



# Star of the North

## MATERNITY HOME

Summer 2023 Newsletter | [www.starofthenorthmaternityhome.org](http://www.starofthenorthmaternityhome.org)

### Dear SON Supporters,

I am mad, and it takes a lot to get me upset! The MN State legislature cut the funding to the Positive Alternatives grant in the Health Omnibus Bill this session at the end of May. It was a \$3.6 Million grant program supporting 28 pro life organizations in MN who help Moms and Babies. We were a 5 year grant recipient starting in 2021. It has been important to stabilizing our funding (\$75k per year). I am upset at our MN Senate and House legislators who voted to take this grant away from our home with 30 days notice. Thankfully, God and our community has already clearly given us the message to continue this given mission to support our amazing Moms and children across the Northland. We are so thankful for your support and dedication as this clearly tells us to "keep going."

We are blessed with the support of time, talent and treasure we have received over the past year which has allowed us to expand to a 2nd home in the Iron Range. We have doubled our service and doubled our expenses. We enjoyed a successful Annual Salmon Dinner and Auction due to your support.

Our homes are busy working to provide care and a program 24/7 365 days a week. We are blessed to continue forward in our mission as we honor and cherish your support. We honor the staff and volunteers who make these homes work each day. It is complex work on complex challenges for each of our Residents. We thank you! Blessings,

Sincerely

Dr. Susan E. McClernon, Executive Director

### 2023 Fr. Crossman Culture of Life Award Winners



Rose Perrault, Bishop Felton and Perrault Family

Dr. Sue McClernon & Pastor Tom Schaer on behalf of Pro Life Ministries of Duluth



### Welcome Kelli Horvath!

We are excited to welcome Kelli Horvath as our new SON Iron Range Program Manager. She has an amazing background and the experience to move us forward. She is a social worker by training and worked in both healthcare and with Arrowhead Regional Corrections for 24 years as a respected probation officer.

### HONOR OUR SUPPORTING CHURCHES

We are so thankful for the ongoing monthly or regular support from the following Churches:

- |                               |                                |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Almond Branch Church          | St. Anthony Catholic Church    |
| Water's Edge Community Church | St. Benedict's Catholic Church |
| Living Stones Fellowship      | St. James Church               |
| The River                     | St. John's Catholic Church     |
| Open Door Church              | St. Pius X Catholic Church     |

If your church would like to set up regular support for SON, please reach out to us at [togetherforlifeforthland@gmail.com](mailto:togetherforlifeforthland@gmail.com). Thank you Congregations!

### Do you feel a call to help Moms and Babies?

We are operating 24/7, 7 days a week at each of our homes and need volunteers and paid care coordinators (part-time) to support our mission.

- Twin Ports (Duluth) & Iron Range (Hibbing)
- Please go to our website to apply: [www.StarOfTheNorthMaternityHome.org](http://www.StarOfTheNorthMaternityHome.org) or email [togetherforlifeforthland@gmail.com](mailto:togetherforlifeforthland@gmail.com)



# SON Iron Range Center

## Looking Forward

What an incredible journey it has been at Star of the North Maternity Home - Iron Range! As we reflect on our first year of operations, we are overwhelmed with gratitude for the meaningful moments and growth opportunities we have experienced. Today, we stand before you, humbled yet hopeful, seeking the continued support of our community.

With your generous contributions, we can continue our mission of providing love, care, and resources to mothers and children in need. Together, we can create a brighter future for these courageous individuals.

In the past year, Star of the North Maternity Home has made a profound impact on the lives of our Residents. We have had the privilege of serving seven remarkable mothers and ten beautiful children, with the joyous arrival of two unborn babies. We have a waiting list. Additionally, we provided crucial resources and referrals to eight other individuals, guiding them towards a path of stability and hope. Our home has become a sanctuary for those seeking solace, support, and a chance at a better life. We have provided a strong educational program, grown to include BrightCourse, ECFE, Circles of security, and bible study. A certified Life Coach, Melissa Versich, has worked extensively with our residents. We focus on Mind, Body and Spirit. We have continued to grow our collaborative agency partnerships.

