

# news

Spring2018

## Inspiring hope...

~A Message from our Director, Sarah Ann Brummitt

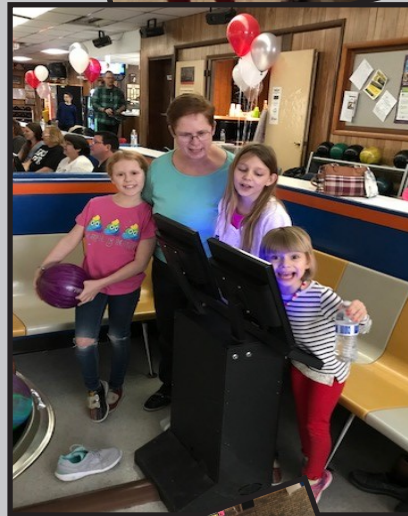
Spring is officially here! The new life, new beginnings, new growth, transformation and change that it brings, makes it a hopeful season. What better time of year to encourage others in their growth process; to inspire them to feel hopeful about starting anew; making a change; trying again; and believing that they are loved, connected, and belong.

I am thankful to be a part of an organization that comes alongside young women and does just that! Not only in the physical sense as they apply the newly learned life skills from our program, but also in the spiritual— as we offer to them the hope that there is Someone who loves them passionately. Someone who wants to be deeply connected to them. Someone who says ‘because of My love and grace, you belong to MY family.’

As HPC continues to grow with new clients, new babies, and new programs, we are passionate about the opportunity we have to **INSPIRE HOPE**. To show clients that love, connection, and belonging are offered no matter what choices have been made in the past. Hope is so important, because it can make the present moment less difficult to bear. At HPC, we have seen firsthand, that new life, new beginnings, and new growth come when hope inspires hope.



As you can see from the pictures right, we had a wonderful time at the Bowl-for-Life event in February. Sponsors were so generous as they supported our bowlers and the ministry of Hope Pregnancy Center. Exceeding our goal not only inspired us, but offers growth for the services HPC provides our clients.



—Coins saved and a lot of love—  
A Visit With Violet

“Coins saved and a lot of love”— Recently, I received a letter from Violet. Within the letter, in cursive handwriting, she shared how she has participated with her church in the HPC Baby Bottle fundraiser. She lives in a retirement home now, and cannot attend her church. She has however, saved her coins throughout the past year, to “give that money to your baby bottle fund and your projects for HPC, and our needs to date.” She went on to say that HPC is a wonderful place for needy people, and “Is needed, to help them find the Lord as their Savior.” My heart was so touched, that I contacted the home to speak with her. As we talked, I found out that she is 89 years young! What an inspiration she was, so I asked her if we could meet, and a few days later, we did! She shared about her life— husband, children, etc. She was between 12-14 years old when she gave her life to the Lord. We talked about Jesus— how He is with us through joys and struggles. Her Bible was on the table beside us, and we talked about spending time reading His Word. She shared wisdom, encouragement, and love during our visit. As we talked about HPC, I could see the love in her eyes for the clients we serve. When we hugged goodbye, she said she was unsure if she could participate in the Baby Bottle fundraiser this year. I smiled and told her that her prayers for the center and our clients, are more than enough. It’s because of amazing people like Violet, HPC can help young women, men, and babies! What wonderful blessings come from “coins saved, and a lot of love”!



**We are so excited to have Melissa Ohden as the guest speaker for our Annual Banquet this fall.**

Melissa’s story, and her life, is so much more than one of survival!

It is evidence of the intergenerational impact of abortion on all our lives. More importantly, her life is a testament to the beauty of God’s grace, the power of love, the transformational power of forgiveness, and in answering God’s call for your life.

Fulfilling the purpose that she believes God set out for her when He saved her from the certain death of the abortion attempt, Melissa is truly a voice for the voiceless.

THE HPC BOARD AND STAFF WOULD LIKE TO THANK DARCY WOODBURN AND JAYNA VROMEN FOR THE TIME THEY SERVED AT HOPE PREGNANCY CENTER.

DARCY BROUGHT WISDOM, DISCERNMENT, AND A LOVE FOR THIS MINISTRY AS SHE SERVED AS AN HPC BOARD MEMBER.

JAYNA SERVED ON THE STAFF AS THE PROGRAM COORDINATOR AND HELPED TO MAKE OUR HOPE PROGRAM EVEN BETTER. SHE BROUGHT LOVE AND ENCOURAGEMENT TO OUR CLIENTS, ALONG WITH SUPPORT AND ON-GOING TRAINING TO OUR VOLUNTEERS.

### Elizabeth Home Update

The Elizabeth Home was birthed from a long-foreseen need that became evident from the clients coming to HPC, and after prayer and preparation, opened its doors in 2014. For the past 3 1/2yrs, we have been striving to assist the young and broken women seeking a better life through a long term family setting. As a Christ-centered ministry, we have given support and love to 6 women and their children. Some stayed for just a few weeks, and others recognized their brokenness and aspired to escape their destructive relationships and begin the process toward spiritual and relational wholeness. Currently, one mother and her sweet son are residing with us.

We have been blessed from the community in the areas of financial and volunteer support. Last summer we were able to complete a fence for the protection of our clients’ toddlers. We extend a special “Thank you” to those who helped, for their tremendous efforts in this addition. Ever seeking God’s wisdom, the board of directors meets on an annual basis to assess the vision for the EH future. One such vision is a larger dwelling to transition the mothers into a more autonomous setting; one step closer to becoming a complete, stable family, a goal many young mothers deeply desire. Our deepest gratitude for your prayers and support as we humbly serve. May God richly bless each of you!





