



# newLife

NEW LIFE FAMILY SERVICES | FALL 2024



*Inside:*

**Building for the  
Future: St Paul  
First Care**

**The Art of Social  
Work at New Life**



## Dear Friends,

I was recently looking back at the goals we set for this year and was blown away at how quickly the Lord is bringing these goals to fruition. Throughout this newsletter you will see progress being made in significant ways. From our new location in St Paul to launching two new fatherhood programs this fall, God is moving!

All of this is happening despite the continued hostile environment we are operating in. The Minnesota Abortion Action Committee (formed after the Dobbs decision) has made it their mission to disparage and shut down life-affirming centers like ours. They are relentless in their spread of misinformation, and it appears we have become one of their favorite targets – even going so far as to sell merchandise with our building’s likeness on fire.

In full transparency, this work is hard enough without all the opposition because lives are on the line. Yet, it is precisely in these challenging moments that our faith and resolve are tested. The animosity and resistance we face only reinforce our commitment to our mission. We are reminded daily that our struggle is not against those who oppose us, but for every life that we strive to protect and support.

And so we remain steadfast, fueled by the knowledge that our work has a profound, life-affirming impact on thousands of families every year. I have always loved 2 Corinthians 4:8-9, but it has become especially relevant in these moments. “We are hard-pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.”

Thank you for walking with us in these challenging times by praying, giving and serving. We are deeply grateful for your unwavering commitment and partnership!



In Christ,

*Tammy Kocher*

Tammy Kocher  
Executive Director  
New Life Family Services

## Our Mission

To honor the sanctity of human life by assisting clients with life-affirming decisions with the love and compassion of Christ

## Our Vision

To one day reach all abortion-minded and abortion-vulnerable individuals throughout Minnesota with comprehensive pregnancy-related services and the message of the gospel of Jesus Christ

## Our Locations

### MINNEAPOLIS

2015 Chicago Ave  
Minneapolis, MN 55404

### ST PAUL

2109 Old Hudson Rd  
St Paul, MN 55119

### RICHFIELD

6517 Nicollet Ave  
Richfield, MN 55423

### UNIVERSITY

2900 University Ave SE  
Minneapolis, MN 55414

### ROCHESTER

40 16th St SE  
Rochester, MN 55904

### ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

1515 East 66th St  
Richfield, MN 55423

## OUR ENVIRONMENT:

We are continuing to be targeted and protested by the Minnesota Abortion Action Committee and other pro-abortion activists. Their outright lies and attacks are relentless. Here are just a few examples from the last several months.



This is the FIFTH protest at one of our clinics since the Dobbs decision



The MNAAC is selling merchandise with an image of a burning pregnancy center created in the likeness of our Phillips building

“We are hard-pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed”  
2 Cor. 4:8-9



## OUR IMPACT INCREASES:

Despite the crazy environment we are operating in, God has continued to bless this ministry and our impact is growing exponentially!

Ultrasounds are up **50%** from last year! This is absolutely critical *as the abortion clinics in our area will no longer provide an ultrasound unless a client schedules an abortion*

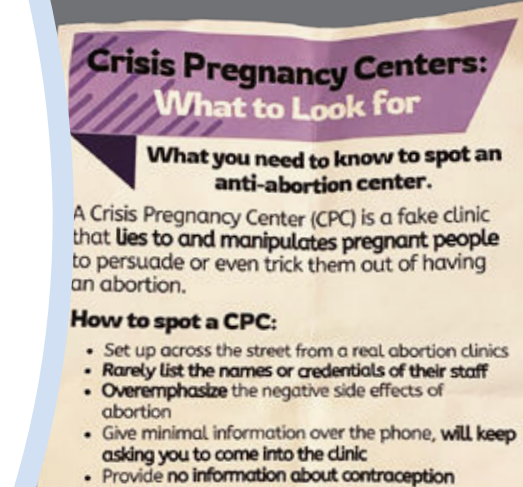
Our new Minneapolis clinic in the Phillips neighborhood is thriving! Pregnancy tests **doubled**, ultrasounds **tripled** and our Every Family (parenting) appointments have **quadrupled!**

We are on pace to give away **200K** diapers this year, up from 100K last year

We have had **8** Abortion Pill Reversal calls so far this year



Disparaging flyers are handed out and “educational seminars” are regularly scheduled



# BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE: ST PAUL FIRST CARE

An increased impact on the east side of St Paul is coming in 2025. Expanded services delivered through a new 12,000 square foot clinic will lead the way to reaching more women and families.



