



## Looking Back at 2023

Greetings, friends of LAPRC!

Every year, Living Alternatives hires a financial firm to audit all our records. This is a great checks and balances process to ensure that we are doing things with excellence as we continue to strengthen the ministry.

Last month we completed that process with Martin Hood, and we are thrilled to announce another great year of ministry for LAPRC.

We invite you to take a few minutes to review 2023 with us and celebrate all that God accomplished through the ministry of Living Alternatives Pregnancy Resource Center. But first, here's a message from the director of your local center, as well as some current updates and announcements. We hope you enjoy the celebration of all God has done and continues to do across our 14 communities.

May God continue to bless you, your family, and this ministry!

Sherry Sherwood, CEO

## 2023 Annual Report

Living Alternatives Pregnancy Resource Center is a 501c3 non-profit organization. This faith-based ministry began in 1985 and will celebrate 39 years of ministry in September. Every year, we get a little stronger, do things a little better, and gain a new perspective on where God is leading us next.

In 2023, we were blessed to serve in the 14 communities listed below:

### Illinois Medical Clinics

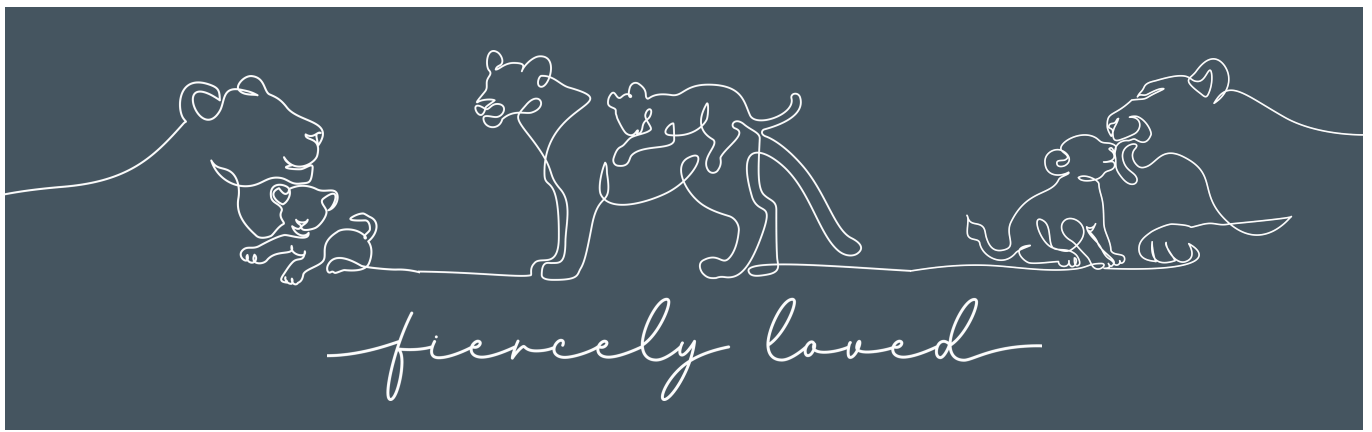
- Bloomington-Normal with Lincoln
- Champaign-Urbana with Rantoul
- Grundy County
- Jacksonville
- Tazewell County with Peoria Southside
- Kankakee
- Will County (Joliet)
- Mobile Clinic (Bolingbrook & surrounding communities)

### Indiana Medical Clinics

- Kokomo
- Frankfort

### Residential Homes

- Merci's Refuge (Champaign)
- Birchwood Apartments (Bourbonnais)



## 2023 Theme — Fiercely Loved

Last year, we asked the Lord to show us what it means to fiercely love God by fiercely loving others. We asked the Lord to give us a new lens to see each person who reached out to us for help. As we pressed into the God who fiercely loves us, the Lord shaped our faith through the experiences and stories each woman shared.

Many of the women we had the privilege of serving in 2023 came to us wounded by the message that they would never be good enough. They had accepted words like damaged, hopeless, unworthy, and broken.

