

## ***Pregnancy and Adoption Support Program Needs***

Catholic Charities' Pregnancy and Adoption Support program serves expectant families throughout the Diocese of Arlington who are faced with unexpected or crisis pregnancies.

We do this through providing case management services, counseling, referrals for services, necessary baby items through our baby closet, life affirming options counseling surrounding parenting and adoption planning options, and by facilitating adoption related services for woman who choose to make an adoption plan for their child (aka Birth Mother's). We also are a lifetime resource to any of our clients who adopted, been adopted or placed a child for adoption.

We cannot do this important pro-life work without the generous support of community partners, donors and volunteers. Below is a list of needs for our program that will better equip us in serving our clients and providing transformative services to those in need.

### **Baby Closet Needs**

CCDA has a baby closet with donations for infants ages 0-24 months which can be provided to our current clients or which can be accessed by the public (one time only) during designated hours at which time we are able to assess the needs of the family and provide what we can from the baby closet.

***\*\*Please note: Only new or gently used clothing can be accepted\*\****

***Other gently used baby items can be accepted upon inspection from CCDA staff***

### **Items most frequently requested and most in need:**

- Infant car seats (with 5-point harness)
- Grocery Gift Cards
- Disposable diapers in sizes: newborn, 1,2,3,4,5
- Wipes
- Newborn clothing in sizes: newborn, 0-3 months

### Items also in need:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gift cards (for example: Babies r Us, grocery stores)</li><li>• Infant clothing</li><li>• Sleep n' play baby outfits</li><li>• Onesies</li><li>• Baby blankets</li><li>• Bottles (must be BPA free)</li><li>• Infant carriers</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• "Boppy" baby pillows</li><li>• Bouncy seats</li><li>• Infant swings</li><li>• Umbrella strollers</li><li>• Rock 'n Play</li><li>• Sleep Sack</li><li>• Baby Books</li><li>• Developmental toys</li></ul>
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### Pregnancy and Adoption Needs

In addition to the items needed for our baby closet, our program is in great need for the below donations that help us to serve woman and families while they are expecting their child. Providing quality support and stabilization is essential to the client and the unborn child's safety and development.

- Uber or Taxi Gift Cards to help clients get to/from pre-natal appointments; counseling sessions; etc.
- Grocery Gift Cards
- Fundraising to help with emergency assistance needs and the cost of prenatal care which would go into our Parent Support Fund
- Self-Care items for moms who have just given birth (lotions, magazines, etc.)
- Pregnancy Related Books
  - *What to Expect When you are Expecting*
  - *The Happiest Baby on the Block*
- Adoption and Birthmother Books
  - *Given in Love* by Maureen Connelly (Amazon)
  - *The Third Choice: A Woman's Guide to Placing a Child for Adoption* by Leslie Forge and Gail Mosconi (Amazon)

## Post Adoption Support Needs

Parents who make the selfless decision to place their child for adoption do so because they want what is best for their child and because they know they are not able to provide that. We are dedicated to serving these parents for a lifetime to ensure that they have access to grief counseling and support services to ensure they have hope for their future and are at peace with their decision.

- Birthparent's Guide to Grief- a 12 Step Process by Jessalynn Speight and Alysia Foote (Amazon)
- Scholarship Funding for birth parents who have placed a child for adoption to allow them access to professional certifications or advanced education options
- Fundraising for Birth Parent Support Group (an ongoing group hosted by our office that is open to any parent who has ever placed a child for adoption)

We are so grateful to our community partners for any assistance they can provide. If you have any ideas or opportunities for fundraising or service projects that can assist in collecting these items, please contact us!

Pregnancy and Adoption Support

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