

A Chance Lunchtime Chat, or a Divine Appointment?

In April of 2024, two pregnancy center directors who had never met happened to sit by each other at lunch during the Heartbeat International Conference in Salt Lake City. One of the women was from South Dakota and the other was from Ohio. The director from Ohio, Jen Furay, shared that her center, *Starting Point*, is located in Mt. Vernon, Ohio and has served women, children and families for more than 30 years.

The director from South Dakota, Rachel Jones, talked about the mobile ministry that her center, *Zoe Care* in Yankton, started in 2023. She mentioned that their mobile unit is part of Tennessee Action Council's (TAC's) fleet. Jen was amazed to hear how working with TAC had helped turn the dream of mobile ministry into a reality with no capital investment.

Prior to their conversation at lunch, Jen had dreamed of starting mobile ministry and had even included mobile ministry in their 5-year strategic plan, but the cost of a new mobile unit (around \$250K) created a steep financial hurdle for the center. The center's

board trusted that God would show them the way to mobilize! The timing of the lunch conversation was fortuitous because a donor had paid off *Starting Point*'s mortgage in February. Jen could see God working and making connections that might allow *Starting Point* to expand its reach through mobile ministry.

Rachel provided contact information for TAC and in early May, Jen called May Bennett. Jen's first question was whether TAC would consider placing a unit in Ohio, to which May responded that the TAC board relies on God to define TAC's geographic market. *Starting Point*

Pregnancy Center completed an application for a mobile unit in October 2024 and the board of TAC began working with Jen on the myriad of details necessary to implement a mobile ministry. Jen and board member, Danita Jenkins met in person over lunch with members of the TAC board in December at Crosswalk Church to finalize plans and craft a preliminary timeline. Since that time, TAC refreshed the mobile unit by having the leather seats and couch reupholstered and replacing carpeting in the cab area. A full assessment of the mobile



Project Life supporters gathered with Starting Point team in front of Crosswalk Church to ask for God's blessing on the mobile unit.

clinic was conducted by a Newmar service center and necessary repairs were made to ensure optimum operation.

On June 5th, a lovely summer day in Tennessee, Jen Furay, Starting Point's Mobile Operations Manager, Marissa Kunes, and board member Danita Jenkins, arrived at Crosswalk Community Church to pick up their mobile unit. Volunteers and board members of TAC gathered around the mobile unit in the parking lot to give thanks, lay hands and pray over the unit. Lauren Cochran, Children's Pastor at Crosswalk, led the prayer, asking for God's blessings on the many lives that will be impacted by this unit and for travel mercies as the Starting Point team embarked on a 450-mile trek to Mt. Vernon. The team arrived in Mt. Vernon safe and sound later that evening. The mobile clinic will soon be re-wrapped in vivid colors that convey hope and new life to women who are uncertain and anxious.

TAC is thrilled to have this new affiliate, Starting Point, join our fleet of mobile clinics currently operating in South Dakota, New York and North Georgia. These clinics minister to geographically distant communities but are united in God's work to serve women, pre-born children and families. We are excited about how He will use this mobile clinic in Ohio to impact the lives of many!

Thanks to all of you who made it possible to send this unit to Ohio! God uses many talents and abilities to accomplish this work. Whether you gave money, played golf, filled a baby bottle bank, sourced companies to refresh the mobile unit, helped with fund-

raising or drove the mobile unit to providers who made repairs and enhancements, we say "thank you!" This work couldn't happen without you!

— ★ ★ ★ —



Lauren Cochran, Crosswalk Children's Pastor, led the group in prayer and the group sent the unit to Ohio with joy in their hearts and big smiles on their faces!



Marissa, the mobile unit manager, in front of Starting Point's "Bricks and Mortar" Clinic with the mobile unit.

Foster Care Awareness Month



Helping
Hands

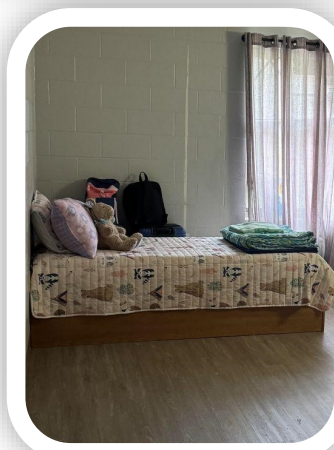
The month
of May was Foster
Care Awareness
Month, an event

designed to raise awareness of the challenges faced by children in foster care and to acknowledge those who support them. In recognition of the this, Tennessee Action Council partnered with a number of local churches and organizations in a project to refresh cottages which temporarily house Davidson County foster children who have not yet been placed in a foster home. The “refresh” included new bedding and stuffed animals for each child (as well as an inventory of bedding for future placements), an outdoor picnic table, a new couch and bean bag chairs, individual DVD players and DVDs, activities such as diamond art, and several games (soccer game, kickballs, bases, slip and slide, and cornhole).

A workday was held on May 27th during which volunteers delivered these items and helped staff place them. To establish on-going support, Crosswalk Church's Young at Heart Group has added children's books and DVDs to their existing books and magazine ministry and, quarterly, will be delivering “gently used” children's books and DVDs to the cottages.

Thank you for your generous donations to TAC that allow us to participate in these opportunities. And thank those of you who donated items for the refresh. We sincerely appreciate Elizabeth Cochran from Brentwood Baptist who led this project and the churches and other organizations who supported the work.

