

## BECOME A LIFE SUPPORTER

*Making an IMPACT for Christ in moments of Crisis*



Pregnancy care centers, like Grace House, have made a tremendous impact on our way of life. In order for this to continue, there are some things we can do to add to the support we need.

### Building Brick by Brick

**Monthly support** allows our board and staff to plan because we have an idea of funds which will be coming in on a regular basis. A monthly gift of \$10, \$25, \$50, or \$100 may not seem to be a lot but these gifts are vital when we are looking at an overall budget.

**Annual commitments:** These gifts allow us to reevaluate our budget annually. We are able to make adjustments as our financial picture changes. Set the same time each year & put it on your calendar & GIVE! You may mail or bring a check to 306 E Church Street. So that you don't need to remember to write a check, you can give electronically. You can set this up through your bank, on your bank's website, or through our secure, electronic giving website at <https://e-giving.org/egivinglogin.asp>

### Wishes

Wish lists are made up of items which never seem to make it into our regular budget but yet are still things that make our ministry come alive. It would bless us if you could provide one of these! Here is our latest wish list:

- A building – paid for – for both client service centers – in DeLand & Edgewater.
- Video camera
- DVD Player Recorder
- DVD/CD Duplicator
- 2 Flat screen TV's (less than 30") with wall mounts
- 2 newer lap tops w/web cams for virtual meetings) (for our center directors)

### Frequent Fliers

Frequent flier or sky miles as well as hotel points are a great help as we get our staff and board members to national conferences. These conferences are a great way to motivate, train, and envision those we are able to send. However the costs to attend these conferences are often unaffordable. Also, these points and sky miles can be used to bring in a nationally known speaker for our next fundraising dinner.

### Hold the Java

We have learned that even expenses, which are seemingly trivial, add up (for example- \$3.00+ for morning coffee each day). We can do without it and by changing this one small habit, a significant gift can be given to Grace House. So instead of every day, maybe we buy it twice a week. By saving the \$3.00 three time per week, after a month it quickly adds up to \$9.00 each week, \$36 a month, and then that adds up to over \$425 a year!... by not buying coffee! Now, imagine 50 people doing the same thing! The increase is remarkable. And to think of the resources that can be obtained: bibles, informational brochures to turn hearts toward life. For one person it's a cup of coffee, for others, it could mean a life saved.

### Tax-Wise Gifts

Many times a gift can be used to optimize a tax advantage. For example, a gift of stock can help both the giver and Grace House. Let's say Mr. And Mrs. X bought a stock which was purchased for \$2,000. After a time the stock reached \$15,000 but soon after, its worth fell to \$5,000. If the stock is sold, the X family will face capital gains taxes on the \$3,000 profit.

Now, Mr. and Mrs. X are also considering making a gift to Grace House. What to do? Give the Stock to Grace House. Grace House receives a \$5,000 gift and the X family will earn a tax write-off of \$5,000 at a real cost to them of only \$2,000. The key is to give the stock outright, before they sell it. In this way, they avoid capital gains taxes.

With the stock certificate in hand, without signing it, Mr. and Mrs. X send the stock certificate to Grace House by certified mail. In a separate envelope, they sent a signed stock power. If the stock is in a brokerage account, they will notify the broker of the desire to gift the stock to Grace House and the broker will contact the ministry. If Grace House does not have an account, one can be set up quickly for the transaction.

### Baby Bottles

Loose change can be used for important fundraising. Grace House distributes Baby Bottles to churches, and families in the area. The instructions are to fill the bottles with loose change, paper bills, and checks. The campaign can be done during the month of January or for the weeks between Mother's Day & Father's Day. This gives people time to fill the bottles and return them filled. Saving loose change can be used in families to create teachable moments for children. Parents can teach children the importance earning and giving, and the need to defend human life. Contact us at [mail@gracehouseprc.org](mailto:mail@gracehouseprc.org) or 943-4004 to get the details & kick off ideas & materials!

### Let them eat cake

Let's support Grace House by inviting six or eight couples/friends over for a lovely dessert. You can either share about the ministry yourself (with some ministry brochures) or have one of our representatives plan to be there to share for a few minutes. We can also bring a wonderful 2-5 minute client DVD. Just contact Grace House to plan the date, plan the dessert, & invite your guests! All that's required is a willing heart! Perhaps some of these will decide to support Grace House, maybe six couples will give \$25 per month – that's \$900 per year. Contact us at [mail@gracehouseprc.org](mailto:mail@gracehouseprc.org) or 943-4004 and let's plan this together.