New Life has been committed to serving clients on the east side of St Paul for more than 40 years. That incredible legacy will begin a new chapter in 2025 as we relocate to a new building currently under construction on White Bear Avenue. The new space will help us meet the changing needs of the community by offering:

## More Ultrasound Capacity

Ultrasound imagery is key to women and families making a choice for life. With two dedicated ultrasound rooms in our new center, as well as an additional medical room that can be used for ultrasounds, we will dramatically increase our capacity. This not only means more ultrasounds, but the opportunity to schedule them in a more time

is more important than ever for us to have same-day availability for clients in crisis.

## Sexual Transmitted Infection (STI) Testing

By adding testing rooms and a lab to the new St Paul First Care, we will be able to launch STI services. Our staff can complete full-panel testing and offer various treatments in-office, at no cost to our clients. These services offer an inroad to build relationships with clients, providing our staff an opportunity to explore their spiritual beliefs and discuss sexual-risk avoidance, as the client allows.

In addition, STI testing includes running a pregnancy test for female clients. When a woman discovers that she is pregnant during an STI appointment, we can immediately come alongside her, supporting her through her

decision-making process from the moment her test comes back positive.

## Increased Parenting Support

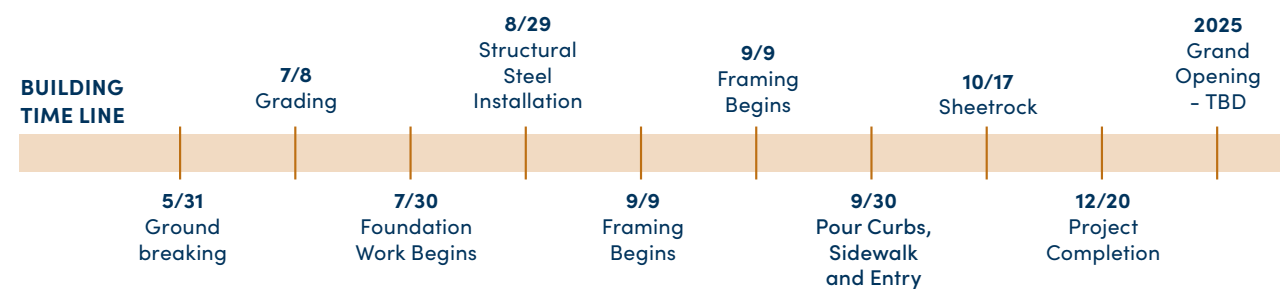
Our Every Family parenting program is designed to support families facing significant challenges, helping them move from merely surviving to truly thriving. By building strong, relationship-based support, we guide parents through difficult parenting struggles, offering them the tools and resources they need for stability. With 57% more space and a dedicated classroom, we will be better equipped to serve the community, providing not only material assistance, but pathways to long-term success. Parenting support is especially critical as 60% of abortions are performed on women who have other children. By providing





### A Prime Location

We are committed to serving the east side of St Paul and are excited that our new location is in close proximity to our current office. Since many of our clients rely on public transportation, it was crucial for us to be conveniently situated near a major bus route, ensuring greater accessibility. Additionally, the new building is just a short walk from two food shelves, allowing clients facing food insecurity to easily access nutritious meals before or after their appointments at First Care, without the need for an additional bus ride. We pray this location, with all its advantages, will be a true blessing to our clients, as we remain dedicated to removing barriers and helping them experience the abundant life God intends for them



### St Paul: Building on a Legacy

With relationships spanning across four decades in St Paul, we've been fortunate to be a part of generational change in that community. By relocating only a short distance away, we are assured that we can still be a part of those outcomes, but with a significantly expanded reach. As we prepare to leave our 25-year home in the Sun Ray shopping center, we are both excited to prepare for our new expanded location and grateful to you and our partner organizations for making it an amazing run.

