



An Evangelical Child and Family Agency Publication

WINTER 2020



ECFA Onboards Adoption Training with a Christian Perspective

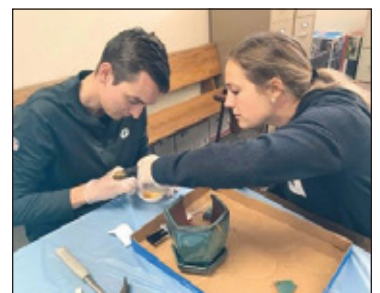
New things are happening in our Adoption Program! We have begun to offer educational training for our adoptive families.

Did you know that when you choose to adopt, you are required by Wisconsin law to obtain 25-educational training hours? Six of those hours must be in-classroom, to cultivate families connecting with one another. The adoption journey is forever, and it's great to meet others on their forever journey.

We are excited to be able to offer this required training from a Christian perspective. ECFA's development of Christian-principled training was two-fold: First, to provide training internally to our adoptive families who had provided feedback on the need and desire for a Christian perspective in adoption, and second, to bring "The Light" to the state of Wisconsin. Anyone choosing to grow their family through adoption can attend our training. What an opportunity we have to share Jesus in the context of an adoptive family building their forever family. The training topics covered in our training include the following:

- Child Development (birth to one)
- Adoptive Parenting
- Brokenness and Healing Craft
- Grief
- Attachment and Conflict-Resolution
- Adoption Panel Discussion

On Saturday, October 12, 2019, ECFA hosted its first-ever adoption, education workshop. This was open to just ECFA families giving us the opportunity to "get the bugs out." As we look to the 2020 calendar, we are offering this training twice, in March and October. God is at work growing ECFA in allowing families a full-service experience on their adoption journey. Can ECFA be stretched further? Yes! Lord, stretch us further! We would love the opportunity to provide this educational training three, four, five, or even six times a year. We covet your prayers. We appreciate your investment in the work of ECFA.





TRANSITIONS

A glimpse of the workings in the office

As 2019 has come to a close, we reflect on a great year as revealed by the number of women and families served by our Pregnancy Support Services (PSS) Program. It was a busy year, one we welcomed! It ended with us saying good-bye to our coworker, Alycia Johnson, who worked with ECFA's PSS program for 4 ½ years as an integral part of our cohesive team of seven women in one office.

As we enter 2020, it looks to be a year of transitions. It began quietly ... some may even say slowly, with eight clients. We were asking the question if there was even a need for a second worker. On January 7th, God gave us direction as we received six intake calls for PSS clients interested in services. On January 14th, we received two more intake calls. As a result, we are going ahead with hiring another PSS worker. If you, or anyone you know, is interested and qualified for the PSS position, please contact Dawn at 262-789-1881.

Needs at ECFA for PSS

- Diapers: Sizes 2, 3, 4
- Wipes
- Backpack Diaper Bags
(see PSS Amazon Wish List on website)
- Dr. Brown Bottles Natural Flow
(small 4 oz, or 5 oz, large 8 oz)
- Books: age 0 to 2 years
- Pants/Leggings (for onesies)
Boys & Girls-size 0 to 24 months

We have an abundance of onesies,
just need bottoms to go with them

Pregnancy Support Service Worker

Evangelical Child & Family Agency is searching for a pregnancy support caseworker of Evangelical Christian faith for the Greater Milwaukee area. To apply, qualified candidates should send a cover letter and current resumé to Dawn Salveson, Supervisor of Social Services at dawns@ecfawisc.org. Top candidates will be contacted to begin the interview and background process.

This position involves the provision of pregnancy counseling and case management services to women and men experiencing a crisis during pregnancy. Life-valuing options of parenting or adoption are encouraged. Community outreach is also an expectation of this position. Salary is based upon education and previous experience.

Prerequisites:

BSW or MSW (MSW is preferred);
Wisconsin CSW licensure desired
Case management and home visitation
experience
A heart for women and families
experiencing a crisis during pregnancy
Personal identification with the Agency's
mission, vision, and values.

