



Birthright

of Grand Junction

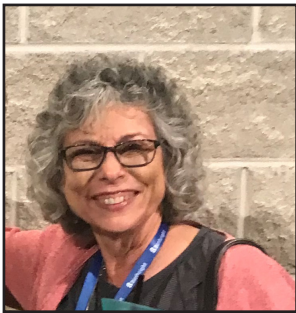
July – September, 2025

3rd Quarter Newsletter

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

~Louise Summerhill

DIRECTOR'S LETTER



A Season of Growth and Listening

As fall settles over the valley and children return to school, our Birthright office reflects on a summer of blessings. We were given the opportunity to walk with a greater number of moms than ever before—women who found us through word of mouth, search engines, our website, and referrals from partners like Catholic Outreach, St. Joseph's office and Community Hospital. Each referral is a reminder that our community trusts us to be a safe place where women can find help and hope.

The Heart of Birthright

A question we hear often is: *What guides Birthright in the way we serve?* The answer is simple, but profound. Birthright International provides each center with a training manual that shapes our approach. At its core, our mission is to **listen first**—to hear a woman's story without judgment, calm her fears, and offer hope when the future feels uncertain.

From there, we gently share the knowledge and resources that can empower her to continue her pregnancy with confidence and dignity.

Walking Besides, Not Ahead

In practice, this means sitting with a woman long enough to understand both her emotions and her circumstances. It means helping her untangle the knot of fear and confusion by:

- Defining the problem clearly.
- Understanding the situation she faces.
- Interpreting the feelings that may overwhelm her.
- Sorting through the facts.
- And identifying the resources she needs to move forward.

This work is tender and sacred. It is not about offering quick solutions, but about **walking beside her** as she rediscovers her own strength.

**Continued on the next page*



Phone: 970-644-5788 ❖ www.birthrightgj.org

253 White Ave, Grand Junction, CO 81502 ❖ DONATIONS: P.O. Box 1984

The Spirit of Care

Our volunteers are trained to offer what truly heals: patience, empathy, confidentiality, and a caring presence. These qualities create a space where women feel valued—not for their decisions alone, but for who they are as individuals. Equally important is what we avoid. Judgment, shock, rushed advice, or criticism can quickly close the door to trust. At Birthright, our promise is to keep that door wide open.

Looking Ahead

As the seasons change, so do the stories of the women who enter our office. Each one carries her own burdens and hopes. Our role is not to fix everything, but to remind her that she is not alone—and that new life, both hers and her baby's, is precious and worth protecting.

This fall, as we celebrate the growth of our outreach and the deepening of our mission, we invite you to continue walking with us. Together, we can ensure that every woman who calls Birthright finds a listening ear, a calm heart, and a hand to hold.

“Bear one another’s burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ.” – Galatians 6:2

Blessings,

Pat Bowman



VOLUNTEERS

Birthright is truly blessed to count **Blanca Swift** among our volunteers. With a heart for service and a gift for communication, Blanca serves as an interpreter for our Spanish-speaking clients—ensuring that every woman who walks through our doors is heard, understood and supported in her own language.

Blanca's journey with Birthright began in **Little Rock, Arkansas**, where she volunteered faithfully for three years. After moving to Grand Junction to be near her daughter and family, Blanca immediately brought her gifts to our local chapter, enriching our ministry in countless ways.

Originally from **Bogotá, Colombia**, Blanca holds a **Master's Degree in Philosophy and Spanish**, as well as a **Bachelor's Degree in Education** with a specialization in teaching Spanish as a second language. Her professional path has been as dynamic as her personality—teaching high school, breaking ground as the **first hire for a Spanish interpreter organization at Arkansas Children's Hospital**, and now devoting her talents to the women and families we serve.



At Birthright of Grand Junction, Blanca does far more than interpret. She is available both in-office and by phone, ensuring no client is left without support. Beyond her language skills, she is also a **prayer warrior**, faithfully lifting up our clients, volunteers, the unborn, and even broader needs such as our government and world peace.

Those who know her describe her as a **dynamic woman with a winning personality and undeniable charm**—someone who brings both professionalism and warmth to every interaction.

We are deeply grateful for Blanca's servant heart and the joy she brings to Birthright. She embodies our mission: to offer love, hope, and support to every woman who calls.

“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.” – 1 Peter 4:10

DONATIONS

We are deeply grateful for the generosity of those who sustain Birthright's mission. Your support allows us to serve women and families with compassion, hope, and practical help.

