



Birthright of Grand Junction

October – December, 2024
4th Quarter Newsletter



*"It is the right of every pregnant woman to give birth and the right of every baby to be born."
-Louise Summerhill*

Birthright of Grand Junction Beginning by Kathleen Hollingsworth (Founder)

"Kathleen Hollingsworth volunteered at Birthright in Loveland, Colorado. In fact, by default, she was their director. When she moved to Grand Junction, though, no one had stepped forward to become Loveland's new BR director, so Kathleen ran it remotely from Grand Junction, with the help of an assistant director in Loveland. Kathleen was offered office space and office furniture in Grand Junction and that is how BR came to Grand Junction.

It wasn't long, though, before circumstances called for the BR office in Grand Junction to close. Saddened, Kathleen was packing up BR files one day when a strong wave of the Holy Spirit assured her this was not the end of BR of Grand Junction.

Sure enough, eleven years later the time was right to re-open BR in Grand Junction. God is never in a hurry, and never late. So, in 2015 with the help of a wonderful pro-life priest, Father Don Malin, BR of Grand Junction started. He knew how to pull Holy Spirit strings. A woman with a heart as big as Texas offered to help. She meant it. She was serious and seriously talented, gifted and energetic. Her name is Pat Bowman.

Father Malin arranged a meeting with Father Carlos Alvarez and before you knew it, BR had an office at 4th and White. Although Pat Bowman was humble, it quickly became apparent how brainy she is, and persistent. She worked shoulder to shoulder with everyone who came along to volunteer, and Pat did everything from publicity to decorating. She was the heartbeat of BR from day one, and still is. She knew, for lack of a better phrase, "when to hold 'em, when to fold 'em, when to walk away and when to run." Her advice was supernatural, her kindness and patience were irresistible, and her smile opened many doors. Without Pat there would be no BR in Grand Junction, and thanks to her, BR is thriving beyond anyone's wildest dreams.

Phone: 970-644-5788

www.birthrightgj.org

253 White Ave, Grand Junction, CO † **DONATIONS: P.O. Box 1984**

Director's Letter

Thanks to Kathleen Hollingsworth for graciously providing the history of Birthright of Grand Junction, unedited as she requested. As a Director, I keep reassuring myself of the saying, "God doesn't call the equipped; He equips the called." He equipped me with two valuable mentors, Kathleen and Father Don. They provided prayers and professional support to pave the way. The backbone of Birthright are our incredible volunteers. I am so grateful for their commitment in serving with kindness and for making a profound difference in the lives of the women and families we support. Together, we are stronger and together, we make an impact. Also, I would love to recognize all who have generously supported us throughout the years, you are a tremendous blessing.

Blessings,

Pat Bowman



Stepping Down

We are saddened to share that Toni Rubalcaba, Lisa Carr and Christopher Cameron have decided to step down from their roles. Their family has faced significant illnesses and hardships. This incredible three-generational volunteer family has made an impact on Birthright. Toni, the mother, has been with Birthright since its planning stages. She held the position as Director and various roles on the Board. Lisa, her daughter, volunteered in the office and had a remarkable ability to connect with the mothers. Lisa's son, Christopher, served on the Board as a Treasurer and assisted with IT issues. While a student at CMU, he promoted Birthright on Campus. They will be missed; we wish them all the best as they navigate through this challenging time.

OUR VOLUNTEERS

New Volunteer

We welcome our New Volunteer, Paz Ramirez. She is married, owns and operates a business. She states the reason for volunteering was "to be a voice for the unborn, to help a baby to have the right to be born and to help a mother to understand that Life is a gift from God". She is energetic and eager to do whatever is asked of her.



Paz Ramirez, Our Newest Volunteer

Donors

St. Joseph Marriage Enrichment – Baby Shower with large selection of diapers and baby items.

St. Bridget Circle – Cash, diapers and baby items

WG Christianson Foundation – Check

Mesa County Right to Life Banquet – Diapers

Rocky Mt. Promo – No charge to Birthright for large order of customized promotional totes and bags

St. Joseph's Knights of Columbus Council #1062 – Large check

Private donations – Checks, maternity clothes, baby diapers, baby clothes used and new, handmade greeting cards and memory albums and hand knitted baby outfit.

Mom's Corner — TWINS!!!



This Christmas, we helped a family in dire need. They did not have sufficient formula, diapers and food to last them until payday. The gas tank was empty, so we delivered the items needed, gifts for the babies, clothing, gift card, plus a Christmas ham with the trimmings. The mom was delighted. We have been assisting this family since January 2024, at the time the mom was pregnant with twins. A boy and a girl were born December 24th to the delight of their parents and two siblings. Birthright is appreciative to our donors for making it possible for this family to have a Happy Christmas.



Homeless Hope's Promise

During the Fall a homeless woman came in for a pregnancy test; the result was positive. We assisted her with meals, a backpack containing toiletries, clothing, towel and food. She stated she would be unable to care for a baby and showed interest in the adoption process. We notified the adoption resource, Hope's Promise. Jennifer arrived at Birthright soon after the call to visit with the pregnant mom to explain the different adoption options, etc. We had concerns about her health and safety during the approaching winter months. With the assistance of Hope's Promise, a facility was located. They were able to provide room and board, nutrition, medical support and other resources during the time of the pregnancy.



ATTENTION!
Catholic Daughters are having
their Annual Birthright Shower.
They have collection receptacles
at all 4 parishes.