In response to this heartbreaking reality, we gifted each of our clients with the word LOVED. We even gave each client a shirt that says FIERCELY LOVED across the front of it as a reminder to her that she is loved by God and loved by us. Our prayer for her came from Ephesians 3:16-19:

*I pray that out of his glorious riches [the Father] may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. – Ephesians 3:16-19*

## Accomplishing the Mission

Praise God — He surprised us with another year of substantial increase! We are celebrating the accomplishment of our mission reflected in the statistics below:

- Two years in a row, we have seen a 21% increase in the number of women we served — from 2,785 in 2021 to 3,368 in 2022 to 4,057 in 2023! 66% of our 2023 clients were brand new to our ministry. That's 2,686 women, along with their families, that we met for the first time in 2023!
- We also saw a 15% increase in overall client visits, going from 10,576 in 2022 to 12,139 opportunities in 2023.
- We performed 1,572 pregnancy tests and 1,728 ultrasounds.
- 35% of our 2023 clients were 24 years of age or younger, and 85% were unmarried.
- The gospel was presented 218 times and 3,964 spiritual discussions or times of prayer were reported. 27 individuals prayed to receive Jesus as Lord. We are praising God for these spiritual decisions!

- 678 women were considering abortion or being pressured by a significant other to terminate their pregnancy. 82% of the 678 at-risk women we served were planning to carry the pregnancy to term at our last contact with them. We are trusting God with the rest of their story.
- 3,987 parenting classes and 5,856 support services were recorded (support services include adoption support, perinatal grief support, post-abortion, model scans, curbside assistance, and material assistance).
- We were grateful to be able to offer Abortion Pill Reversal to women who changed their minds after taking the abortion pill.

## The Client Experience

Feedback from our clients makes us better. It tells us what we are doing right and where we can improve:

*"No one has ever cared for me like this. It just doesn't even make sense."* – **Resident of Birchwood Apartments**

*"Everyone was very caring about my feelings and made sure I understood everything that I needed. The ultrasound made me excited to meet my baby."* – **Bloomington patient**

*"My fiancée and I felt so loved and supported at your center. We especially appreciated the prayer at the end of the visit."* – **Champaign patient**

*"I wasn't expecting what I walked into today, in fact, I expected the complete opposite. I'm very happy I got proved wrong."* – **a teenager who came in for a post-abortion appointment**

*"Today I am thankful for your H.O.P.E program that has helped me become a better mother, wife and most importantly a Christian."* – **Frankfort client**

*"I felt such an enjoyment working with my HOPE mentor. I felt safe and listened to, cared about. This center is a blessing. I feel thankful and full of hope. ...God gave me a child; the center gave me hope and strength."* – **Jacksonville client**

*"The staff was awesome. I've never met people or a place so nice, comfortable, and welcoming. I am blessed to meet them. They made me feel so comfortable, and I felt the presence of God."* – **Kankakee client**

*"Everyone was so kind and attentive." "Everyone was super nice and understanding."* – **Kokomo clients**

*"Thank you for everything that you do. I appreciate you and the facility more than you'll ever know."* – **Lincoln client**

*"I was scared at first about being in a new place with people...but the staff are so comforting, loving, and friendly. They make you feel at home. It's warm and inviting. They offer a lot of very helpful goals and plans in your life. I never thought I would see myself in a place like this but it's an amazing and grateful opportunity..."* – **Merci's Refuge graduate**

*"My mentor has been like having an added family member! My mentor is so great! She is such an awesome support system to me!" – Tazewell County client*

*"I really appreciate what you guys are doing!" – Police officer who stopped by our mobile clinic*

*"During my pregnancy test and ultrasound, I felt listened to, validated, and comfortable with the nurse. She is so kind and friendly." – Grundy County patient*

**Click to Watch: Stories of Impact**



**post-abortion | support**

a program of living alternatives

We held three Deeper Still retreats in 2023 for men and women seeking freedom and healing from the emotional wounds of an abortion. Here are a few quotes from the 29 individuals who attended a 2023 retreat:

*"I struggled with shame, regret, and self-loathing. Never have I met a more gracious group of people. They prayed peace over me and healed my heart. I found forgiveness by the shed blood of Jesus Christ and it has brought me back from the land of the dead. I am at peace. I am worthy."*

*"I realize now that I can always go deeper and that it's a choice. While at the retreat, I vulnerably laid my heart out before the cross while the ever-most gentle Holy Spirit eased me deeper still. I know some participants cancel and some are hesitant to come but for some reason I was ready... Saturday night at the retreat, I chose the white flag to stand firm in. I swung it back and forth feeling pure for the first time in...well never. I haven't ever felt this pure before and when I laid down underneath the royal banner I made a choice ... and I chose to go wherever God takes me. My flesh fights me so hard at times and that's why I must put on the armor of GOD and continually renew my mind with HIS word."*

