission Focus

*“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

Have you driven by Care Net lately? Have you seen our flower beds? Even though the lawn is nicely mowed, our flower beds are overgrown. The beautiful flowers you should see are there but overshadowed by the other things we didn't plant. How quickly a ministry can become like our flower bed.

Many things have changed with COVID, and the economic impact is starting to be felt. Over the last two months we have encountered several people on the brink of homelessness. We have also received several phone calls asking about food resources. We have resource lists and do our best to give referrals that are helpful, but sometimes callers must feel like we are just pushing them onto the next agency.

It is very hard to field these phone calls. Our hearts want to help each person, but these needs are not the focus of our ministry. And while meeting the physical needs of shelter and food are sometimes their greatest need, we must be mindful of how God has called us to serve Him.

Our first priority – our mission focus – is to those facing unplanned pregnancies. These are the women and men we hope to see here at Care Net. As they are discovering their pregnancy, as they are facing the future with fear and trepidation, as they are concerned for their welfare we need to be meeting them to share that there is a community here in the EUP ready to help them through this daunting time. We need to let them know this is not the end of their dreams, but a change in plans of how to reach those dreams. We need to let them know that the decision they make today needs to be made with all the information available because it impacts every tomorrow from here on out.

Over the past two years, we have not been seeing the number of women considering abortion that we should be. We have made changes to our advertising and marketing plans and we have been praying for clear guidance from God. Will you please join us in praying?

*Heavenly Father, you are the author and giver of life. You created life from your very breath. You know each life – each individual and unique life – from the number of hairs on each head to the numbers of tears cried. You know the days planned for each of us and nothing is unknown to You. Please lead us to value each life – mother, father and child – that comes to Care Net. Please bring women and men considering abortions through these doors. Give us Your Spirit to be Your hands and feet to them. Amen and amen.*

The mission of the Care Net Pregnancy Center is 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.

**Pray For Our Staff and Volunteers!**

- Noel Rupprecht – Executive Director
- Deb Kobes – Center Director
- Searching for – Medical Director
- Searching for – Nurse Manager
- Angela Thompson, RDMS - Ultrasonographer
- Searching for – Volunteer Coordinator
- Searching for – Mart Manager
- In Office Volunteers:  
Linda Bush, Pamela Ellis, Marv Lalone, 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
- Rachel Cron – Sault Ste. Marie
- 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

*"That this may be a sign among you when your children ask in time to come, saying, 'What do these stones mean to you?' Then you shall answer them ..."*

*Joshua 4:6-7a NKJV*

I had the privilege of talking with Patty McCCasey in July. Her husband's grandparents built the building we now use for Care Net. William and Lucy Murphy were farmers who moved from Barbeau to Ashmun hill to be closer to town. At that time, all this area was open farmland. In fact, when I called city records to find the actual date this building was built, they had no records because it was outside city limits at the time. Talking to Patty, she said it was built sometime between 1910 and 1920 based on her mother-in-law's birth date.

It was fascinating talking to Patty and hearing the history. It reminded me of Joshua 4, when the Israelites crossed the River Jordan before Jericho. They erected 12 stones to remember what God had done there. Joshua's explanation to the children of Israel comes in verse 6, "that this may be a sign among you when your children ask in times to come, saying "What do these stones mean to you?"

When people look at our building or our sign, what does it mean to them? Not much until someone tells them the work God is doing here. During the garage sale several people asked who the sale benefitted. When I answered it was for Care Net, a Christian pro-life pregnancy center, they smiled, said they were happy to hear about us, and asked more questions about our ministry.

Like Patty, we have information that others won't always ask for. Sometimes they don't know what to ask; sometimes they don't know who to trust; sometimes they are afraid to know. For those facing unplanned pregnancies, we want to be that safe place where they can ask questions, get honest answers, and have loving support for years to come.

That is what our pink house means.

## Needs List

**Client:**

- Cribs, bassinets and mattresses
- New car seats
- **Disposable diapers (sizes 3, 5, 6)**
- Pull-ups and potty training disposable diapers
- Baby food and formula
- Single serve beverages (juice, water)
- Client household supplies: laundry detergent, dryer sheets, hand sanitizer, 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
- Clorox Disinfecting Wipes

**People:**

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

**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!**

Go to [www.michigan.gov/sos](http://www.michigan.gov/sos) to check registration, candidate facts, polling locations and more.

Next Election: Tuesday, November 3, 2020

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