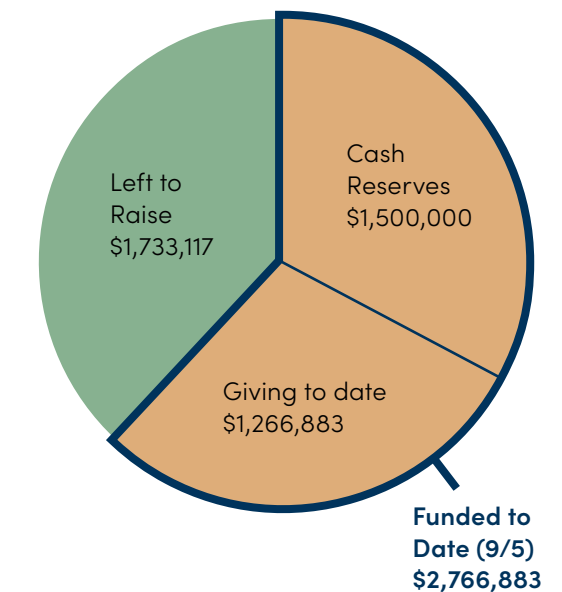
*"New Life has walked beside Open Arms Native Missions in Saint Paul for years. Helping us to help those in need. They are an amazing group of people whose hearts are always showing the love of our Creator."*

- Sonia Carroll, Open Arms Native Missions, St Paul

*"Over the 12 years I've pastored in Oakdale, I've seen [New Life Family Services] improve facility spaces, increase services to the community, and invest the lives of families."*

- Pastor Paul Tillman, Heartwood Church, Oakdale

### Total Cost \$4,500,000



### The Financial Investment

We feel confident in where God is calling us and what He is calling us to do. We are proud to say that, thanks to the generosity of partners like you, we are debt-free as we embark on this project, and we are even able to utilize cash reserves for this opportunity.

As we move forward, we are continuing to have faith in God's provision for this project. Our clients are our top priority, and we believe that this St Paul build is the next best step in serving them with the love and compassion of Christ. ■

For more information about our St Paul project and how to invest, please email our VP of Advancement at [Blake@NLFS.org](mailto:Blake@NLFS.org) or visit [NLFS.org/StPaul](http://NLFS.org/StPaul)

# THE ART OF SOCIAL WORK AT NEW LIFE



A social worker will meet with a client for decision-making, creating an adoption plan, or community resourcing as many times as needed.

*"I am praying for the Holy Spirit to guide me, and I know that God has control over the situation when the client leaves or I'm no longer at work for the day. The heart of social work mirrors the heart of Christ"*

**GOD HAS GIVEN** a high and important call to those meeting with our clients. Supported by the work of our dedicated client advocates, nurses, and office staff, our social workers are uniquely trained to walk with our clients through crisis, showing them the love and compassion of Christ.

No day is the same for a social worker, but each is important. Whether the day's tasks include medical appointments or an Every Family intake, going over adoption plans and facilitating face-to-face meetings with prospective adoptive parents, resourcing clients, or preparing families hoping to adopt with trauma-informed resources, our client care staff must quickly adapt and remain calm under pressure.

The following stories are based on real clients that are served daily at our First Care offices. While each client situation is unique, these stories are meant to give an idea of the holistic care that our social workers, alongside the rest of our staff, offer to the men and women that we serve.

## **Pregnancy Support**

Janelle comes into one of our offices for a pregnancy test. She is facing a potential eviction after falling behind on rent and feels overwhelmed by getting enough food for her two young children. She cannot fathom what a pregnancy would mean for her and her family so, when she learns that the test is positive, Janelle shares with the social worker her fears and concerns.

