

GROWING BRANCHES

*New Beginnings - A Home for Mothers
Milwaukee, WI • April 2015*

M
K
E

New Beginnings is thrilled to announce that our first two residents have moved into the home! We are so excited to have two moms living at New Beginnings and participating in the program. What an adventure!

HERE WE GROW... THROUGH THANKFULNESS

by Brianne Kluge, Home Manager

Fresh spring air is finally upon us! As we open our car windows, air out our homes, and soak up the sun, we may find ourselves saying "Thank you, God, for this beautiful weather!" Thankfulness comes easily in spring, especially after a long winter; as the spring season progresses, however, we may find ourselves complaining about the heat of summer or losing our appreciation for the warm sunshine. Why is that?

God tells us in 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, "Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." At *New Beginnings* we strive to give a single mother and her child a fresh start in life. We pray that our residents will be thankful for the time spent at *New Beginnings*. During a recent nightly devotion we discussed what it means to be thankful. I asked our residents to make a list of things that they are proud of and thankful for. The residents' answers included items like, "I am thankful for finally having a stable home" and "I am thankful for being in good mental health." Wow! I began to think about how often I take my health and my home for granted. I wake up every day assuming that I will be healthy, and I leave work each day assuming that my apartment will still be in good shape when I return. I admit I have become complacent. We should be content with what we have – but also be appreciative and grateful for the "little" things. After all, the things we take for granted are the things that others are praying for. ♦



*Pictured on top left to right: Bryonna, Suenora, Brianne, Lori, Beth, Alex & Rachel
Bottom left to right: Beth, Lori, Alex, Brianne, Bryonna, Suenora & Rachel*

HERE WE GROW... WITH OUR FIRST RESIDENTS

New Beginnings – A Home for Mothers has been very supportive. When I thought life for me was failing, God turned everything around for me and my child. Since I've arrived, I have started getting my GED and I know I have a team that wants better for me. I understand that no matter how hard the obstacles are, I will make it. The staff is very positive and encouraging. Knowing that I have a baby girl on the way in just WEEKS is SCARY, but knowing that Kholé will have all the diapers, wipes, clothing, etc. that she needs is very reassuring. The program is designed to make young ladies better women and mothers. I would like to succeed and be independent and someday be working a good paying job that can support me and my daughter. *New Beginnings* is very organized and Christian-based and I have gained knowledge about my Lord and Savior since starting in the program. Thank you for the support and healthy environment you have provided for me and my daughter.

Suenora and Kholé



Hi, My name is Bryonna and my daughters' names are A'Nylah & A'Kylah. At a young age I was removed out of my home and placed into foster care. Once I entered foster care I felt like I gave up on myself. I started slipping in school, hanging out with the wrong group of friends, and not caring about anything anymore. I started smoking and drinking a lot, because I felt like that was an easy way out. Once I aged out of foster care, I really hit rock bottom. I started bouncing around from house to house. Then, in 2014, I ended up pregnant. I was so scared because I didn't have a stable home or an income. As I became further along in my pregnancy, I felt like I had to make a change for my babies. I'm bringing not just one baby, but two babies, into the world. After a while I came across *New Beginnings*. *New Beginnings* has helped me feel better about parenting twins in such a short amount of time. I'm also trying to get right with God and I feel like this is just the place to do that. This place has made me realize that I can be a great mother to my babies. I also have a good support system from the staff here. This is the greatest opportunity to help me make a better life for me as a new mother. I'm so happy to be a part of *New Beginnings*.

Bryonna And The Twins

New Beginnings recently had a baby shower for Bryonna which was generously hosted by St. Marcus Lutheran Church in Milwaukee, WI.



CHURCHES: HAVE YOU ORDERED YOUR CHANGE FOR LIFE MATERIALS?



Call 1-800-720-6667 or email briannek@homeformothers.com to request your bottles or coin boxes today. We send all materials FREE! Together your loose change can make a BIG difference! Visit helpnewbeginnings.com for more info.

HERE WE GROW... OUR FIRST EASTER CELEBRATION

by Beth Shiels, Assistant Home Manager

What did you do to celebrate Easter this year or in years past? When I was growing up, Easter was marked by several family traditions. In the weeks leading up to Easter, we would attend midweek Lenten church services, dye Easter eggs, and shop for new white church shoes. On Easter morning, I would wake up before the sun to hunt for my Easter basket, dress in my Easter best, sing with my classmates in the Easter sunrise service, participate in our church breakfast, and then celebrate with relatives over a plentiful dinner. Through these activities, my family and I anticipated and rejoiced in the resurrection of our Savior on Easter Sunday.

