



Hannah's House

APRIL 2025 NEWSLETTER

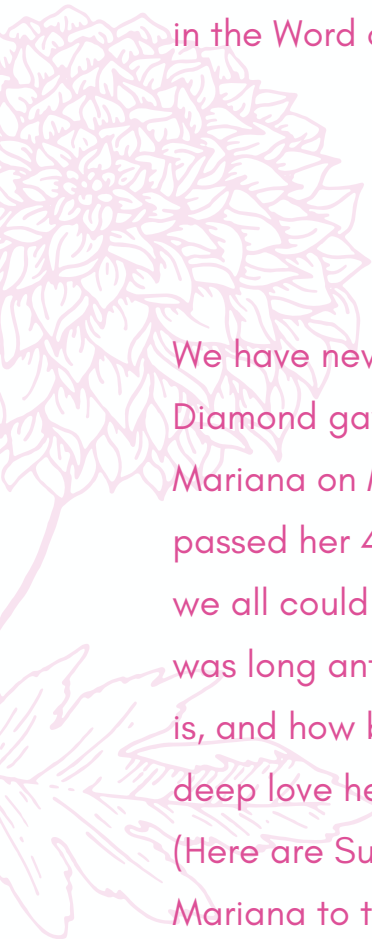
News from Hannah's House

Dear Friends,

We think it might be Spring. During the recent Holy seasons of Lent and Easter, God's Word has reminded each of us to be ever more docile to our Lord and to follow Him, even when it might involve carrying a cross. He was docile to his Father's will as he carried His cross – for the joy that was set before Him and because of His great love for us. We pray that we too may extend ourselves in love towards those whose needs are great – the greatest need being to know the love of their Creator, their Father in Heaven. This is our prayer for the women of Hannah's House. And we are seeing signs of growth, including growing interest in the Word of God.

Regarding Mothers

We have new ones in our home!
Diamond gave birth to her daughter Mariana on March 15th. As Diamond passed her 40th week of pregnancy, we all could agree that little Mariana was long anticipated! What a gift she is, and how beautiful to witness the deep love her mom has for her. (Here are Susan, Diamond, and Mariana to the right.)



With feedings every three hours, Diamond has shown great resilience and strength as a mother. We are thankful for our first baby of 2025! Another has just arrived this week! Please keep Sam and her baby in your prayers.

On a recent Saturday evening a very special mother, Liza, joined the women for homemade pizza and brownie sundaes. Liza is the strong, loving, and faithful mother of 11 children! Her eldest is Faith, one of our House Managers.

The Hannah's House women witnessed the joyful rapport between this mother and daughter. This is part of a "life curriculum" that we are building at Hannah's, based upon real life experiences of goodness, tempered with honesty about life's challenges and always grounded in the reality that we are all beloved by the Father.

This season, we are working through a book study, "The Promise and Power of Easter," being led by two of our Board members, Connie James and Carmine Eason. They come each Monday evening for Bible study and prayer. It is beautiful to witness the openness of the women and their engagement with scripture.

A side benefit is the women are coming to be known and valued by other women, old enough to be *their* mothers. Some of the residents come from a difficult situation where the love of a mother is absent, and how good of God to provide other mothers to step in and share their lives of faith and love!

Regarding Volunteers

As the month of April was Volunteer Awareness Month, we'd like to give a shout out (with much gratitude) to our most recent volunteers!

- **Allen Richardson** of University Reformed Church offered his expertise to work on our lawn. On one early morning, Allen had cleaned up the lawn (and filled 5 large bags with lawn waste). Thank you, Allen!
- **Heaven and Jordyn**, two MSU pre-med students, surprised Hannah's House with Valentine's Day treats they had created. In fact, we enjoyed their home baked goods for a whole week. Thank you to "Da Sweet Duo"!
- Two moms, **Mary and Natalie**, brought their sons on separate days to help with sorting baby clothing and pairing shirts and pants together in order to create outfits for Hannah's Attic. Thank you to Mary and Natalie!
- **Danny and Josh**, one an MSU student and one a Lansing Catholic High School student, did a great job sweeping and cleaning out the basement after our furnace had been replaced. Thanks Danny and Josh!
- Finally, we have one volunteer that comes three or more times per week. **Bev Olsen** oversees the organization of Hannah's Attic. She is working hard right now to prepare for Hannah's House to be able to bring a large amount of baby clothing to the Capital Community Baby Shower this August. We can't thank you enough, Bev, for all the hidden hours you spend preparing items for families in need.

Regarding Donors

People often ask us how we are supported, and one way of answering is to simply say, "by faith!" Also, we are funded by a roll call of generous and faithful friends, families, churches, and organizations who donate monthly.

Some choose to send checks, others use Paypal or a debit card, and others work through a donor advised account to support Hannah's House. We also occasionally receive grants and other forms of community support.

We are grateful for each of you! Thank you for your partnership in this work!

Miles for Moms

Our Miles for Moms 5K is coming up on May 26th. Yes, that's Memorial Day! If you don't already have plans, we hope to see you at Hawk Island Park (Kestrel shelter) at 10 a.m. Registration is open on our website and will be open onsite at 9am the morning of the 5K (but definitely register by May 8th if you want a Miles for Moms shirt). Please monitor our website or Facebook page for updates.

If you would like to participate but find the registration fee prohibitive, please reach out to Jenn at hannahshousedevlop@gmail.com.

To pre-register, scan the QR code or click the link below.

Blessings,

Susan Ayers, Executive Director

Jenn Elwood, Development Coordinator