Janelle schedules an ultrasound and meets with her social worker again. During this appointment, she sees her baby for the first time and is moved by the tiny beating heart on the screen. Afterward, the social worker sits with Janelle as she considers her options, providing her with various resources for rental assistance and food access. Slowly, Janelle starts to feel less overwhelmed and sees a path forward to continuing her pregnancy.

## **Adoption**

Madeline has just learned that she's pregnant. She isn't sure of the baby's paternity and is not

interested in becoming a mother anytime soon. She comes into First Care to learn about her options.

When introduced to the idea of adoption, Madeline is surprised. While adoption isn't something she had previously considered for herself, she feels open enough that she meets with an Expectant Parent social worker through New Life Adoptions who walks her through what an adoption placement could look like. She meets with several families and selects one that she feels is the best fit for her child and her desire for openness. Her social worker is with her every step of the way and, when her son is born, she supports Madeline as her son is placed in the arms of his adoptive parents.

## **Parenting**

Josh is coparenting with his daughter's mother and, while he loves being a father, he feels overwhelmed with how to navigate the different developmental stages his daughter is going through. Finances are tight and, without much familial support, Josh asks for help at one of our clinics. Josh goes through an intake appointment with a social worker who reviews community resources with him. He completes a grant application for a pack-and-play for his daughter to sleep in, and he learns that by coming in twice a month, he can keep up with providing the clothing and diapers that she so quickly goes through. This fall, Josh is slated to begin a fatherhood program and will be mentored one-on-one as he continues to grow as a dad.

## **Lifting the burdens of clients**

Often, the art of social work at New Life means that appointments can be challenging, and clients might make painful decisions. Our client care staff are sometimes gifted with learning what happens after an appointment or have the opportunity to be a part of a client's ongoing care. Other times, clients leave without us hearing from them again. Clients may choose abortion, return to unsafe home situations, or stop attending their Every Family appointments. Social workers walk through the deep grief of adoption with birth parents



Each of our First Care clinics host clothing closets filled with new or gently-used donated items for clients to use for their families.

and adoptive parents alike, and they process the heavy emotions of a single mother unsure of where to turn. But even in the hardest moments, God has equipped our staff team to do this work.

## **One of our social workers said this about her role:**

**"Before, during, and after an appointment, I am praying for the Holy Spirit to guide me, and I know that God has control over the situation when the client leaves or I'm no longer at work for the day. The heart of social work mirrors the heart of Christ — it's about serving people and loving them well. It is not just about saving the baby. At New Life, our holistic approach means that our work is the ultrasound and decision-making counseling AND it is also the resources we provide; the grant applications, the insurance applications, meeting the practical needs of clients, and giving them a place to feel seen and heard. We get to show clients hope and walk alongside them during difficult circumstances... we get to support an abundant life for the whole family that is involved."**

There is no greater purpose for us than showing our clients the love of Christ. We are proud to change hearts, save lives, build families, and restore hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, and we are grateful to God that He uses the art of social work to accomplish His purposes. ■



## FAITH for the FUTURE

51st Annual Fundraising Gala

*“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”*  
Jeremiah 29:11



### Meet our gala keynote speaker, Rebekah Hagen!

Rebekah Hagen is one of today’s leading voices on unplanned pregnancies, chemical abortion, and abortion pill reversal.

Raised in a Christian home where abortion was never discussed, Rebekah’s journey into life-affirming ministry was both unexpected and deeply personal. When faced with her second unplanned teenage pregnancy, she was terrified of losing her support system and began a chemical abortion that changed her life forever.