*"Coming into the retreat, I needed healing in the areas of shame, grief, and assurance of my worthiness to God. While at the retreat, I recommitted my life to Christ. I had not been living out my forgiveness. I knew that I was forgiven but was still living in shame. I still have work to do post retreat but knowing that you all care and want to see me whole and healed and living my best life is a really good start and I have hope where I had lost almost all hope."*



## Funding the Mission

We are praising God for how He provided for our needs in 2023! Below are numbers that represent the overall ministry totals from our 2023 audit — pregnancy medical clinics, residential programs, post-abortion retreats, virtual support services, and our mobile clinic.

### 2023 Financial Report

*Audit performed by Martin Hood, LLC*

<b>SUPPORT &amp; REVENUE</b>		
	Contributions	\$2,660,882
	In-Kind Revenue	854,279
	Grants	39,750
	Miscellaneous Income	8,422
	Total Support & Revenue	<b>\$3,563,333</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
	Pregnancy Resource Services	\$2,595,687
	General & Administrative Costs	588,947
	Fundraising	590,522
	Total Expenses	<b>\$3,775,156</b>
<b>CHANGE IN NET ASSETS</b>		-\$211,823
<b>ASSETS as of 12/31/2023</b>		
	Cash	\$733,060
	Property & Equipment Net	2,166,153
	Total Assets	<b>\$3,119,042</b>
<b>LIABILITIES as of 12/31/2021</b>		
	Current Liabilities	\$9,589
	Long-term Liabilities	210,902
	Total Liabilities	<b>\$228,497</b>
<b>FUNDRAISING INCOME</b>		
	Walk	\$290,560
	Annual PRC Banquet	855,468
	Monthly Banquet Pledges	201,286
	Change for Hope Drive	94,112
	Total Fundraising Income	<b>\$1,441,426</b>

## The Team Experience

"I always tell people that of all my favorite things I have been able to do in nursing ultrasounds are my favorite. There is nothing like getting the front-row seat to see a beating heart for the first time— it's miraculous! It's an honor to be part of the PRC team and I'm grateful to be doing what I get to do." - **Angela, RN (5 years)**

"How thankful I am for the way He has grown and stretched me by allowing me to be a part of this ministry. Working alongside my sisters in Christ to love on and minister to women has been a life-changing experience that I'll forever be grateful for." — **Rita, RDMS (4 years)**

"I just wanted to share that I'm so very thankful for the 23 years of working for Living Alternatives! I have learned so much and God has given me so many opportunities to do so many things for the women/babies He has sent to us. It's a privilege to minister and love on these precious lives." - **Greta (23 years)**

"I am humbled to walk alongside women and families as they do the hard work of sorting

through the mess of our broken world. I am humbled to walk alongside Jesus. That is my greatest reflection — 365 days of walking with my savior, in a place that I would now call my home and with people I now consider family. Jesus binds us, in ways I couldn't think or imagine. Now I know." — **Cassie (1 year)**

"Another year of serving at LAPRC means another year full of learning opportunities and areas where the Lord has stretched me....I love more than anything the moment when I rest in His plan and see where He is guiding me, reminding me that I don't need to over-perform. Just follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit and stand in His boldness. There is peace when words that come out of my mouth that aren't mine, when I take a step that isn't in my human nature, when a connection is presented that wasn't seen before, or when I hear that small voice that reminds me I am equipped. I never imagined all of this when I said 'yes' three years ago and I'm so grateful!" - **Brandi (3 years)**



## How LAPRC Began

For those of you who are new to the ministry, Living Alternatives is a faith-based organization that began in 1985 when a young pastor by the name of Gregory Roe felt called by God to do something about the impact abortion was having on women who found themselves in an unplanned pregnancy. This ministry was started on the foundation of obeying God's call, and we continue to daily seek God's wisdom and His provision as we seek to glorify Him in all that we do.

Our goal has never been expansion, but obedience — faithfully responding to each door God so beautifully opens for us. Each year, we ask God what He is calling us to do. This prayer often stretches us out of our comfort zones, yet we are so thankful for how He has allowed the impact of this ministry to continue to grow each year.

