#### Birthright of Quincy, Illinois

# 3 NEWSLETTER

Helping expectant mothers & their babies in Quincy since 1973.

428 N. 6th St., Suite 101, Quincy, IL 62301 • Financial Donations: PO Box 407, Quincy, IL 62306 • 217-224-1277

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#### WHAT IS BIRTHRIGHT?

We are a non-profit, non-judgmental, non-denominational organization funded completely by donations from our community & staffed 100% by volunteers. Our goal is to provide pregnant women and girls any support they need to bring their child into the world & beyond. We are not political or controversial. We believe an expectant mother should never feel like abortion is her only option.

#### WHAT DO WE OFFER?

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

# BIRTHRIGHT CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF SPREADING LOVE IN THE QUINCY AREA!

This month, Birthright of Quincy celebrates 50 years of serving mothers and babies in need! Many of you have helped in various ways during these 50 years. Our mission of offering hope and support to struggling parents and their children would not be possible without our wonderful supporters who give their time, talent, donations, financial gifts, prayers and more. We offer our sincerest thanks to YOU!

We also have much to be thankful for with the recent historical ruling of Roe v. Wade being overturned...praise God! We do, however, need to remain vigilant as our state's abortion laws and tactics are getting even more extreme. We will not back down but forge ahead and continue to provide life-saving service to the mothers and babies in our community for the next 50 years!

Check out
our blog!
Scan the code below
with the camera on
your smartphone to
read our blog posts!





#### <u>WEBSITE</u> www.birthrightquincyil.org



Birthright

of Quincy



birthrightquincyil

PLEASE HELP GET THE WORD OUT ABOUT BIRTHRIGHT'S MISSION BY LIKING, SHARING AND FOLLOWING US ON FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM. THANK YOU!!



#### **VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT**

#### Colleen Maalouf

Blessed from conception! Being conceived and born into a family of thirteen children (I'm #12) in sunny San Diego. California, I realized as a young girl how blessed I was. This awareness has given me a lifetime of gratitude and joy and has kept me close to my

faith in our Lord, Jesus.

I have been married to my husband Victor for 35 plus years. We have 5 adult children and they have brought depth to my life in all ways from happiness to anguish to sorrow and I worry at times that I will lose my innate joy that I so cherish. What keeps me strong is surrounding myself with holy people. I don't wait for them to come to me. I search them out! And I can tell you the best places to find them are in your church community and in pro-life organizations.

I am blessed to be part of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church community in Quincy with daily masses that keep me grounded in faith and trust in the Lord. I watch and befriend prayerful people and I volunteer at Birthright.

My participation at Birthright has enriched my life in so many ways that the best word to describe it is AWESOME! It is such an honor to work with this all-volunteer staff and it is humbling to be allowed to enter into the lives of our clients; women and men in unplanned pregnancies. Every life is precious and these men and women need to be told that they are worthy to receive love and give love. We are working with clients in Illinois, Missouri and Iowa.

We reach out and give love and support to them and they know we are real! We don't give up on them. We are there as long as they need us to be. Patty Adam, our 40+ year president, can tell you it can be a lifetime of love and thanksgiving!

Change the hearts! Open the hearts! Learn to trust! May God continue to bless our efforts!

#### Testimonial...

I found myself in the scariest position a young, single woman could be in—facing unexpected parenthood. Terrified and uneducated, I only saw one way out. By miracle, I stumbled upon Birthright in Quincy. Birthright relieved some of the financial burdens & pressures causing me to be scared and "inhibited."

Birthright paid off a former lease, kept me current with rent, and even assisted in filing my taxes! Without these burdens, I was able to focus on more important things and able to see the many options available to me. Birthright also provided emotional support--something that was hard to find elsewhere. Birthright & its volunteers exposed all of my options, with no pressure, force, or judgment, letting me make the final decisions. This empowered me to do the right thing, and grow as a person.

Birthright & its volunteers truly cared about me and brought it upon themselves to make "my problem their problem." They were able to connect with me on a very personal level, and I have made some friends for life. Thanks to Birthright, Hunter Joseph is expected to arrive on Aug. 19! Without Birthright, I wouldn't be where I am today.