Her story, however, took a remarkable turn, and she now uses her experience to delve into the mindset of women facing unplanned pregnancies and to expose the truth about chemical abortion and its marketing. ■

Join us at our 51st annual fundraising gala on November 1st in Rochester and November 2nd in Bloomington to hear Rebekah’s powerful story. Registration can be completed online at [NLFS.org/Gala](https://NLFS.org/Gala)



## Introducing our FATHERHOOD PROGRAMS

**IN 2023, FATHERS PARTICIPATED** in nearly 1,000 appointments between our five First Care centers. According to a study done by Care Net in 2021, the father of the baby is the most influential voice in a woman’s pregnancy decision. This research showed that out of 1,000 men whose partners had an abortion:

- 74% said she discussed the decision with him
- 7% said she discussed it with a pregnancy center
- 3% said she spoke with a church

By providing programs specifically targeted to these fathers, we are able to offer unique support as they process a pregnancy they are involved in, receive educational coaching, and find community with other fathers. Fatherhood programs empower dads in the unique role they have in their families, whether they recently learned of their fatherhood or have been on a fatherhood journey for several years.

We know that when fathers are present, kids experience a lower risk of:

- infant mortality
- low birth rate
- emotional and behavioral problems
- neglect and abuse
- injury
- obesity
- poor school performance
- teen pregnancy
- incarceration as juveniles
- criminal activity
- alcohol and substance abuse
- suicide



We are answering this call by piloting two new fatherhood programs at our First Care offices.

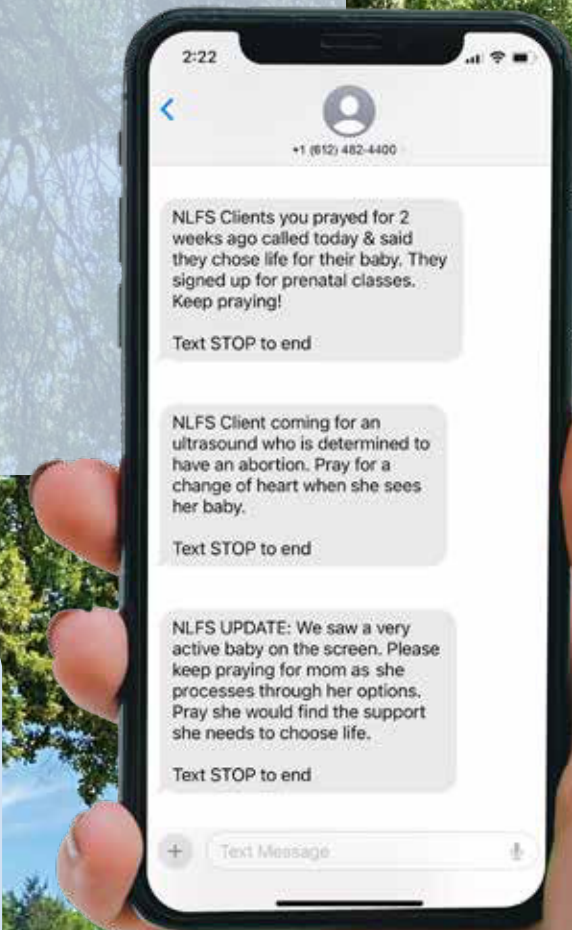
**AIM** (Always Intentional Man) provides certified coaches and proven programs that support and equip men to be good fathers. By engaging fathers who are navigating a major life event such as a job change, growing family, unexpected pregnancy, or relationship change, AIM seeks to launch dads on a healthy trajectory of fatherhood.

AIM is offered through one-on-one coaching and will start this fall at our Richfield location.

**DESTINY DADS** is a fathering initiative developed by Damascus Way with the goal of supporting and assisting fathers as they develop deep connections with their kids. Fathers are supported by Destiny Dads in developing a fresh perspective on how their interactions with their kids can be enriched. Destiny Dads emphasizes fathers sharing their stories, having meaningful conversations, and assisting dads by providing access to helpful resources.