# HPC HIGHLIGHTS

## HOPE Program Client Story

The HOPE Program is an in-depth “earn while you learn” program, covering topics from pregnancy to parenting; relationships; life-skills; and Bible Study. Clients earn credits each visit, in which they can get baby items, clothing, diapers, etc. from our store.

Each topic has multiple modules which consist of



teaching videos accompanied with worksheets and home-work sheets. In June of 2017, C.C. joined the Hope Program and has been very consistent at making her appointments. she learned about basic infant care in our Main Curriculum. Building upon those lessons, C.C. has advanced into the Toddler Curriculum where she is learning about various mile-

stones of her son in each stage from 9 to 24 months.

We are proud of the steps C.C. has made. She is a good little mama! At HPC, we like to celebrate the small victories along with the big ones, and this month C.C. received a bouquet of flowers!

## New Staff Members

**We are pleased to announce that Ashley Diaz and Holli Paine have joined the staff of HPC!**

**Ashley joins us as the new Program Coordinator.**

She started volunteering at HPC in September of 2017 as a receptionist. Ashley is married and has 3 young children. She has been a part of different prayer and missions organizations over the years and is currently involved in serving alongside her husband as youth pastors at her home church in Streator.



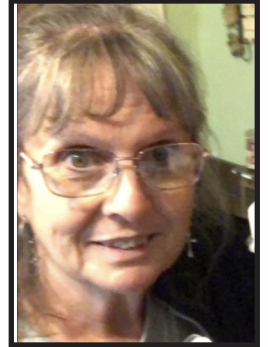
**Holli joins us as the Administrative Assistant.**

She started volunteering at HPC in November of 2017 as a Client Coach. Holli is married and has 4 children. In addition to serving alongside her husband as lead pastors of a local church, Holli is involved in music and children's ministry.



Ashley, Holli, Normandie, and Sarah are excited to see how God will continue to work through the staff of HPC as we do the work He has called us to.

## Volunteer Profile: Sandy Lewis



I was born and raised in Pontiac. I have 3 older sisters, 1 younger, and 2 older brothers. One of my older sisters died when she was 25 yrs. old. She had an aneurysm in her brain that burst when she had a seizure, she also had epilepsy. My daddy died in 1991, and my mama died in 2016. I was raised in an apostolic church which my mama was a member of. That's where my Jesus roots began. I was married twice and divorced once. I had a daughter in the first marriage who is now 40yrs old. My second and present marriage was in 1981. We have 2 girls and 2 boys together. My husband also was married before and has a daughter who is 41yrs old. Together, our oldest is 41 and our youngest, a son, is 12yrs old. I was baptized in water when I was in my 20's, and was baptized in the Holy Spirit 3 years ago. I was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2014. I found out in October, and had a mastectomy in November. I had chemotherapy and radiation, but I will always say I was healed of cancer by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The cancer journey was the worst and best time of my life. I say the best because our Savior taught me how to lay at His feet and give Him my everything. I am far from perfect, but I know Who will take all my burdens. Which brings me to HPC, being obedient to our Father in Heaven. I know Jesus has led me here and I'm excited to see the glorious works He will unfold for all of us.

## Introducing “Men of Hope”

**Men of Hope, is a new addition to our HOPE Program,** and it's introduction to the new fathers (boyfriends of our clients) has been well received.

Pastor David Heath from River of Life Outreach in Meadows, has joined with HPC to provide the young men who accompany our clients to their visits, a male mentor to meet with; to learn from; to be encouraged and challenged by; and to simply listen when they need someone to talk to.

*Many of these young, new father's have not had a father of their own, or a positive male-figure as an example, and now they have a family to raise and provide for.*

Along with a male mentor, the Men of Hope Program will provide training materials to build their confidence and ability as new fathers.

If you, like Pastor David, have a big heart for these young men, and are interested in volunteering as a male mentor, please contact HPC at 815-842-2484.



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www.pontiacHOPEpc.com | office@pontiachopepc.com



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Baby Bottle Fundraiser - Mother's Day through Father's Day

"REAL" Event - May 3rd

Pastor's, Pastries and Purpose - Wednesday, August 8th

HPC Annual Banquet - Thursday, October 25th

Guest Speaker: Melissa Ohden

### HPC Wish List

New Infant Car Seats

Large Storage Tubs

Crockpots (6 quart) for REAL Event

8' Step Ladder

Laundry Detergent

Diaper Bags (for newborn gifts),  
Sippy Cups, Baby Gates,  
Enfamil Gentle Ease Formula

### Please Pray with Us.....

- Praise for the New Volunteers and Staff that have joined HPC
- Praise for our new clients that have chosen life
- Praise for the new MEN of HOPE program
- Clients to apply the life skills program, open hearts to Christ, and thrive
- Physical, emotional, and spiritual protection over all HPC volunteers, staff, and board

#### HPC Staff

Executive Director-Sarah Ann Brummitt  
Business Coordinator-Normandie Lyon  
Program Coordinator-Ashley Diaz  
Administrative Assistant-Holli Paine

#### HPC Board Members

Board President-Lisa Watson  
Vice Chair-Daryl Evans  
Secretary-Marie Haag  
Jill McCulloh; Janelle Zotz; Joel Paine