### Take a day off (of the budget)

Divide the budget by 365 to determine a day's sponsorship. Sponsoring a day can be done with a onetime check or a monthly pledge for a year. Sponsoring a day reminds us that pregnancy care ministries like Grace House live by faith. Contact us at [mail@gracehouseprc.org](mailto:mail@gracehouseprc.org) or 943-4004 to find out our current annual budget!

### Remember & Provide

We can honor or remember parents (or others) on Mother's Day, Father's Day, or anytime with our gifts or perhaps remember a loved one's birthday. In this way, we lay a financial foundation for the ministry. Just mention who your gift is in honor or memory of when you send it to us. There is also a place to add this information when you give electronically. We will send the family or honoree a card, if you provide us that information. We will also honor this person by mentioning your gift in our next newsletter (unless you ask us not to do that).

### **It's my party**

What would happen if we asked our friends and family to honor us on our birthday with a gift to Grace House in our name? We are past the days of waiting for a special birthday. It would be thrilling to know that a gift was given on my birthday that helped save a life. The same thing can be applied to a birthday gift to Jesus on Christmas. It is such a perfect reminder of God's gift to us - a child.

### **Straight to my heart**

#### **(funding your dream for generations)**

We can start an endowment – with any amount. Maybe you would like to have an endowment of \$10,000 but don't have that much. It is a possibility to give an opening gift and build on that gift year after year. Endowments are a beautiful way for families to honor a loved one. These are gifts that keep on giving over the years!

### **The gift of encouragement**

#### **(touch lives)**

Volunteers are the heartbeat of the ministry. As we desire to serve the Lord, a bit of encouragement can make a big difference for those working each day serving Grace House. Every center wants to bless its volunteers, but sometimes the funds are too tight. Gifts given designated for this purpose can bless those who pour their hearts into Grace House each day with a dose of encouragement. Just mention this is where you want your gift used & we'll be thrilled to use it there!

### **Small group? BIG difference!**

Many small groups and Sunday school classes come together to support our pregnancy care center. By collecting gifts for a few weeks, members pool funds to send to Grace House. What if 10, 20, or 50 small groups would support Grace House each year? This can be done either monthly or as much or as little as your group would like to do it.

### **The power of partnership**

Our center partners with local churches. This enables the center to meet needs that the church itself cannot. A client may make a commitment of faith and Grace House looks to the local church as a place where they can grow as a new believer. This beautiful partnership is a powerful reason why every church should support its local pregnancy care center financially. Why not ask YOUR church to support us? If you do, let us know that you have & who the decision makers are so we can send them a letter and possibly meet with them. Contact us at [mail@gracehouseprc.org](mailto:mail@gracehouseprc.org) or 943-4004.

### **Investing in new investors**

For a fundraising event to be successful, we need effective material and the right facilities. A few hundred dollars in preparation may mean thousands of dollars raised for the ministry. A fundraising event is a key investment which can bring high returns to the ministry. Contact us at [mail@gracehouseprc.org](mailto:mail@gracehouseprc.org) or 943-4004 if you or your company is willing to help us underwrite one of our two annual events.

## Where there's a will...there's a way to build the future!

There is a misconception that the need for these ministries is temporary. If the court decisions change, will pregnancy care centers be necessary? If Roe is overturned, the discussion will shift from the federal to state governments. Regardless, the need for pregnancy centers will remain. By naming Grace House in our wills or trusts, we build a solid future for the ministry. An estate gift can be designated any way we want. Estate gifts, over time, create a major funding base for the ministry. Through a will or trust, our final gift can be a lasting one.

## Take a walk on the child side

Be a walker in our annual Walk for Life! Sponsored walkers ask a few friends and family members to support them in the event. Some walkers pass around their sponsor sheets in Sunday school or place them on bulletin boards at work. Others use center-created letters to mail or email. After the walk, the center handles collecting the funds, so you don't ever have to ask them to hand over the funds! See the Events Page of our website [www.gracehouse4life.org](http://www.gracehouse4life.org) to see when our next event is & register.

## A Gift in Kind

Gifts in kind cut our costs and the donor determines the value of their gift. Also, there are always plans on the drawing board waiting for a major increase in funding, Why not check in and see what our current needs are or if there are any plans on the drawing board waiting to be funded? See if there is something about the project that might fit your criteria. The Lord can use our gift to change the face of the ministry. Big dreams can actually come true!

## Wrap up the year in style

End of year gifts lay the groundwork for a successful year ahead. It is also a perfect time to consider that an extra gift may be tax-advantageous for you as well.

## *A closing note*

*Thanks for taking a look with me on ways we can support Grace House. The point is that each of us, regardless of income, can support Grace House!*

*Giving with you.....because life is precious!*

*Donna Jensen*

*Executive Director*

