Hannah's House

SEPTEMBER 2026 NEWSLETTER

Baby Watch!

Dear Friends,

In the next few weeks, we're expecting two babies to be born (with two more arriving around February)! Even now the moms are feeling some pains, counting the hours (or minutes) between each contraction and preparing themselves to bring a new life into the world. Please pray with us for safety in labor and delivery and that both these moms would know the presence of the Lord with them during this time of hard work and unbelievable joy!

What's Cooking?

That's a question you might hear asked around supper time! Each mom and each staff member has one evening meal per week that she is assigned to prepare and serve. Mindful of our budget ($25 per evening meal) the women choose a favorite family recipe or recipes from their cultural backgrounds. This week, we enjoyed chicken alfredo, pollo guisado, birria tacos, and meat loaf and roasted potatoes! We are enjoying new tastes, but even more importantly, we are gathering together each evening to share in fellowship around the table, reminded of how our Lord frequently shared table fellowship with others. We praise God for these opportunities to share our meals together and for each woman to be seen, known and loved. Please pray that by God's grace we will love each other well!

Who's at the Door?

Nearly every day the staff at Hannah's House receive calls from moms or dads in the community who need some help with diapers or formula or baby clothes. Meet two who have recently come by the house and shared their stories. And thank you to those of you who help make this outreach possible!

- Heather came to the door looking very tired. Her 4 day old twins were still at the hospital in the NICU. Back at home she had two other sets of twins being cared for by family while she spent time at the hospital. She was coming for some newborn size clothing for her little ones. Pray for Heather as well as other moms who have chosen life for their babies and may be carrying a heavy load at this time in their life.
- Karla came to get clothing for her friend's baby. When asked, Karla shared how she knew about Hannah's House: "I was a resident here 11 years ago!" Standing next to her was her 11 year old son! Karla was hoping next time she could bring her friend so the young mom could feel comfortable ordering diapers and clothing by herself.

Welcome to Our New President

We're delighted to introduce to you Tony Cherniawski. Tony has had support roles in the past 40 years with Right to Life of Michigan and Ingham County Right to Life. He was a past President of Pregnancy Services of Greater Lansing. His involvement with Hannah's House began while he had been serving Pregnancy Services in the 90s.

His mother, Laura, had just retired as a social worker with the State of Michigan and had been living with Tony's family in Lansing. Tony introduced her to Hannah's House, a newly formed maternity home. Laura soon became one of the early house mothers and served there for several years.

During her lifetime, she successfully raised 14 children, then obtained her MSW at the age of 48. She was missed at Hannah's House when, nearing the age of 70, she decided to retire again. She died at the age of 92, having been survived by all of her children and 42 grandchildren.

Like Mother, like Son?!! We welcome Tony to this new position of responsibility. We are grateful for his leadership already and we pray for God's blessing and wisdom on him as he serves.

From the Development Coordinator

Thank you to all who joined us for Bowling for Babies and Miles for Moms this spring! Our bowling event was a great success, and it was wonderful to see everyone. We are deeply grateful to Dart Bank for covering the cost of the bowling alley, and to Elizabeth Wild for sponsoring the event.

As to the 5K, we're pleased to report that the rain spared our runners, if perhaps not all of our mile marker signs. Congratulations to our winners, and our thanks to Meijer and Paxton Countertops for sponsoring. We hope to see everyone back next year!

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On the topic of events, if you're looking to get started on your Christmas shopping, our annual silent auction is coming up on October 3rd. Our friends in the community have been generous, and we have resort packages, jewelry, gift cards, and gift bags up for bidding. As always, we'll also have a selection of desserts from around the world to sample while you shop. Fun times ahead! The event will

be held from 5 to 7 PM at Church of the Resurrection Mercy Hall, 127 Rumsey Ave, Lansing, MI 48912. In other news, this summer, we at Hannah's House received some wonderful news: We won grants from the Granger Foundation and PFCU, the first for operating expenses and the second to ensure we can purchase diapers to close the gap between the donations we receive and the need in our community. We are deeply grateful for the support from these two organizations. However, the need for funding is still great, and we are concerned for the future of Hannah's House.

One of the challenges we face is donation uncertainty. When we create our budget at the end of the year, we're never quite sure where that money will come from. While we have faith that God will provide, and certainly He has, we feel a responsibility to our women, our staff, and our supporters to ensure that we are financially secure year after year.

To this end, we ask that you prayerfully consider setting up a recurring donation to Hannah's House. Even a monthly contribution of $25 can make an enormous difference to us. If we can rely on enough consistent donations, we will be much better able to plan for the future, both for short-term expenses and long-term growth. To set up a recurring donation, please click the pink pledge button on our web page here: https://hannahshouselansing.org/donate/

Each of you is a blessing to us. Thank you for both your prayers for us and your ongoing support. We couldn't do this without you!

Susan Ayers
Executive Director
Jenn Elwood
Development Coordinator