## Growing the Mission

2023 was our first full year of residential ministry in Bourbonnais, Illinois. Because of the donation of the use of an apartment building by Olivet Nazarene University, we opened a transitional living program called Birchwood Apartments in October of 2022. Four moms are currently living in Birchwood (and 7 little ones). Since 2022, a total of 9 women and 15 little ones have called Birchwood Apartments “home”. Our 10th resident has been accepted and is awaiting an opening for the program.

### *Why did we open Birchwood Apartments?*

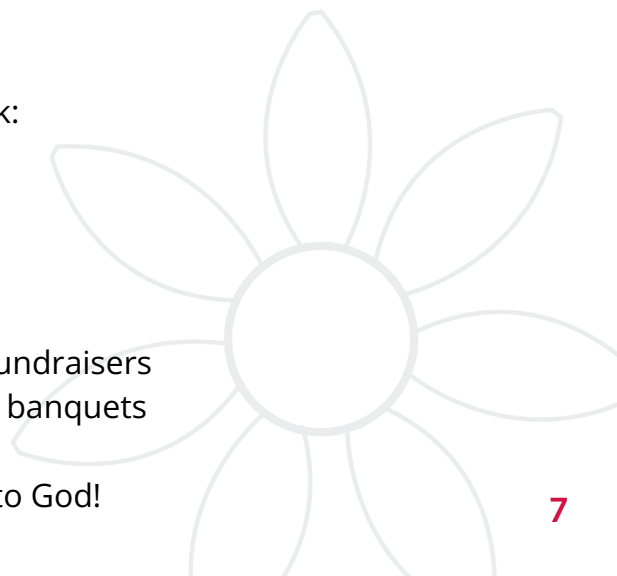
Over the years, so many PRC clients have told us that they do not have a dependable place to live. Many rely on friends who allow them to crash on their couch for a night, while others live in a shelter or in their car. Because of your faithful giving, we are able to give these mothers a safe place to live with their little one(s). They are working, have found dependable childcare, and have learned how to budget their money so that they will be ready for a stronger future when they leave Birchwood Apartments. More than anything, these amazing women have found community and are growing in their understanding of God’s love for them.



## Special Thanks

We have so much to celebrate and so many people to thank:

- 382 volunteers
- 64 dedicated individuals who served on staff in 2023
- 9 faithful board members
- 7 physicians & 28 nurses, & 6 sonographers
- 428 walkers/rockers who raised \$297,761 at 10 spring fundraisers
- 3,699 guests who raised \$1,041,740 at 8 fall fundraising banquets
- Churches, families & business who gave monthly
- And countless prayer warriors daily lifting this ministry to God!



## From all of our Staff & Volunteers at LAPRC, THANK YOU!!!

Our hearts are so grateful for the role you played in this celebration of our 2023 Annual Report. Your generosity and prayers have helped us to continue serving the needs of our community — always prepared to help the next individual who walks through our doors. Already this year, we have served more women/families than we did in the first 6 months of 2023. Many are also hurting financially, and we are blessed to be a place where she can find RESOURCES such as formula, diapers, information, emotional support, healing, and more. Thank you!

### There is so much more to come!

We are currently busy planning all of our Annual Fundraising Banquets for this fall, and we are so excited to share with you all that God has continued to do through this ministry in 2024 and beyond. We also look forward to revealing what is ahead in 2025. If you would like more information about our upcoming events, please go to the [EVENTS](#) page of our website.

With this being an election year, the debate over the legality of abortion brings extra criticism on pregnancy help organizations. We covet your prayers. There is a button below if you feel God prompting you to give us a donation to help us with our summer expenses, as we plan for our upcoming Annual Fundraising Banquet.



TODAY IS  THE DAY

# ANNUAL CELEBRATION EVENT

For more information visit [www.pregnancyresourcecenter.org/events](http://www.pregnancyresourcecenter.org/events)

[Click HERE to make a secure donation](#)



### Get Involved

There are several ways to get involved at the PRC: You can volunteer to meet with pregnancy test clients, lead a HOPE class, promote the center at your church or community group, or help with other tasks around the center. If you are passionate about serving our clients and have availability, please visit [www.pregnancyresourcecenter.org/get-involved/volunteer/](http://www.pregnancyresourcecenter.org/get-involved/volunteer/) to complete an application. We would love to meet you!