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Choose Life

CHOOSE LIFE license plates help support
pro-life centers in the state of Wisconsin.
Do you have yours?

36th Anniversary Celebration Banquet May 15, 2020

Marriott Milwaukee West, W231 N1600 Corporate Court, Waukesha

- **Spotlighting the pro-life and family work of ECFA**
- **Client testimonies**
- **Music by Point of Grace**

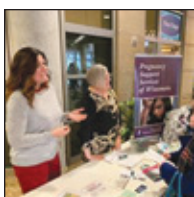


With over eight million recordings sold, three GRAMMY® nominations, multiple Dove awards, and countless accolades, Point of Grace is “the story of a few gifted college girls with a simple passion to unite and share their musical gifts for the Glory of God.” They continue to evolve and engage thousands of fans, both old and new. Each new season of life seems to challenge the trio to reach higher and dig deeper. Their love and support for issues of women and girls is why they have been invited to be a part of ECFA’s 36th Anniversary Celebration.

Please mark your calendar for this wonderful evening of client stories, pertinent pro-life information, and the unique music of Point of Grace. Watch your mailbox in early spring for your invitation, or register online after Easter. An opportunity will be given that evening to support the ministry of ECFA.

Spring Creek Church Blesses Our Ministry

On Sunday, December 8th, Jennie Tietjen spoke briefly in both worship services on the pro-life and adoption efforts of the Agency. Before she began her remarks, Pastor Chris Brown presented a check for \$5,000 to the agency. Jennie gifted Pastor Chris with a red rose and baby’s breath to represent the lives saved through their financial commitment to ECFA for more than 30 years. She related the story, about Alicia, from the Pregnancy Support Services program and thanked the church for their faithful support.



Dawn LeVan-Salveson, Social Services Supervisor, at an ECFA table in the church lobby to answer questions and share information. What a perfect opportunity to speak one-on-one with people about the ministry of ECFA.



ECFA is very grateful for its supporting churches and wish to especially thank the people of Spring Creek Church.

2nd Benefit Auction – Friday, November 22, 2019

“Going once, going twice, SOLD to paddle number...!” These were the words heard again from Dan Pronley, the auctioneer at the “live” part of ECFA’s second Benefit Auction on November 22nd. One hundred and fifty-five guests came out to support the mission of ECFA that evening. That is a 50% increase over last year! What an encouragement to all at the agency.



Jennie Tietjen, Director of Development and Facilities for ECFA, welcomed everyone that evening. The atmosphere was lovely with colorful balloons and soothing piano music playing in the background provided by Josh Rush. The guests were enjoying their complimentary hot apple cider beverages as they walked among the tables viewing more than 270 silent auction items and placing their individual bids on multiple, desired items. The auction committee was so thankful that 99% of the items sold at this event were donated to the agency by many businesses and individuals.



The appetizers served by the Sheraton Hotel were generous, hearty, and delicious! With the added attendance, the lines were long, but that will be corrected for the next auction. The night was busy with browsing of tables and periodically checking bids and (of course) adjusting them upward. Lots of laughter and conversation could be heard throughout the room as some guests met old friends while bidding on items.

Ken Withrow, Executive Director of ECFA, provided a brief update on the work of both offices in Illinois and Wisconsin. He has longevity with ECFA that extends back to 1976, when he began as a caseworker.



The time came to close one-half of the silent auction tables. As Jennie Tietjen counted down from 10...9...8...to 0, people were asked to put their pens down and step away from the tables. Volunteers marked the winning bid, and results were entered



into the auction database. Fifteen minutes later, the process was repeated for the remaining tables.

The evening was proceeding enjoyably as the live auction began. Dan Pronley skillfully took the experience to a new level of fun. He creatively presented each of the 12 items, which resulted in enthusiastic and generous bidding.



