



ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS

Summary for Walking with Moms in Need (WWMIN) Campaign

- **Inventory of Resources** (2019-2020): a united task force (including reps from Catholic Charities of St. Louis, Respect Life Apostolate, Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Peace & Justice Commission, Young Adult Ministry and Office of Communications) identified programs and resources in the archdiocese and among outside agencies that specifically serve pregnant and parenting mothers, as well as fathers and families. Task force efforts were included in the national WWMIN campaign from the USCCB.
- **St. Louis Review** (2019-2021): Since Archbishop Joseph Naumann first announced the year of service in late 2019, our archdiocesan newspaper has featured a series of articles on the initiative, including: www.archstl.org/local-prolife-organization-is-living-the-mission-of-the-walking-with-moms-in-need-initiative-5073
- **Call to Prayer** (Spring/Summer 2020): a social media campaign to spiritually support pregnant/parenting mothers
 - ⇒ Parishes may relaunch the campaign anytime here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/2639421829666983/>
 - ⇒ Walking with Moms prayer cards available at: www.WalkingwithMoms.com
- **Archdiocesan Diaper Giveaway** (July 2020): about 40,000 diapers were donated to the archdiocese, the Permanent Diaconate, Peace & Justice Commission and Respect Life Apostolate helped distribute them to those in need
- **USCCB Webinar for Parish Leaders** (July 2020): respect life parish coordinators viewed the webinar to assist their pastors with the parish launch. Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6kOPGKo3Vqw>
- **Parish Launch** (August 2020): all pastors sent official resources/materials to launch Walking with Moms
- **Respect Life Convention** (October 2020): the theme of the 44th Annual Respect Life Convention was Walking with Moms; speakers, educational material and ministry partners will all center on this theme.
- **Annual Roe v. Wade Memorial Mass** (January 2021) - LifeLine Coalition collection benefitted local moms/children
- **"Love Into Action" Service Project** (January 2021) raised funds/supplies for moms in need; collaborative effort with archdiocesan teens (Generation Life) and young adults (Office of Young Adult Ministry) (January 2021)
- **Generation Life** (January 2021) - during March for Life week, the RLA a virtual presentation on how this campaign is being lived out in the archdiocese to Catholic teens and leaders in partnership with the Office of Youth Ministry
- **Deacon Diaper Drive** (March 2021) - the Office of the Permanent Diaconate conducted its annual diaper drive to benefit pregnant and parenting moms

Inventory of Resources for Parenting Mothers, Fathers & Their Families (Part 1)

*This guide is intended to assist parishes in creating their own inventory of resources and is not all-inclusive. Unless indicated as an outside agency (**), resources can be found at www.archstl.org under each archdiocesan office. Inclusion of outside agencies is not an automatic endorsement. Pastors (and those they designate) should use their own discretion/discernment.*

PRE-CONCEPTION SUPPORT RESOURCES

- **Archdiocesan Office of Education & Formation:** Catholic school and parish school of religion (PSR) eighth grade pro-life curriculum incorporating chastity education, fetal development, and respect for all life.
- **Archdiocesan Catholic Youth Apostolate:** Generation Life: pilgrimage to Washington DC reinforces the students' chastity and respect for life educational component learned in Catholic school and PSR
- **Archdiocesan Office of Marriage & Family Life:** forms engaged couples for happy and holy marriages in the framework of Catholic teachings on life-giving love; continues that formation through marriage enrichment programs
- **Archdiocesan Office of Natural Family Planning:** family planning system based on changes in the woman's body that indicate fertile and infertile times promoting strong marriages and involves the man as well as the woman (alternative to contraception/sterilization). Oversees direct service to clients in 22 archdiocesan locations.
 - ⇒ **Wonder of Eve:** high school women program that explains the beauty of the female body and Catholic teaching on life and love
 - ⇒ **Enkindle:** provides initial free counseling and support services to women/couples with infertility



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Inventory of Resources (Part 2)

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PRE-CONCEPTION SUPPORT RESOURCES (continued)

- **NaProTechnology****: subspecialty of OB/GYN medicine that treats the underlying cause of a woman's physical issues without interfering with fertility.
- **Mercy Health Care Parent/Child****: programs emphasize modesty, chastity, and respect for human fertility.