This quarter, we give thanks for:

- **Knights of Columbus and Auxiliary of IHM**
- **Knights of Columbus of Sacred Heart Catholic**
- **Catholic Dioceses of Pueblo Foundation**
- **Knights of Columbus and Auxiliary of St. Joseph**
- **St. Bridget Circle**
- **Cowboy and The Rose Catering Inc.**
- **A very, very generous private donor**



"Every good and perfect gift is from above." – James 1:17

Thank you for making a difference in the lives of women and families in our community

MOMS

When the Lord Provides: Stories of Hope and Prayer

At Birthright, we are privileged to walk beside women and families in moments of deep need. Sometimes, the stories we encounter are almost too heavy for us to carry on our own. Yet time and again, we see the Lord's hand move, providing a way forward when no clear path seems possible.



"The Lord Himself Goes Before You"

Deuteronomy 31:8

Not long ago, one of our volunteers received a call from a pregnant woman with no place to stay. Facing both homelessness and a serious medical diagnosis, her burdens seemed unbearable. Forced to leave her home, she found herself on a years-long waitlist for housing. Together with her Birthright volunteer, she discerned that moving closer to Denver—where she had extended family and specialized medical care—was the best path. By God's providence, the volunteer connected her to a pro-life pregnancy center in Denver with a housing coordinator ready to assist. Though the journey ahead remains uncertain, this woman is no longer alone. The Lord opened a door where none seemed to exist.

"Come to Me, All Who Are Weary"

Matthew 11:28

We also walk with families overwhelmed by financial hardship. One mother, expecting her seventh child, reached out as she and her husband faced the very real threat of foreclosure. With six children already at home and limited resources available, their needs were immense.

Though Birthright could not solve every problem, we provided immediate essentials: diapers and baby items for their twins, nutritious food for the family, and assistance with an urgent repair. Still, their struggles are beyond what we alone can meet. We entrust them to the Lord, who promises rest to the weary and provision for those who call upon Him.

Standing Together in Prayer

These stories remind us that Birthright is not just a ministry of service—it is also a ministry of faith. We plant seeds of hope, but it is God who brings the growth.

We invite you to join us in prayer:

- For the woman navigating homelessness, medical needs, and pregnancy—that she finds safety, healing, and support in Denver.
- For the family facing foreclosure—that their burdens may be lifted, and provision comes in ways only God can orchestrate.

As Psalm 46:1 reminds us:

"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."
In every case, we hold to the truth that the Lord provides.

Stepping Out: Why Birthright Needs Community Outreach Volunteers Now More Than Ever

At Birthright, we're blessed with an incredible team of volunteers who keep our doors open, greet women with compassion, and keep our office stocked and organized. Thanks to their dedication, our frontline support and behind-the-scenes needs are well covered. But there's one area where we need YOU: **Community Outreach**.

Why Outreach Matters

When a woman faces an unexpected pregnancy, one of the hardest parts is not knowing where to turn. Too many in our community still don't realize that Birthright is here and ready to listen, ready to walk with them, and ready to offer resources without judgment. That's where outreach volunteers come in. You're the bridge between our center and the wider community. Every flyer shared, every booth hosted, every conversation at a health fair or church event, it all matters. Outreach makes sure women know help is available long before they ever need it.

As our director, Pat Bowman, explains: *"We want to offer women the sources they need during an unexpected pregnancy and be resourceful for them if we cannot give them the help necessary in their case."*

What Does Outreach Look Like?

Outreach isn't one-size-fits-all—it can be as simple or as dynamic as you want it to be. Some volunteers enjoy speaking to groups, while others prefer helping at a table during local events. Opportunities include:

- Representing Birthright at **health fairs, school events, and church gatherings**
- Sharing our materials with **doctor's offices, schools, and community centers**
- Building relationships with other **nonprofits and local leaders**
- Helping us organize or attend **community events** where families gather

The best part? We provide all the training and materials—you just bring your friendly smile and willingness to connect.

Why Now?

The Grand Valley is growing and so are the needs. As more people move to our area, it's vital that Birthright grows our presence alongside these pregnant women in the Grand Valley area and surrounding cities/towns.



See Birthright for Yourself

Curious about who we are and what we do?
We'd love to show you around.

Touring Birthright is available
Tuesday–Thursday,
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at our center:
Birthright of Grand Junction
253 White Ave, Grand Junction, CO 81502
www.birthrightgj.org

Whether you're considering
volunteering or just want to learn more,
a tour is the perfect first step.

Join Us in Stepping Out

If you've been looking for a meaningful way to serve, but you're not sure a traditional volunteer role fits, outreach could be the perfect place for you. It's flexible, relational, and deeply impactful. We invite you to join our outreach team today. Call us at (970)644-5788, visit www.birthrightgj.org or stop by our center at 253 White Ave, GJ, CO 81502. Together, we can make sure no woman in Mesa County feels alone when facing an unexpected pregnancy.

As we look to expand our outreach, we are reminded that God calls ordinary people to do extraordinary things. Birthright needs willing hearts to step forward, to be His hands and feet in the community.

"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I. Send me!'" (Isaiah 6:8)