

Birthright of Pittsburgh, Inc.

160 N. Craig St., Suite 116, Pittsburgh, PA 15213
The Omega Building
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412-621-1988 hope@birthrightpittsburgh.org

*"It is the right of every pregnant woman to give birth
and the right of every child to be born."*

-Louise Summerhill, founder of Birthright International

**"HOW CAN THERE BE TOO MANY CHILDREN?
THAT IS LIKE SAYING THERE ARE TOO MANY FLOWERS!"**

- ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA



Executive Director Nina Tomko with her husband Matt, two sons Julian (4), Teddy (2) and daughter Giada (2 months)

"You know if you have an "oops", there is always the Plan B Pill." These words are still ringing in my ears. I'm sitting on the table in a medical provider's exam room with my new six-week-old baby in her stroller sleeping. I can't help think about how nonchalant this was said to me as if being offered a Tic-Tac.

I don't believe the provider thinks my baby or any baby is an "oops", but it certainly irked me because it could seem to imply a baby is an "accident" or a "mistake" and we know that isn't true—ever. However, in today's society, many see babies exactly this way.

Unfortunately, obtaining medications that alter a woman's physiology to prevent a pregnancy or "discard pregnancy tissue" has become easier and more common than ever. Often times, instead of seeking assistance to raise their baby, the first question is, "where can I go to get rid of my pregnancy?"

After some reflection of my first year as Director and many conversations with our volunteers and board members, it helped solidify my goal for this year: reach moms sooner in their pregnancies to offer hope, encouragement and support...as well as to let moms know that no baby is an oops.



New Advertising Campaign

Over the past year, our volunteers have been noticing more and more moms coming to us at the end stages of their pregnancies and shortly after they have given birth. While we are **absolutely** here to serve those moms, we want to **reach them earlier** in their pregnancies so that we can offer them maximum support and assistance. So after some discussion, the board has decided to begin **university campus advertising!**



With strategically placed advertisements, we are hoping to reach moms who are **abortion vulnerable** as well as to **create more awareness** that Birthright is here to help them.

Birthright volunteers call their clients weekly to determine what resources or assistance they may need, or just to talk. When women come to us at the end of their pregnancies, we can only offer so much. But if they come to us sooner, we are able to **walk with them** throughout their pregnancy and **build a relationship**. You can see how important it is to reach these moms as soon as possible.

To achieve this goal, **we need your support**, as your donations help us to **save moms and babies!**



OPEN HOUSE

JULY 26, 2025 2-4 PM

**COME SEE OUR NEW OFFICE SPACE AND
LEARN ABOUT BIRTHRIGHT!
OUR DIRECTOR AND VOLUNTEERS WOULD
LOVE TO MEET YOU!**

PLEASE RSVP BY JULY 20 AT 412-621-1988 OR
HOPE@BIRTHRIGHTPITTSBURGH.ORG

Congratulations Mama M!



In March, Birthright had the privilege of hosting a Baby Sprinkle for **Mama M** and her new **baby boy Karan**! A baby sprinkle is a gathering to celebrate a mother and baby the opposite gender of her other children. Mama M has two girls so she was extremely thankful for the sprinkle of boy items.



Thank you to **PCUC** for use of their office space, our **Birthright volunteers** for hosting this event and to the **pro-life community** for the outpouring of love shown to Mama M!



Social Media

If you haven't already, please **like/follow** our Facebook, Instagram and Google Business pages and **leave us a review**. Good reviews help us reach more potential clients and due to confidentiality, our clients/former clients cannot leave reviews as there is **no option** to leave them **anonymously**, so we have to rely on our supporters!



Mother's Day Luncheon

This May, volunteer **Mary** (red plaid top) organized a special **Mother's Day** event for our moms. The afternoon was complete with lunch, a guest massage therapist, baby sitting, shopping and Mother's Day gift bags!



Margie Webb (teal top and beige hat) of **Ahhh A Massage in McMurray, PA** graciously led our guests in a hand massage session to promote relaxation. While the guests practiced their massage skills, their children were able to play in our new nursery with some volunteer baby sitters from **Choose Life Pitt!**



New Online Giving Platform

Please visit our website and check out our new donation platform! This new way of giving helps **consolidate** our donations in one place as well as makes it more **convenient** for you to donate with multiple payment options.

Volunteer Spotlight!

Matthew Zanella—Treasurer



Matthew Zanella holds a bachelor's degree from SUNY Maritime College and graduate degrees in Ocean Engineering from Virginia Tech and National Security and Strategy from the U.S. Naval War College. A Lieutenant Commander in the U.S. Coast Guard, Matthew serves as the Executive Officer of Marine Safety Unit Pittsburgh, where he oversees maritime security, environmental protection, and safety operations across 328 miles of Western Rivers spanning Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia. Previously, he played a key role in managing the Coast Guard's national Port State Control program, overseeing compliance inspections for 18,000 foreign vessels annually. Earlier in his career, he served as a marine inspector in Port Arthur, Texas, where he was recognized for his search and rescue efforts during Hurricane Harvey. Originally from Long Island, New York, Matthew now lives in Mount Lebanon with his wife and three daughters. His family is active in St. Michael the Archangel Parish.

