

Winter 2015-2016

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



BIRTHRIGHT OF QUINCY

1200 BROADWAY, LOWER LEVEL SUITE A, QUINCY, IL 62301
217-224-1277 1-800-550-4900

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What's New

Birthright of Quincy's inaugural Volunteers of the Year for 2015 were announced at the December Volunteer Meeting/Banquet held at Quincy University on Sunday, Dec. 13th. We could not do what we do without great people like Dorothy & Butch Obert, and Megan & Dennis Barragree—
Congratulations and thanks for all you do!

Dorothy & Butch Obert, 2015 Birthright of Quincy Volunteers of the Year.



Megan & Dennis Barragree, 2015 Birthright of Quincy Volunteers of the Year.

What Is Birthright?

We are a non-profit, non-political, non-denominational, service organization that offers pregnant women and girls the non-judgmental emotional and practical support they need to make responsible and educated decisions about their future and that of their unborn child.

What Do We Offer?

FREE & CONFIDENTIAL:
Friendship & Support, Reliable Pregnancy Tests, Maternity & Baby Clothes, Information & Referrals

Offering help that is Free and Confidential.

birthrightquincyil.org

Text or Call
217-440-8388

Toll Free - 24 Hours a Day
1-800-550-4900

Birthright of Quincy has a **NEW Commercial** airing on **WGEM T.V. & Radio.**

A big Thank You to WGEM and Shawn Dickerman for producing this great PSA to help us reach those who need us!



BIRTHRIGHT OF QUINCY

www.birthrightquincyil.org



More images from the new Birthright of Quincy PSA created by WGEM's Shawn Dickerman.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Bethany Brown

Quincy Volunteer

Bethany's parents raised her in Quincy and instilled in her a love of family and kids by making her the oldest of 10 children. She has a wonderful husband, Garris, and they have been blessed with two amazing little boys, Jayden (2) and Max (2 months.) Bethany works part-time as an engraver and loves teaching sewing to kids and adults alike. Her heart is always with her children and learning more about healthy living. She volunteers with Birthright because she feels unborn babies need a voice, and because of her own journey of motherhood, it is very important to her that women are aware of their options in all things child bearing and birth.

TESTIMONIAL...

*I've had enough! **I can't do this!** I'm repulsed by the idea of having a baby, how can this be? I know what my life & future needs to be. My focus must remain on my education, athletics, graduating, & getting a good job. How can I let one night at a party change my life forever. I knew better, I was taught better, I have morals. I knew I shouldn't be drinking. I can't have this baby. My friends insist they will help me, even if that means raising the child, but I can't let my mistake mess up their lives! We walked past that Birthright Bus-stop bench at Quincy University more times than I can count before I finally had the courage to call. A nice lady agreed to meet us & before I knew it we were discussing the truth about the development of my baby inside me. I was 13 weeks, & she was able to show me what that looked like. But no, I still can't let this change my focus, my future. I hated the way this was changing my body. I'm an athlete, disciplined & strong, I couldn't handle being pregnant. The lady offered me a free ultrasound of my baby, & my friends again insisted & went with us. My friends begged me to make the right choice, & there were others who tried to shame me & tell me I'd go to hell ... I was so worried, so scared, so torn & confused. The lady from birthright, though, assured me that no matter what, she'd be there for me. I thought she might hate me, but she promised to love me & be my friend regardless of my decision. Her genuineness & caring was so comforting, & I trusted her. **It changed my life.** Today, I have no regrets as I look forward to my future. I'm having a baby, who I've grown to love, & I've picked out the loving couple who will adopt my baby, which I know is the right choice for us. My friends & family, & a stranger at Birthright who is now a cherished part of my life forever, helped me turn an impossible situation into a beautiful event in my life! I will forever be grateful to God for Birthright & their unconditional love & nonjudgmental service at my most desperate time in life.*

~ Megan

TRAIN THE TRAINERS

Patty Adam has been working closely with **Bethany Brown, Chantese Shaw, Cindy Cramer, & Dorothy Obert** on client-interaction-based training that they can pass on to all of our volunteers regardless of experience-level. Please plan to attend this training as often as you can! **Thanks Ladies!**



Helping expecting Mothers & their Babies in Quincy since 1973

*“It is the right of every pregnant woman to give birth . . .
and the right of every child to be born.”*

Client-Focused Volunteer Training

Mon., Jan 18th, 2016

11am–1pm at the Birthright Office

Feb. 2016 - TBD

Mar. 2016 - TBD

Contact Joe Bordewick for more details

Quarterly Volunteer Meeting

Saturday, Feb. 20th, 2016

11:30am – 1pm - Birthright Office

Light Lunch Provided

Upcoming Events

Thank You's

A special thank you as always to the Quincy Knights of Columbus Council #583 for their continued support!