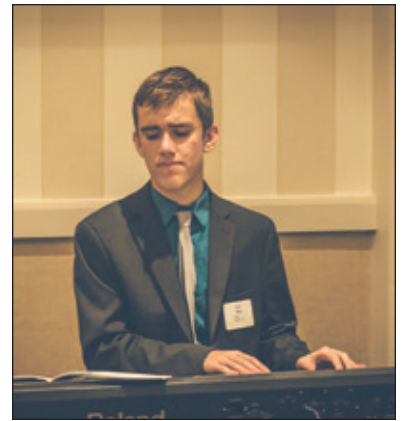
Three-quarters of the way through the live auction, Jennie introduced a faithful donor for more than 20 years-her husband, Dave Tietjen. He expressed appreciation for the generosity in giving, volunteering, and praying for ECFA by those in attendance. He spoke of the needs at

the agency which were all related to the facility, such as improved HVAC system, added insulation, and electrical improvements. These upgrades would benefit staff and clients and preserve the witness of a well-maintained building to the community.



The special need was presented to guests along with the promise of a generous \$5,000 matching gift. Dan gently asked for donations starting at the \$1,000 level. When he was finished, more than \$10,000 was given for work at the agency. Again this year, staff and the auction committee were overwhelmed with the bigheartedness of God's people to ECFA.

A huge and heartfelt thank you is given to the ladies of the Auction Committee. Many hands and hours were expended over the year to make this event a success. Thank you, Darleen Snyder, Elisa Shane, Nancy Roets, Micki Schmitz, Annette Cernohous, Dawn Salveson, Sue Carlson, and Jennie Tietjen. Two years in a row...you did a great job!



Please mark your calendar for Friday, November 20, 2020, as ECFA's next auction date. Feel free to invite family and friends to allow them an opportunity to start their holiday shopping with ECFA and support the agency's pro-life and family work!



**3rd ECFA
Benefit Auction
November 20, 2020**

Sheraton 375 S Moreland Rd, Brookfield

BUILDING RESTORATION

It has been over a year and a half since a fire destroyed our facility on north Main Street in Wheaton. Since that time, much of the building has been restored. The interior walls have been constructed and painted, the concrete floors leveled, and the plumbing and electrical wiring throughout the building have been replaced. A number of things are being completed including the installation of floor coverings, kitchen cabinets and countertops, interior and external doors, exterior siding, and final interior trim work.

Furnishings are to be delivered by late-January and we anticipate moving back into the building in early February. We are

thankful for the temporary offices in downtown Wheaton and in Lisle and the storage area we have been provided by Nathan Hancock in Carol Stream. But as the saying goes, “*There is no place like home,*” and we are very much looking forward to moving back to 1530 N. Main Street in Wheaton very soon!



*Preparing
A Christian
Will*

Is it Time to Make Your Will?

You need no longer delay this critical matter. Call 262-789-1881 to request our workbook “Preparing a Christian Will.” It will guide you through the process to gathering the information that is needed by your attorney to draft your personal document.

There is no charge or obligation.

amazon smile

If you are an Amazon.com customer,
you may choose

“Evangelical Child & Family Agency”
as your favorite charity on AmazonSmile.

AmazonSmile will donate 1/2%
of your purchase to ECFA of Wisconsin.

Any questions, contact the office.



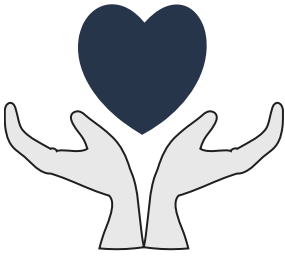
us on



ECFA has two pages on the social media networking site.

Evangelical Child & Family Agency of Wisconsin
and **Pregnancy Support Services of Wisconsin.**

News is posted from the office. We are also trying to “drive more people” to our pages. “Like” and “Share” them with friends and family who would like to hear about ECFA’s pro-life efforts.