At *New Beginnings*, we have found that our residents have not necessarily experienced the same observance of Christian holidays. Occasionally, Easter would go by unmarked in their childhoods without any form of celebration. One of our goals at *New Beginnings* is to instill family traditions in our residents and teach them the significance of holidays so that they can pass these on to their children. To this end, dying eggs, an egg hunt, and a delicious family dinner were all part of our *New Beginnings* Easter celebration. Most importantly, Pastor Fleischmann led us in a devotion that reflected on the similarities between Easter and *New Beginnings*. Not only were the residents delighted with the opportunity to partake in activities they had never done before, but staff also got to witness the joy on their faces as they were able to show off their artistic sides dying eggs, their excitement of searching for eggs outside our home, and the love around the table as we ate together. Reflecting on the day, resident Suenora stated, “[We] gathered around as a family, making and decorating eggs, sharing laughs and a dinner, and remembering this important time our Lord Jesus rose.” The celebration was as much of a blessing to the staff as it was to the residents, as we all experienced something new! ♦



Pictured on top left to right: Alex, Lori, Bryonna & Suenora. Middle left to right: Bryonna & Suenora. Bottom left to right: Beth, Alex, Brianna, Suenora, Bryonna, Rachel, Pastor Fleischmann & his wife, Diane

HERE WE GROW... FROM THE RESIDENT ASSISTANTS' PERSPECTIVE

by Lori Bowman, Susie Schilling & Alex Richardson

It has been humbling to see how God works in our lives, especially in the way He brought us all to *New Beginnings*. Alex's name was passed along by Wisconsin Lutheran College as a good choice for a resident assistant (RA). After learning more about *New Beginnings* she encouraged her roommate, Lori, to apply. Susie heard about the position from a nursing professor. When we found out who got the positions we were all thrilled – all three of us had a few classes with each other, and we were already friends!

Our role as an RA is to make sure that the mothers follow the guidelines that are set up by *New Beginnings*. Most importantly, we are here to get to know the ladies so they are able to come to us if they are ever in need of help or simply want someone to talk to.

Our first two moms-to-be, Bryonna and Suenora, have been at *New Beginnings* for a little over a month, and we see how God is changing their lives one day at a time. They are such amazing women, and we cannot wait to see what is down the road for them. We are so excited to be able to continue getting to know these two ladies, and soon their babies will be arriving in April! God has richly blessed *New Beginnings* and all our lives. We are so thankful to have this opportunity to share God's love and more importantly to serve God. ♦



Pictured from left to right: Alex, Susie & Lori

New Beginnings appreciates your prayers to our gracious God on our behalf. We also appreciate your gifts.

Yes, I (we) would like to help *New Beginnings*: \$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 other \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____ Email _____

Please charge a one-time gift to my credit card. Name on Card _____

Card # _____ Signature _____

Type of Card MC Visa Discover AMEX Expiration Date* _____ Card ID (CVV2/CID) #* _____

WE PROTECT YOUR PRIVACY: Christian Life Resources respects your privacy and will not give away or sell your contact information. Christian Life Resources is a registered 501(c)(3) agency under the U.S. tax code. All donations to the ministries of Christian Life Resources are fully tax deductible. Where to find the Card ID #? MC/Visa/Discover: 3-digit code on back; AMEX: 4-digit code on front. *Required

Please contact me about having my gifts enhanced through Thrivent Financial.

Please contact me about remembering *New Beginnings* in my will or estate plan.

I want to support this ministry on a regular basis. Send me information on becoming a *Clearly Caring Sponsor*.

I do not require an acknowledgment of this gift.

I want an **email** acknowledgment of this gift: _____ I want a letter acknowledgment.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- New Beginnings 5K/2 Mile Walk

Saturday, June 6 at 9:00am

- Ice Cream Social/Open House

Saturday, August 29 from 1:30-4:30pm

More info: CLREvents.com

MOST NEEDED ITEMS:

- Full-size bottles of shampoo and conditioner for moms
- Toilet paper and paper towel
 - Cleaning products
 - Vacuums (2)

A complete list is available at:

HomeforMothers.com

(call 414-376-0595 for home address when mailing large packages)



New Beginnings

A Ministry Sponsored by Christian Life Resources

A Home for Mothers

Box 56 • Richfield, WI 53076

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ELGIN, IL
PERMIT NO. 126

New Beginnings - A Home for Mothers is a Christ-centered ministry for single mothers and their children operated by Christian Life Resources. The home has been serving residents since 1993. It is supported entirely by the generous support and prayers of those who are committed to sharing Christ and reflecting His sacrificial love.

Our Team: Ms. Brianne Kluge - Home Manager
Mrs. Beth Shiels - Assistant Home Manager
Ms. Rachel Enstad - Assistant Home Manager

Mailing Address: Box 56, Richfield, WI 53076

Phone: 1-800-720-MOMS (6667) • (414) 376-0595

Email: info@homeformothers.com

Website: homeformothers.com • helpnewbeginnings.com

Social Media: facebook.com/homeformothers • twitter: @HomeforMothers • instagram: newbeginnings_homeformothers

A MINISTRY SPONSORED BY CHRISTIAN LIFE RESOURCES



Christian Life Resources provides all fundraising, administrative services and staffing for *New Beginnings*.

If you would like to help save costs & receive *Growing Branches* via email, please send your email address to info@homeformothers.com