PRE-BIRTH SUPPORT RESOURCES

- **Archdiocesan Office of Natural Family Planning**: resources for parents and families to heal after miscarriage
- **Archdiocesan Parish Support**: 175 parishes directly help pregnant mothers (food pantries, baby showers, etc.)
- **Archdiocesan Respect Life Apostolate**: educational, pastoral, spiritual, and public policy initiatives that promote the dignity of the unborn child, as well as assist pregnant mothers, fathers, and families.
 - ⇒ **LifeLine Coalition**: network of social service agencies and pro-life caregivers that help pregnant and parenting mothers, approximately 10,000 each year collectively. This includes both archdiocesan and affiliated agencies (RLA partners with this network as well as holds an annual collection to support its work)
 - ⇒ **Blessed Teresa of Calcutta Fund**: is available to relieve the financial burdens of an unplanned pregnancy
 - ⇒ **Spiritual Adoption**: fetal development awareness and prayer campaign for the unborn and their parents; available to parishes, schools, and pro-life organizations
 - ⇒ **Options Brochure**: resource with life-affirming, abortion alternatives in the archdiocese providing practical and spiritual help to those facing unplanned pregnancies
 - ⇒ **Naming & Commendation Rite**: prayer service helping parents and families heal after unborn loss ([due to miscarriage, abortion, accident, or stillbirth] in conjunction with archdiocesan Sacred Worship office)
- **Catholic Charities of St. Louis**:
 - ⇒ **Good Shepherd Children & Family Services**: a full-range of housing support including maternity shelter and transitional living services for teen and young adult pregnant mothers, as well as in-home crisis counseling, parenting education, and financial assistance.
 - ⇒ **St. Martha's Hall**: shelter to pregnant victims of domestic violence and their children
 - ⇒ **Queen of Peace Center**: treatment and shelter to pregnant substance abusers and their children
 - ⇒ **Marygrove**: housing and services to pregnant teens and young adults
- **Birthright**** supports women facing unplanned pregnancies with one-on-one accompaniment, including financial and counseling support (multiple locations throughout archdiocese)
- **Catholic Healthcare**** (SSM, Mercy): provides comprehensive health care to the poor and marginalized throughout the archdiocese
- **Coalition for Life St. Louis****: through Women's Care Connect, offers individualized support for pregnant women
- **Defenders of the Unborn****: helps mothers in crisis pregnancies with a variety of material needs
- **Haven of Grace****: serves pregnant, homeless women with shelter, education, long-term support
- **Knights of Columbus****
 - ⇒ **Meet Life Campaign** assists during pregnancy primarily to direct service agencies
 - ⇒ **Fathers for Good** program supports men to embrace fatherhood
- **Mary Queen of Angels****: assists pregnant/parenting women and their children through age two
- **Our Lady's Inn****: shelter and support for pregnant women and their children
- **Pregnancy Assistance Center****: educational and material support to pregnant women in Franklin County
- **Room at the Inn****: 24-hour emergency shelter to homeless families and their children
- **Society of St. Vincent de Paul of St. Louis****: food (food pantry and vouchers), financial resources (including utility, rent, and mortgage assistance) for pregnant mothers and their families in need as well as emergency housing,



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Inventory of Resources (Part 3)

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PRE-BIRTH SUPPORT RESOURCES (continued)

- SSM/St. Mary's WISH Center**: supports women and infants dealing with substance abuse
- Thrive St. Louis**: offers alternatives to abortion services, pregnancy testing and ultrasounds to pregnant women

POST-BIRTH SUPPORT RESOURCES

- Archbishop Robert J. Carlson Adoption Grant: financial support to those adopting a child (offered through the archdiocesan NFP office)
- Archdiocesan Abortion Healing Ministry: trained staff and volunteers offer confidential, compassionate help to men and women wounded by abortion through a pastoral helpline; pastoral listening, spiritual direction and professional counseling sessions; Sacrament of Reconciliation, day and weekend retreats; healing prayer and Masses; support groups, Bible studies, and other resources (includes the Project Rachel, Project Joseph and Rachel's Vineyard programs offered through the archdiocesan Respect Life Apostolate and Catholic Renewal Center).
- Archdiocesan Catholic Renewal Center: healing prayer, spiritual direction, prayer groups and conferences, grief support, divorced and separated support, and other services for individuals, couples and families
- Archdiocesan Office of Marriage and Family Life: marriage enrichment, family support, development and services
- Archdiocesan Office of the Permanent Diaconate: annual Deacon Diaper Drive with parishes and other agencies
- Archdiocesan Parish Support: 175 churches help individuals, couples and families in need in a variety of ways
- Catholic Charities of St. Louis:
 - ⇒ Good Shepherd Children & Family Services: adoption and foster care services, help for teen and young adult mothers and their babies, as well as financial and other assistance
 - ⇒ Marygrove: emergency shelter and apartment-based transitional living for youth and young adults.
 - ⇒ St. Patrick Center: provides specialized resources to keep at-risk families in temporary housing or secure permanent housing
 - ⇒ St. Louis Counseling: and its partners provide mental health care, both in-house for mothers in its shelter, the community, and schools.
 - ⇒ St. Martha's Hall: domestic violence support, including safe shelter for mothers and children.
 - ⇒ Queen of Peace Center: support and treatment for mothers and families struggling with addiction, including housing, shelter, and day care.
 - ⇒ Cardinal Ritter Senior Services: support to grandparents raising their grandchildren.
 - ⇒ St. Francis Community Services:
 - Bilingual mental health services through St. Louis Counseling
 - Catholic Legal Assistance Ministry provides free legal representation to low income clients in civil matters, including custody and support.
 - SFCS-Southside provides wrap-around support to Hispanic and Vietnamese families.
 - ⇒ Pathways to Progress: wrap-around services to families hoping to live safe, positive, and sustainable lives.
- Deceased Children's Memorial: at St. Mary Magdalen parish offers comfort and healing to parents and families whose children have died
- Today and Tomorrow Educational Foundation: provides scholarships to families wanting to send their children to Catholic schools.
- Society of St. Vincent de Paul of St. Louis**: food, financial housing, utility, clothing, medication, transportation and other assistance to support families in need
- Catholic Healthcare **: counseling support throughout the archdiocese including our schools
- Knights of Columbus**: 'Fathers for Good' program supports men to embrace fatherhood and their responsibilities as a father
- SSM Health/St. Mary's Sweet Babies**: clothing and resources for families with newborns who leave the hospital