Thank you to our quilt-makers, the Quincy restaurants who donated our dining-out package, all of the bakers, all who donated, & all the volunteers & patrons that made the Birthright booth at the KC BBQ a success!

Thank you to WGEM & Shawn Dickerman for the great PSA!

Thank you to the Church of St. Peter & St. Anthony/St. Dominic for your generous donations!

Thank you to all who contributed to our 6th annual Trivia & Silent Auction fundraiser!

Thank you to QU, and QU's Student's for Life student group, for your generous support!

Thank you to our Birthright Volunteers, including our newest volunteers, for being what our clients need when they need it every day of the year!

Thank you to all of you who respond to this newsletter with your generous donations!

6th Annual Birthright Trivia Night & Silent Auction

Congrats to Matt Schmidt & Team "Suck It Trebek" for winning 2015's best trivia contest, & thanks to all the teams & players, volunteers, and businesses & individuals who helped us put on this fun night raising money for Birthright's mission in Quincy.



Letter from the Director ...

Dear Supporters of Birthright of Quincy,

We had a client recently that called the Birthright hotline to ask for information & costs of an abortion. When we met in person, it became clear almost immediately that She didn't *REALLY* want an abortion, didn't *REALLY* believe abortion was right, but She was ready to allow a stranger to confirm to Her what many today would lead our young people to believe—that abortion isn't a big deal, just a routine choice, a magic wand that can make problems go away & things go back to the way they were before "the mistake." **She was 5 minutes (with the wrong person) away from Her abortion.** And I believe after talking with Her, She would have regretted that decision for the rest of Her life. But as it turns out, when She walked into Birthright in Quincy, the stranger listened to Her concerns, affirmed them, but then offered concrete solutions & realistic alternatives to abortion. And **She was so RELIEVED when She decided that abortion was no longer an option for Her**, because what She really was looking for, what She really needed, wasn't a magic wand, but rather someone to tell Her the truth—that it really was going to be okay! This wasn't going to ruin Her life. In fact, She now had the opportunity to decide for Herself who She really was as a person & stand up for Her own beliefs—almost as if Her character was instantly fortified at that moment. She was comforted to hear about how some of our volunteers have thrived though unplanned circumstances & become better people as a result. And, if it's Her choice, Her child might become the answer to someone else's prayers altogether through the blessed gift of adoption. In a couple of hours, Birthright changed Her life, Her Child's life, & the lives of everyone they will come in contact with for the rest of their lives, **because we were here, we had the resources and training to help, & because Her heart was open to hear the truth.** Please pray for us—our clients & volunteers, that our hearts will be open—and please keep your support coming in however you can—it makes an entire world of difference. Thanks and God bless.

Warmest Regards, *Joe Bordewick*—Director, Birthright of Quincy

“How can there be too many children? That is like saying there are too many flowers.” – Mother Teresa

Client Statistics – 4th Quarter 2015 - 38 Clients Served

Not only did Birthright help many, many clients with material support like diapers, clothing, etc., and information and referrals for even more resources in 2015, but there are AT LEAST 7 new mothers with precious babies that were born this year that were headed for CERTAIN ABORTION had it not been for the help of Birthright of Quincy!

Be a Birthright Volunteer.

*Birthright could not do what we do without the support we receive from our community. We are in this together! This is our community—our daughters, sisters, neighbors, and friends. Unfortunately, many of these young women feel like they have no one who will be there for them. That's where we come in . . . and we are looking for more **compassionate and non-judgmental** volunteers who share our commitment to the unborn and their mothers to serve our area. Your help in any of these ways would be appreciated.* 

EMAIL birthrightquincyil@att.net OR CALL
JOE BORDEWICK at 217-617-8937 TO GET STARTED HELPING OTHERS TODAY.

Something to think about ... What are your talents?
When are you available? What are you waiting for?

Friendship Counseling

Client Support

Office Help

Fundraising

Public Relations

Volunteer Recruitment

MAKE A REAL
DIFFERENCE

Help your Community. Donate.

Please mail your tax-deductable financial contribution to

BIRTHRIGHT
P. O. BOX 407
Quincy, IL 62306

Please call to make
arrangements to
donate money, gift-
cards, new
maternity or baby
clothes, diapers, or
other items.

As a non-profit charitable organization, Birthright will issue a receipt for tax purposes as requested.

Donation made by/in the name of _____

Would you like Birthright to send you a receipt for tax purposes? YES _____ NO _____

If so, where would you like it sent? NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

Birthright Office
217-224-1277
Joe Bordewick
Director
217-617-8937

We are asking for the support of your donation—whether it be cash/gift cards or the gift of NEW maternity or baby clothes/items. Your support is vital to our mission, as we are staffed entirely by volunteers and funded solely by donations from the community. If you would like more information please contact us . . . but PLEASE help us help our community, and thank you for making a difference!