

2021 BANQUET

290

Guests

\$127,916

Raised

31

Tables

We had a wonderful evening of fellowship as we shared some of our challenges and celebrated the successes – the many stories of lives saved and changed through the ministry of Informed Choices.

Our special guest speaker, Mike Slater, made everyone laugh and inspired us with stories of ordinary people who became heroes. Then, the everyday heroes who support Informed Choices raised an incredible **\$127,916** to ensure our mission continues.

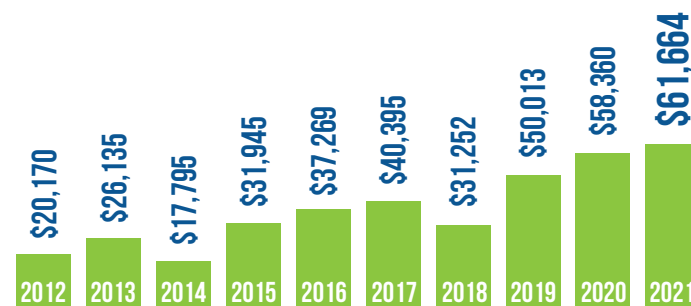


MEN'S LIFE

Informed Choices continues to encourage men to take an active role in the pregnancy decision he is facing with his partner. We strive to include him in the initial visit, the ultrasound, options education and decision-making process. Fathers who choose to parent are encouraged to participate in our healthy pregnancy education, as well as parenting education specifically for fathers. Our Bright Course program has 11 lessons called Being a Father, which talks about what he can do to become a loving father who provides guidance and support – the kind of father their child needs. This information, along with one-on-one conversations with a Men's Life volunteer can equip men for their new role as dad.

HIKE FOR LIFE RAISED \$61,664

Each year, Informed Choices celebrates Mother's Day weekend with our Hike for Life. While some hikers walked remotely, others joined us at Heron Creek Forest Preserve to walk the trails there. Then on May 29th, we wrapped up the event with a live, online celebration to recognize our top fundraisers, draw for raffle prizes and announce another record-breaking Hike for Life with **\$61,664** raised by our Hike participants. Thank you all!



OUR MISSION

Empowering women and men to make informed choices by presenting Jesus Christ to those involved in Pregnancy decisions through provision of physical, emotional and spiritual support.

CRYSTAL LAKE - 815-455-0965

610-1 Crystal Point Drive, Crystal Lake, IL 60014

GRAYSLAKE - 847-231-4651

888 E Belvidere Rd, Grayslake, IL 60030

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Jenny Skarzynski, Assistant Manager

HEALTHY CHOICES

Coreen Huff, SRAS, Director
Debbie Steinberg, Presenter

Tony West, Presenter

MEN'S LIFE VOLUNTEER DIRECTOR

Tom Hackl

NEW LIFE RESALE

Open Tuesday - Saturday 10:00 am - 6:00 pm

55 N Barron Blvd., Grayslake 847-231-5564
616 W Liberty, Wauconda 847-526-0383

EMPOWERING
WOMEN AND
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JESUS CHRIST
TO THOSE
INVOLVED IN
PREGNANCY
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THROUGH
PROVISION
OF PHYSICAL,
EMOTIONAL
AND SPIRITUAL
SUPPORT.



2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Compassion, Hope & Help
For Pregnancy Decisions
support.informedchoices.org



A LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Friends of Informed Choices,

Panic is defined as “sudden uncontrollable fear or anxiety, often causing wildly unthinking behavior”.

Through your generous support, Informed Choices staff and volunteers are here for a women in her time of panic; that moment she realizes....she's pregnant.

What a woman needs at THIS moment isn't the FDA's plan for easier access to abortion pills, it is someone who cares about her and her situation. She needs someone who will provide truthful information about all her options. She needs someone who will encourage her to take some time before making this decision that will forever change her life. She needs prayer. She needs Informed Choices.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR
GENEROUS SUPPORT!

YOUR GIFTS BLESSED
IC WITH A MOST
AMAZING YEAR
FINANCIALLY!