Destiny Dads is offered in a group class format and will start this fall at our Phillips location. ■

**TEXT "PRAY" TO  
(612) 482-4400  
TO RECEIVE  
REAL-TIME  
PRAYER  
REQUESTS**



"Receiving texts from NLFS is a lifeline for me as a prayer teammate. I am prompted to pray specifically for clients coming in to the clinics with life altering needs in real time. It is so exciting to receive NLFS follow up texts, after praying, letting me know that another baby's life has been protected because that child's momma made a life affirming choice. What a privilege to pray and see God move in the hearts of so many precious women."

- An NLFS Prayer  
Text Partner



Or, sign up to receive our weekly prayer email at [NLFS.org/Prayer-Partners](http://NLFS.org/Prayer-Partners)

Thank you, Corporate Sponsors!

If you are interested in becoming a Corporate Sponsor, please email [blake@nlfs.org](mailto:blake@nlfs.org)

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# CONQUERORS: WHO WE ARE AND HOW WE SERVE



**THE CONQUERORS PROGRAM** offers emotional support and a path toward healing for those who have experienced at least one abortion. Many wait years or decades to seek healing after an abortion experience, facing hurt, isolation, and grief on their own. Led by facilitators who have walked the same path, Conquerors provides a safe place to process, hear truth, and experience freedom.

Our Services:

- 9-Week Support Group Program
- One-on-One Mentoring for Women and Couples
- Conquerors Connect Drop-In Groups
- Enrichment Groups
- Annual Worship Night

Hear from one of our facilitators, Laura Patrice, about her experience going through Conquerors:

**How have you experienced healing after going through the Conquerors program?** I can't take the credit; God is my healer. I feel lighter and a joy, that I can't explain. Before Conquerors, I was carrying the weight of my sin for over 30 years on my own, which wasn't mine to carry alone. I didn't want to continue living in the heaviness of shame and guilt anymore. Someone shared that I should reach out to Conquerors. Going through the 9-week program opened my eyes, and I learned that I am worthy of forgiveness, and I am loved by God. "For by grace I have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is a gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast" (Ephesians 2:8)

**What was meaningful about walking alongside other women during the group session?**

Conquerors provided a safe space for us to navigate...our past decision, without judgement. As we walked alongside one another, we were there to listen, cry, and pray together. We watched each other grow and be redeemed. Healing takes time, and I am grateful for Conquerors and for the women in my group that God knitted together. ■



*"Before Conquerors, I was carrying the weight of my sin for over 30 years on my own, which wasn't mine to carry alone."*



If you or someone you know is struggling with a past abortion, take your first step toward healing by emailing Caroline@ConquerorsAfterAbortion.org



## Life Sustainers

Life Sustainers support the ministry of New Life Family Services through regular and faithful giving to help sustain and grow our efforts throughout the year. Our Life Sustainers commit to a monthly gift of \$50 or more.

[nlfs.org/get-involved/partnerships/life-sustainers/](http://nlfs.org/get-involved/partnerships/life-sustainers/)



### We Need Your Help!

Our desire is to create a space where every family has the opportunity to provide for their children. We are currently taking applications for Parenting Coaches and Parenting Program Assistants in our First Care Offices. This volunteer opportunity is 4-5 hours per week spent working directly with families. All training and support is provided by New

Life. Contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Traci, at [traci@nlfs.org](mailto:traci@nlfs.org) to learn more.

**PARENTING COACH**  
This position is for volunteers who have experience working with children and/or parents with a background in coaching, teaching, care-taking, or counseling others. Applicants for this role need excellent listening and verbal skills, along with the ability to empathize

with others. Parenting Coaches provide parenting education and model learning opportunities while engaging in conversation-based coaching sessions with parents who have children ages five and under.

**PROGRAM ASSISTANT**  
Program Assistants warmly greet and check in clients for appointments, support Parenting Coaches by preparing materials for

each coaching session, and assist clients in utilizing the clothing closet. If you enjoy creating a welcoming environment, have excellent administrative and communication skills, and are able to multi-task, please consider becoming a Parenting Program Assistant.





**THANK YOU**  
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If you are interested in becoming a Corporate Sponsor, please email [Blake@NLFS.org](mailto:Blake@NLFS.org).

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