

## Ways You Can Help

### Baby Bottle Drive

A baby bottle drive is a simple and effective way to engage your community in fundraising for local pregnancy centers and maternity homes. As the name suggests, the drive uses baby bottles to collect loose change, cash and checks from donors.

### Baby and Maternity Item Drives

Pregnancy resource centers and maternity homes are in dire need of supplies. Sponsor baby or maternity item drives to collect essential items like diapers, wipes, and clothing. While babies are usually the main beneficiary of these events, the needs of pregnant women and new mothers should also be considered a top priority.

### Pregnancy Center or Maternity Home Open House

Pregnancy centers and maternity homes sometimes host “open houses” in which volunteers and their communities are invited to attend. These open houses raise awareness of the organization’s services and offer an opportunity to meet the center’s leadership and staff. Help pregnancy centers and maternity homes host these important events and tie-in fundraising activities before or during the event.

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To learn more about the  
**ASAP initiative, visit:**

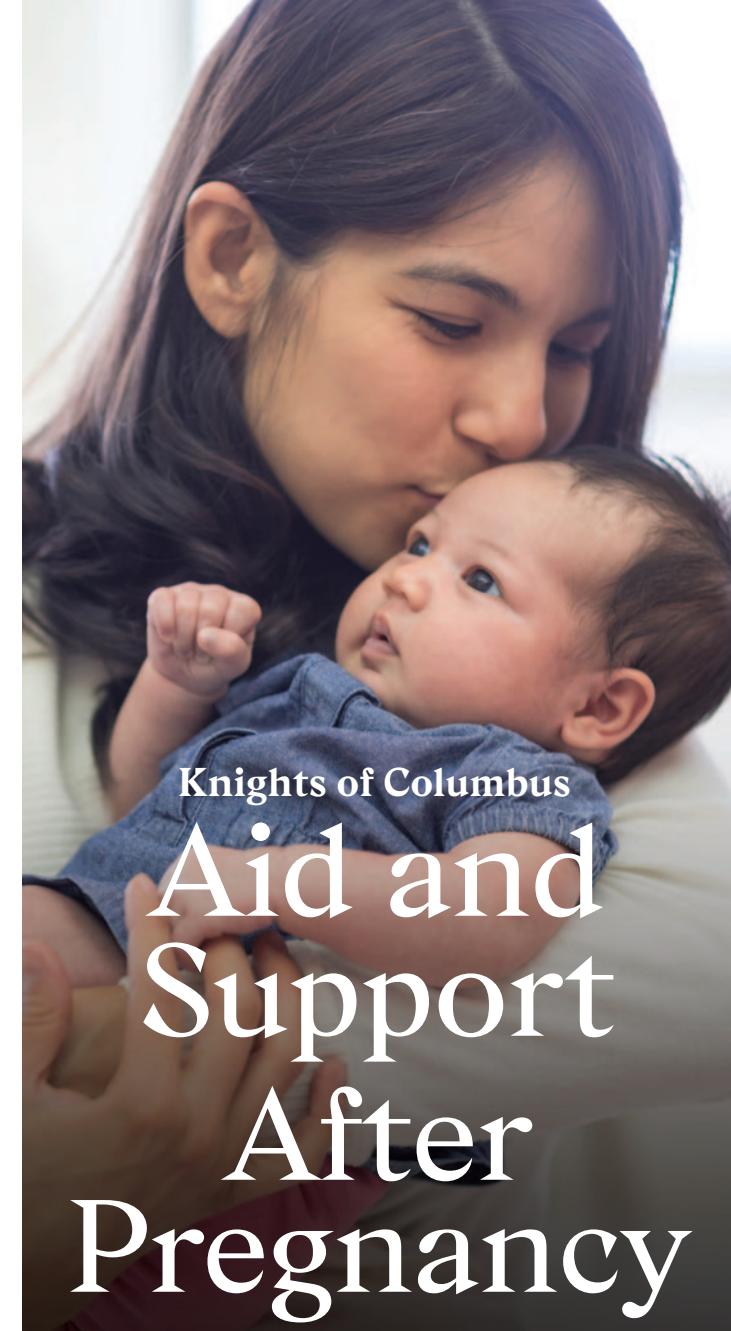
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## What is Aid and Support After Pregnancy (ASAP)?

Aid and Support After Pregnancy (ASAP), describes the Knights of Columbus' efforts to support pregnant women, mothers and their babies by serving pregnancy resource centers and maternity homes.

Through ASAP, for every \$500 a council or assembly donates to a qualifying non-profit pregnancy resource center or maternity home, the Supreme Council will issue a \$100 grant to the same qualifying organization.

There are a variety of activities you can organize to qualify for ASAP funds – most fall within the categories of financial support and material assistance:

- Financial Support includes: direct donations, Baby Bottle Drives, proceeds from fundraisers, open houses, etc.
- Material Assistance includes: donations of baby items (equipment, food, formula, diapers, wipes), clothes (maternity, baby, infant and toddler) and other items often listed on a center's or maternity home's website.



Photo by Rya Duncklee

## What is the need?

Pregnancy resource centers provide assistance to nearly 2 million clients each year. These organizations, and the women and babies they serve, are in dire need of financial contributions, donations of material goods, and other volunteer services. Despite the essential services pregnancy resource centers provide to women and their new children, 90% of funding for pregnancy centers is raised locally and 80% of centers receive no government funding.

Last year, Knights donated more than \$5 million to support these centers and the women and children they serve through cash donations and community service activities such as baby and maternity item drives. These life-saving organizations would not be able to provide the level of assistance women and children need without support from the Knights of Columbus and collaborating parish communities.

## How can I get involved?

Pregnancy resource centers and maternity homes can be found by searching through databases available at [heartbeartinternational.org](http://heartbeartinternational.org), [pregnancycarecanada.ca](http://pregnancycarecanada.ca) and [birthright.org](http://birthright.org) – among others. Local Catholic Charities, the Sisters of Life, diocesan pregnancy resource centers, and other organizations are also in need of support. Contact your local diocese for centers in your area that are qualified to receive support. Many parishes are already involved with local pregnancy centers. Visit [kofc.org/asap](http://kofc.org/asap) or contact your local Knights of Columbus council to learn more and get involved.



Photo by Todd Joyce