

Fall 2024

## INTRODUCING KARLI

Karli Brown is our newest volunteer. She sums up her desire to help this way: “Recently, I have felt a strong calling to support the tiniest of God's blessings. I believe that every baby is a true gift from God and a life with immeasurable value. If there is something I can do to help support women and families at any stage of pregnancy, I am blessed to help.”

Karli and her husband are expecting a baby in the spring.



*Karli prepares for the Center Christmas party*

## FROM THE BOARD

It is hard to believe that we are about to close out another year of ministry at Care Net. We have seen a steadiness this year that allows us to think about what else God has planned for us.

We as a Board have had many conversations about the direction of Care Net. I have recently been reading about incrementalism. This relates to a policy or advocacy of a policy of political or social change by degree. It can be a negative or a positive

The shift over time in the legalization of abortion has progressed from President Clinton stating in 1993 that abortion should be safe, legal and rare, to news polls finding that 60% of voters today believe that abortion should be legal in all or most cases, with an increasing number of pregnancies ending with an easy-to-purchase pill.

For us, incrementalism means meeting families where they have their greatest need. Most of our clients today have already chosen life. It is a pleasure to walk alongside these parents as we share the gospel and provide essentials such as diapers, wipes and formula.

As we reinforce the positive message that each family member is a blessing, we remain first and foremost ready and willing to help the women faced with an unplanned pregnancy.

We continually thank you for your constant and steady support and investment in Care Net. We never take for granted the trust that you place in us to minister as God directs as we care for those He leads to us.

Krista Cooper, Board Chair

In keeping with the theme “families are a blessing” we are hosting a Christmas party at the Center. Fifty families have signed up and we have been busy collecting gifts for each of the children – those 5 and under. Center co-manager Dan Hatch will be Santa and Karli will be an elf. Refreshments will be served as well. Each child will have a photo with Santa and get a nativity pocket card.

While we partner with many generous individuals and churches, we are also blessed to have community support. A special event for our clients this year is the Finger Lakes Santa Train Ride. Joel Richter has generously provided free tickets for several families who visit Care Net. As Rebecca stated when she applied for her tickets, “It isn’t very often that I can get something like this for my whole family.”

## Welcome to the Center



Debbie Speers recently joined our staff, working as co-manager with Dan Hatch. This is her story.

I was born near Albany NY and moved to Canandaigua in 1970. I now call Canandaigua my "home". My husband Dan and I have a blended family with 5 children and 9 grandchildren.

I have been a nurse for 46+ years. Throughout my career I have worked in a hospital, several doctors' offices, as an assistant school nurse and as a nurse to Veterans. Adoption is near and dear to my heart. 38 years ago, I was blessed to become Mom to my 6-month-old son from Korea. What joy he has brought our family.

Besides family time, I enjoy crafting, reading and gardening. I am an active member in the First United Methodist Church in Canandaigua, serving as an usher and am known to put together a meal for a crowd.

Care Net has given me the opportunity to share my knowledge, kindness and compassion. I was called to serve here, and the experience is overwhelmingly positive.

Debbie recently presented information about Care Net to several local churches and organizations. She would like your group to be next! Please call to discuss your needs with her!

### Our Wishlist

Diapers (especially sizes 4, 5, 6)	Sensitive wipes
Gentleease Enfamil formula	Pack "n" Plays
Soaps, shampoos, lotions	Strollers
New & used clothing (preemie – 5T)	Highchairs
Toys & activity centers	Booster seats

## Working for our families

Care Net uses a computer software program, eKyros, to log visits. The report below reflects our services from January 1 – October 31, 2024.

2024 unique clients 158  
visits – 529  
Classes = 55  
Counsel = 3  
Boutique = 58\*\*  
Supplies = 375  
Pregnancy test 6  
Other = 1

Parenting classes=55

\*\* many clients for supplies also visited the boutique, where they select clothing, and equipment such as pack 'n' plays, highchairs, strollers and bouncy seats.

Slightly over half of our clients live in Canandaigua; we welcome visitors from all of Ontario County and

The first three letters in fundraising are **FUN!**

We are frequently asked when the chocolate gala will return. We have discussed fundraising as a Board and look forward to a time when we might have the capacity to undertake a large event. In the meantime, we feel that we best serve the organization through smaller events. We were the "cause" for Canandaigua Lady Crusin' for a Cause in July and had a great time with the Gale-Wyn crew at a chicken barbeque in September (thanks to everyone who supported these events).

We are actively recruiting members for our fundraising committee. A bowling event for February and a tea in May are in the planning stages. We view our fundraising events as opportunities to engage teens in supporting roles, as we have it on our hearts to engage with this age group.

When you donate to Care Net, your money not only keeps our doors open but allows all our services to be free!

### Give 3 Ways:

1. **Send in your Donation via the provided envelope**
2. **Email [manager@carenetcan.org](mailto:manager@carenetcan.org) to set up a bank transfer**
3. **Visit [www.carenetcan.org](http://www.carenetcan.org) and click "Donate Now"**