-Chelsea



We are so excited that we were able to hold our trivia event IN PERSON again! We thank everyone who participated in any way with our 13th Annual Birthright Trivia Night & Silent Auction! We had lots of fun, and we are so thankful for everyone who helped make it a success: our fantastic emcee, Dave Adam, all the players and participants, the judges and celebrity lifelines, the volunteers who worked tirelessly to make this happen, all of our thoughtful sponsors and donors who gave so GENEROUSLY! We live in such an amazing community that truly blesses us with so much love and support to help us continue serving mothers and their babies here in the tri-state area.



Team "Revenge of the Nerds"

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Save the dates!

K of C BBQ Bake Sale and Quilt Raffle (Tentatively) August 11, 12, 13

14th Annual Trivia Night & Silent Auction
Saturday, November 4, 2023

Upcoming Training Date
TBA

Annual Volunteer Banquet
TBA

#### THANK YOU'S

- Thank you to all the volunteers, businesses and individuals who contributed in any way to our trivia night and silent auction.
- We thank the Quincy Knights of Columbus Council #583 for their continued support.
- Thank you to everyone who donated baby items at Christmas time (and anytime!) to help keep our supplies well-stocked.
- Thanks to all of our volunteers. We welcome our new volunteers and appreciate them for stepping up to help our community.
- We thank Jessica Deters and Matt Zanger for coordinating a fun scavenger hunt event and donating the proceeds to us.
- Thank you to Paddles for a Purpose for choosing us as the benefiting recipient for their event in July.
- Thanks to Gayle Roskamp and her P.E.O. (Philanthropic Educational Organization) group for holding a "baby shower" for Birthright to help stock our shelves.

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

#### Letter from the President...

Happy and Blessed New Year to all of our wonderful friends, volunteers and supporters! So much has happened since our last newsletter. 2022 was an amazing year of helping so many wonderful women and girls and their babies. Because of your generous support, we were able to add some new technology; to actually intercept abortion-minded clients and give them a "real choice" - an alternative to abortion. God has answered my prayers as I have continued to struggle with long-term Covid, and just getting older. I really needed to know that if something happened to me, Birthright would be OK. We have added some amazing new volunteers! He has "called" incredibly talented and precious volunteers with a pure heart and motive for Birthright and our mission.

I personally need to thank Susan Asher, who has joined our volunteers and is doing so much to catch us up, by organizing our office and our files. It is so nice to be able to know where stuff is!

I also personally want to thank our co-directors, Pam Eftink and Katie Klauser. God could not have called two more wonderful people to step up and be the face of Birthright in Quincy. Another volunteer who has done so much this year to help many clients is Colleen Maalouf. She has gone above and beyond to be that perfect, non-judgmental & confidential friend that our clients deserve! Mary Jane Bauer, continues to be our treasurer & our accountability to all of you. Space won't allow me to thank everyone personally, but I love & thank you all!

I hope you will read this newsletter from cover to cover. It's because of you and your generosity that we are able to continue to be one of the best Birthrights in our nation!

We are so excited about 2023 as we will celebrate our 50th anniversary in Quincy. We not only need to celebrate our 50th, we will also celebrate our God, who helped us overturn the infamous Roe v. Wade. Because abortion is no longer the law of our land, HE can heal us! Amen!

Blessings to all with humble gratitude,
Patty

Please help support our cause by liking, sharing and following us

Birthright of Quincy

on social media!





### 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 local expectant mothers. Your help in any of these ways would be appreciated.

EMAIL: help@birthrightquincyil.org OR CALL PATTY ADAM @ 217-577-8558 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** 

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

SOCIAL MEDIA OUTREACH

## HELP YOUR COMMUNITY. DONATE.

Please mail your tax-deductible financial contribution to: Birthright

Birthright PO Box 407 Quincy, IL 62306

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!

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

Birthright Office: 217-224-1277

Patty Adam, President Pam Eftink, Co-director Katie Klauser, Co-director Mary Jane Bauer, Treasurer

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!