If you would like to know more about on-going opportunities to donate items for the cottages, especially gently used children's books and DVDs, please contact May Bennett at maybennett3@gmail.com.



Update on 2025 Baby Bottle Drives

Baby bottle drives provide an opportunity for churches, civic organizations or other groups to support the work of Tennessee Action Council's Project Life and Helping Hands by collecting coins, currency, or checks in Baby Bottle Banks. The banks, which look like baby bottles, have a QR code that can be used for credit card donations and they remind donors that all money donated is used to help at-risk children and families.

Union University's Psalm 139 student organization conducted a baby bottle drive again this year. The organization's name is based on scripture that says, "For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful; I know that full well." It is very exciting to have college students having their voices heard and supporting a life-affirming organization!

Everleigh Cool Springs, an "over 55 community," just concluded their first baby bottle drive, supporting Tennessee Action Council and the children and families we serve. Elaine Lovelace spearheaded the drive and residents of Everleigh enthusiastically participated by filling baby bottle banks. On June 3rd, the group gathered to collect all of the bottles and take a group photo. What a wonderful way for seniors to give back to their community and show support for at-risk children!

Baby Bottle drives recently concluded at Crosswalk Community Church and Gateway Community Church. We are incredibly grateful

for all of these organizations and their leaders! If you are interested in learning more about baby bottle drives and how your organization could participate, please contact a member of Tennessee Action Council's Board of Directors or Fund-Raising Team.

- Jacqueline McDonald, President (jmcd5308@gmail.com)
- Tom Thompson (ttsavannah@gmail.com)
- Johnny McDaniel (johnnyamcdaniel@gmail.com)
- May Bennett (maybennett3@gmail.com)



Everleigh Community Gathers with Baby Bottle Banks



11th Annual Project Life for Tennessee Golf Tournament

On 4/28/25, at Franklin Bridge Golf Club, 92 golfers gathered to participate in the 11th Annual Project for Life Tennessee Golf Tournament. The weather was a perfect spring day. The opening remarks included a presentation by Braden Cochran who told the story from his perspective of having his mother, who experienced an unexpected teen pregnancy, choose life for him. Today he owns his own business and is a thriving young man of faith. His story reminds us that every life is precious and has God-ordained purpose. This organization exists to provide support for women undergoing unplanned pregnancies with Project Life and to provide help, support, and promote the dignity and self-worth of children entering foster care in Tennessee through Helping Hands. The tournament raised \$45,000 dollars to support those efforts.

The organization has no paid staff, so every dollar goes to the fulfillment of the mission. If you participated or contributed in any way, by playing, praying, purchasing silent auction items, donating money, or volunteering your time, you are much appreciated! Nothing is wasted either. BBQ lunches were provided for all the players and volunteers, but God multiplied our nourishments and there were

several trays of leftovers that were taken to the Nashville Rescue Mission where many more were fed and enjoyed the delicious food.

We look forward to another great event next year and hope to see you there!



First Place Team

Major Sponsors

Diamond Level Sponsors

-Dan Zimmerle and Cabinet Makeovers
-Clyde's Donuts (Kim and Doreen Bickford)

Platinum Level Sponsors

-Tom and Linda Spalding
-1220 Exhibits (Craig Dunn)
-David and May Bennett

Gold Level Sponsors

Mel and Esther Martin
Soldiers of Faith (Kelly McAndrew)

Hole Sponsors

- ◆ In memory of Vern Lovelace
- ◆ In memory of Brian and Crystal Bennett
- ◆ New Hope Community Church
- ◆ Women Who Care by New Hope Community Church
- ◆ Men and Women Who Care by New Hope Community Church
- ◆ Chick-Fil-A
- ◆ Crosswalk CarePortal Team
- ◆ Gary and Molly Keener
- ◆ In memory of Jim "Pottsie" Potts
- ◆ Blount Electrical

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- ◆ In memory of Doug Watts
- ◆ Kate and Randy Malchow
- ◆ Serra Nashville Fleet Sales
- ◆ The Hailey Family
- ◆ The Brassfield Family
- ◆ Smith Engineering Services
- ◆ Very Blessed Grandparents of 4
- ◆ Graphic Effects
- ◆ Helix/SEO
- ◆ In honor of our grandchildren-David and May Bennett
- ◆ In memory of Gail Welte
- ◆ In memory of Jackie Brassfield, Sr

Congratulations to all the winners!

1st Place

Dan Zimmerle, Jerry Hightower, Josh Cropper, Cameron Cropper

2nd Place

Jim Burns, Ken Lane, Justin O'Neal, Joe Phillips

3rd Place

Earl Mothersbaugh, John Humphrey, Joe Barberie, Robert Russell

Putting Contest

Ken LeClair

Longest Drive

Josh Floyd

Closest to the Pin

Brooks West



Second Place Team



Braden Cochran, Speaker



Third Place Team

Save the Date

CELEBRATE A HARMONY OF HELPING HANDS

Imagine duffle bags not trash bags
for every child in Tennessee
moving into foster care!



Join Us

Old Natchez Country Club
15 Gardengate Dr.
Franklin, TN
September 25, 2025
6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Dinner and Entertainment
by Christian Artist

Brennley Brown

with Guest Speaker
and YO-YO Comedian

John Datoy

To benefit TAC Helping Hands