As a 2021 donor, you made it possible for Informed Choices to be here for hundreds of women who called, panicked by an unplanned pregnancy. You helped moms and dads prepare for the birth of their baby. You helped equip men and women as new parents through weekly education. You helped point people to God as we discussed spiritual applications with parenting lessons and offered to pray with every person we had the privilege of serving.

Your partnership helped women (and couples) journey from panicked to prepared....from considering abortion to confident parents and thriving families!

Thank you for your generous support! Your gifts blessed IC with a most amazing year financially. It began with our church partners hosting the first ever no coin, no bottle Baby Bottle Campaign. And it was a big success, raising \$15,000 more than budgeted. That pattern continued as every fundraising event; the Hike for Life, Annual Banquet, and Year End Appeal, as well as our New Life Resale Shops ALL raised more than we planned.

These abundant blessings allowed IC to accomplish some special projects; new ultrasound exam tables, updated carpet at our Grayslake Center, a Spanish version of the Parenting Program, and a new point of sale system for our New Life Resale shops. We ran ads to reach the 37,000 area college students. And we are happy to share that IC was able to pay off the balance of our last remaining Center mortgage!

With your continued support and prayers, we are excited to begin another year of ministry. Please be praying God will lead people to serve with us in 2022, so that our Centers will be fully staffed and fully trained to walk with clients throughout their pregnancy journey.

In His service,
Sarah

PRAYER REQUESTS BY TEXT

Informed Choices now has a system to send PRAYER requests by TEXT. This will allow you to be praying at the very moment a woman considering abortion is seeing her baby on our US screen.

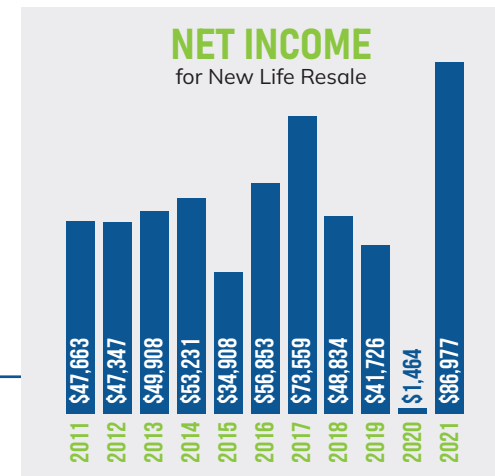
To join with other prayer warriors and start receiving text prayer requests, visit www.ministrytexts.com/informedchoices.



NEW LIFE RESALE

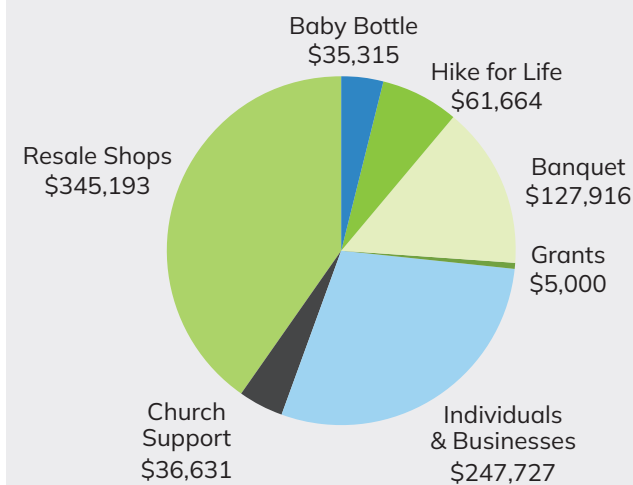
From the very beginning of our ministry, the proceeds from our Wauconda Resale Shop have helped fund the operation of our pregnancy center. We opened our second location in Grayslake back in 2000. Since then, our two shops have been successfully raising funds to support our mission. In 2021, they contributed an outstanding \$86,977!

New Life Resale Shops are managed by Sheryl Ringel and a team of amazing Assistant Managers, but they couldn't do it without the help of many dedicated volunteers. These dear people gave 13,025 hours of their time to sort, price and sell the things that were donated. If you are looking for a fun way to serve our ministry, consider volunteering at New Life Resale. Your donations of gently used clothing, kitchen & household items, home décor and holiday pieces are always needed and appreciated!