With A Grateful Heart

There is a continual outpouring of blessings received by this ministry.
As a result, there are many individuals to be grateful for in each quarterly newsletter.
"I will give thanks to the Lord with all my heart; I will tell of the wonders." Psalm 9:1

♥ Thank you to all the dedicated volunteers who assembled a mailing for the agency on October 9th, October 17th, December 3rd & December 10th:

Gloria Anderson	Anita Julius
Ron & Jan Baer	Beverly Kuntzsch
Pat Bradley	Sue Kusnierz
Annette Cernohous	Karen Ridder
Wanda Cosby	Nancy Roets
Joyce Dankert	Jane Runnels
Kathy Dow	Micki Schmitz
Charlene Duranceau	Dave Tietjen
Nancy Farrell	Leah Valentine
Sharon Fuller	Margo Whitcomb
Pamela Grande	Tina Wienss
Margo Hoffman	Judy Zwitter
Carol Honeyager	Friends of ECFA

Serving at Our Office:

- ♥ Many faithful years of after-hours phone coverage by Sandy Conrath, Tina Heald & Christine Howard.
- ♥ AscendNet IT Solutions - always ready to help us with our phones, computers & internet.
- ♥ Downstairs painting & wall repair by a friend of ECFA.
- ♥ Putting up, decorating and taking down of our Christmas tree by Anita Julius.
- ♥ Blowing of leaves around our office building, twice, by a friend of ECFA.

Pregnancy Support Services/Baby Blessings Boutique:

- ♥ Baby wipes and baby clothes from Leah Valentine.
- ♥ Diapers, baby wipes, baby clothes and blankets from Holy Apostles Anglican Church, Pewaukee.
- ♥ Diapers, baby socks, blanket buddy & baby clothes from the Seasoned Salt Seniors of Grace Community Church.
- ♥ Backpack and baby clothing from the Luebke family.

- ♥ Baby wipes, preemie swaddlers, sippy cups, baby powder and baby outfits from Carol Honeyager.
- ♥ Baby pants and baby bottles from Cheryse Revie.
- ♥ Diapers and baby bottles from Lori Cottrill.

Miscellaneous Gifts:

- ♥ Christmas gift of cheese and sausage from Grady, Hayes & Neary, LLC.
- ♥ Christmas gift of cheese, sausage, crackers, and pretzels from Eagle Printing.

Memorials

In loving memory of: My husband, Mike
Chernouski
From: Barbara Chernouski



In loving memory of: My husband, Jerome
Pogorzelski
From: Barb Pogorzelski



In loving memory of: My husband, Jeff Jensen
From: Suzanne Jensen



In loving memory of: My husband, Dr. Michael
Halcomb
From: Bonnie Halcomb

Tributes

In honor of: My friend, Leah Valentine
From: Rosemarie Luthi



In honor of: My sister, Jennie Tietjen
From: David McDonald



In honor of: My wife, Sue Armstrong
From: John Armstrong



In honor of: Our grandson, Caleb Diller
From: Raymond & Elaine Diller



Evangelical Child
& Family Agency
1617 South 124th Street
New Berlin, WI 53151

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Mark Your Calendar for 2020

Volunteer Appreciation Activity: Milwaukee Admirals vs. Manitoba Moose
at UW-Milwaukee Panther Arena, on Friday, March 13 at 7 pm

36th Anniversary Celebration Banquet
Friday, May 15, Doors open - 6 pm, Dinner - 6:30
Marriott Milwaukee West, W231N1600 Corporate Court., Waukesha



34th Bike & Hike Fundraiser, Supporting Moms, Dads, & Babies
Saturday, September 12 at 9 am, on the Fox River Trail at
Bethesda Park Shelter in Waukesha
560 Dunbar Ave, Waukesha



3rd Benefit Auction, on November 20,
Sheraton 375 S Moreland Rd, Brookfield

ECFA's
**Bike
& HIKE!**
Supporting Moms, Dads & Babies

For information about these events, contact Sue at the office 262.789.1881 or suec@ecfawisc.org