Behind every success story lies a dedicated team of individuals committed to making a difference. At Star of the North Iron Range, we provide 24/7 hour care to our residents, which entails 12 part time paid employees, 15 volunteers, and 2 lead coordinators and a Program Manager. We have been fortunate to assemble a group of passionate professionals who work tirelessly to ensure the well-being of our residents. These Care Coordinators, the backbone of our program, invest their hearts and souls into providing round-the-clock support. We are grateful for our community partnership. Thank you, Kim Fagan

We are so grateful for Kim's founding leadership at SON Iron Range as she moves to a TFLN staff position

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT:

### *Nancy Hyduke*

Long-time Hibbing resident

Nancy Hyduke has a passion for expressing her faith in ways that benefit her community.

In addition to her volunteer work at church and with seniors, Nancy

has been involved with SON Iron Range since it was

only a twinkle in the Father's eye. As a mom, grandma, and retired nurse, she contributes wisdom and kindness to residents and staff alike. We are so grateful for her consistent willingness to volunteer as a driver, overnight and day care coordinator, and, most especially, for her constant prayers for all involved with this ministry.



## RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT

### *Ashley*



Ashley came to SONMHIR in mid-April and has hit the ground running, literally and figuratively. In addition to enjoying jogging, she has been working hard towards reaching her phase 1 goals. Ashley hopes to return to college and eventually to find stable housing for her and her two year old son, Edwin. She is grateful for the opportunity to live at the Iron Range home while she grows stronger in her sobriety and in her walk with God.

### Needs for SON Iron Range:

- Diapers (Size 4 & larger)
- Cleaning Supplies
- Bathrobes and Slippers (L & XL)
- Blender
- Electric Lantern & Flashlights
- AA Batteries

Check out our Target Registry at [www.target.com/gift-registry/gift/starofthenorthironrange](http://www.target.com/gift-registry/gift/starofthenorthironrange)

# SON Twin Ports Center

## COMEDY banquet

FUNDRAISER FOR  
STAR OF THE NORTH MATERNITY HOME

**Saturday, Oct. 14**

**Open Door Church  
Hibbing, MN**

**5:00 pm** | Doors Open

**5:30 pm** | Pasta Dinner

**6:30 pm** | Family-friendly  
Comedy Show

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT:

### *Mary Ann Harris*



One benefit of retirement is a flexible schedule, which former occupational therapist Mary Ann has put to good use. She leads a girl scout troop, volunteers with Chum Duluth, and is a part of a new service to those struggling with poverty called Laundry Love. Even so, she has found time to give to SONMHTP, supporting our residents with time and transportation and wisdom from her own experiences as a mom and grandma. She enjoys camaraderie with other volunteers just as we enjoy having her support. Thanks, Mary Ann, for all you do!

## Thank You Stella Maris Faculty & Students!

We are so thankful for the students at Stella Maris Academy. SON was interviewed by students for their annual non-profit learning exercise and the students then voted on which one to support financially. We were blessed at SON to be selected and are so thankful for the financial donation from our Stella Maris Students. They have also volunteered several times at the home to assist us including Faculty. Thank you!

## Welcome New Volunteers and Staff

### SON TWIN PORTS

Fiamma Adarve

Maddie Erickson, Social Work Intern

Peggy Ricci, New Night Shift Live In

Cindy Weme

Samantha Velander

Chevon Gallagher

Amber Dean

Katie Johnson

George & Margaret Beattie

### SON IRON RANGE

Shannon Scipioni

Mel Cogger

## Needs for SON Twin Ports:

- Queen Mattress (new) and Bed Frame
- Full Mattress (new) and Bed Frame
- Queen & Full Zipper Mattress Covers
- Room Air Purifiers
- Queen & Full size Quilts
- Bathrobes and Slippers (L & XL)
- Trash cans (bedroom size)
- Diapers size 2, 4, 5 and diaper wipes

Check out our Amazon Wishlist at Star of the North Maternity Home



*Maternity Home*

Star of the North Maternity Home  
11 E Superior St, Executive Suites 273  
Duluth, MN 55802



Photo by Jonathon Borba on Unsplash

## **2023 CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

THE TFLN Board has asked us to begin a 2023 Capital campaign as we need to raise \$300,000 for purchase of a home for SON Iron Range. Your generosity, whether through planned giving, a charitable trust or a will designating SON, is truly appreciated. Contact us at [togetherforlifenorthernland@gmail.com](mailto:togetherforlifenorthernland@gmail.com)