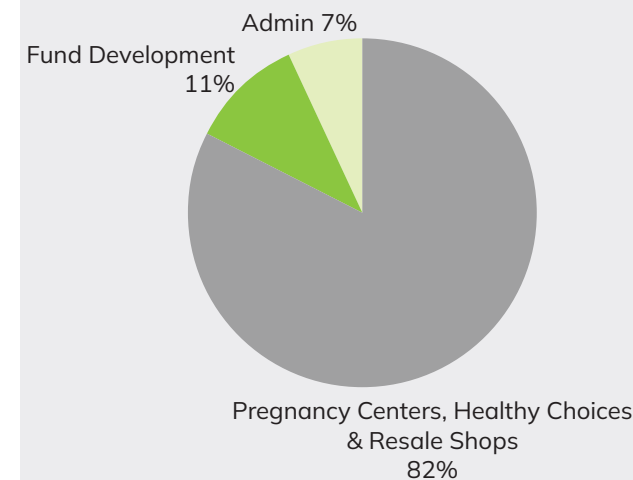


"I came in initially very confused and torn at the decision I had to make. Cheri and her team were very kind and gentle spirited. They helped me through that tough time even when I was not being the nicest, I think because I was about to make a decision I wasn't totally sold on. However, after talks with the father of my baby, we agreed to have our child and I think I knew in the back of my mind it was the strength that I had gotten from Cheri. We are now two weeks away from having our little baby boy and I couldn't be more happier I decided to not make the other choice. Thank you for being there with and for me. Your prayers helped me and God bless you that you are there to help women like me in these times of difficulty." -Kaleigh

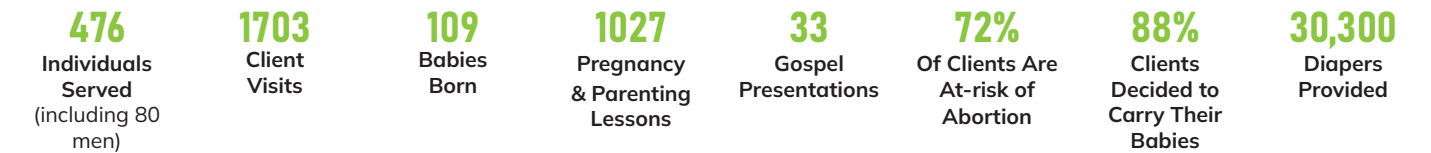
2021 REVENUE



2021 EXPENSES



PREGNANCY CENTERS



Twenty-nine year old Felicia was in her last year of college and working towards a career in social work when she found out she was pregnant. During her first appointment at Informed Choices, she learned about all her options and received an ultrasound.



Felicia said, "I was going to have an abortion, but changed my mind just by coming here and talking it through. Hearing it out loud, I don't want to do that - it doesn't sound like me. I was making an irrational decision. Having someone not judging, just listening...it kinda helped me realized that's not what I wanted. I was doing it out of fear. And now that I have support and someone to talk to about things, I can do this. I'm stronger than I thought I was. I'm gonna get my life together, figure out things I need to do to be successful, and make sure my baby is well taken care of."

For Felicia, that included regular appointments at Informed Choices to learn about labor & delivery, breastfeeding, and infant care so when her daughter, Xamora, was born Felicia felt well equipped to be a mom.

HEALTHY CHOICES

10
Schools

5,059
Students

761
Presentations

The Healthy Choices team worked remotely in our schools for the first half 2021. In the fall, we welcomed Debbie Steinberg to our team of presenters and were overjoyed to be back to school in person. The teachers were thrilled to have us back with them and they appreciated us teaching students how to make physically, mentally, emotionally, socially and spiritually healthy choices in ALL areas of life.

We are so thankful that during this very challenging year, God has continued to open doors so that we can impact the middle school students in our community.

Student Feedback:

"Thank you for talking about topics that need to be discussed with kids my age. I really liked the meaning behind the Future Stick. Thank you for the chocolate after the chocolate challenge. I enjoyed learning about the 3 types of love. I also never know about the group dating" – Ruby, 8 th grade student