Mariana Kerwin—Client Volunteer

My name is **Mariana**, and I'm originally from Colorado. I went to Florida for college, where I studied biology and was part of a sisterhood/sorority. Mine was inspired by St. Gianna Molla, and we focused on joy, sacrifice, and balance in life, as well as pro-life causes! I returned to Colorado to work for several years after college, but I wanted to explore more, I guess, so I moved to Pennsylvania and am getting a master's degree in human genetics now. I look forward to working in a research lab after I graduate! Although I love biology and being in a lab coat, I also love shopping for cute clothes, and I work part time at J.Crew. In my spare time, I like to explore new places, read, crochet, dance, and sing.



Giada Louise Tomko (Executive Director Nina's new baby girl!)



Giada Louise Tomko was born March 11, 2025 at Jefferson Regional Hospital with the midwives. She is currently Birthright of Pittsburgh's youngest unofficial volunteer. She identifies strongly with Birthright's mission. She loves to drink milk and laugh at her silly big brothers. In her spare time, she likes to relax in the bathtub and sleep. Her mommy hopes that she will one day take a more active official volunteer role.

Current Supply Needs

- **Clothing**

- ⇒ Girls: preemie, 12, 18 & 24 months, 2-4T
- ⇒ Boys: preemie, 6 (NOT 6-9), 18 & 24 months, 2T, 3T
- ⇒ Footed PJs (boy & girl) all sizes

- **Bathing:** baby shampoo, body wash, lotion, hooded towels

- **Diapering:** Diapers sizes 4-8, fragrance free wipes, rash cream

- **Grooming:** Electric nail file sets, comb & brush sets, electric nasal aspirators

- **Baby toys**

- **Thermometers**

- **Cool mist humidifiers**

- **Pacifiers**

FOR A MORE DETAILED LIST WITH EXAMPLES, PLEASE VISIT OUR REGISTRY WEBSITE:

<https://www.myregistry.com/giftlist/birthrightpittsburgh>



Many of the items listed are just suggestions and DO NOT have to be that specific item or brand. Click the item to view NOTES to find out

Birthright of Ghana

www.ourbirthrightghana.org

Donations can be sent to:

78 Freedom Trail, New Castle, DE 19720

If you feel called to help the Birthright mission in Ghana, needed items are:

- Baby clothes for summer only
- Boy and girl gowns, sleepers, onesies in sizes 0-2T
- Diapers, various sizes
- Wipes
- Diaper cream
- Crib sheets
- Receiving blankets
- Maternity clothes, size small



Red Rose Day

Contribution by Meghan Hoerster, Director of Church Relations

The red rose is recognized nationwide as a pro-life symbol. It is our understanding that following Roe v. Wade, pro-life supporters would deliver red roses to the office in the Capitol Building on January 22 in protest of the ruling. The red rose became associated with life and it encouraged members of Congress to support policies that protect all children, including the unborn. Birthright uses the symbol of the red rose for our fundraiser. If you would like to host a Red Rose Day, please do not hesitate to reach out!



Gifts Received...

**In Memory of
Nancy Sullivan**
(Edward Sullivan)

**In Honor of
Marita & Seamus
Maloney**
(James Maloney)

This year so far...

- * **We welcomed 6 babies (including one set of twins) !**
- * Received at least 8 new clients !
- * Fulfilled more than 90 material assistance requests !

**WOULD YOU PREFER AN ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER? EMAIL US AT
HOPE@BIRTHRIGHTPITTSBURGH.ORG!**



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Birthright Online Chat: www.birthright.org

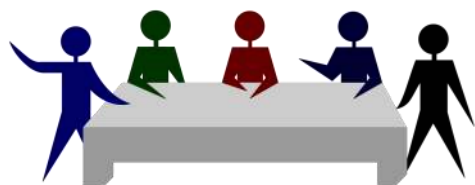
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Birthright needs your prayers, involvement & financial support. We are an interdenominational & nonpolitical nonprofit. Our compassionate & dedicated volunteers provide confidential & free alternatives to abortion.

Nina Tomko, Executive Director, Newsletter Lead Writer & Co-designer

Bonnie Goltz, Newsletter Co-designer

Rosemary Mastrangelo, Newsletter Editor



Join us!

Do you want to get involved in the pro-life movement? We would love to have more volunteers!

For more information, please contact Nina at 412-621-1988.

2025 Board of Directors

Executive Director: Nina Tomko

President: Mark Likoudis

Vice President: James Hite

Secretary: Corey Chuba

Treasurer: Matthew Zanella

Church Relations: Meghan Hoerster

