

**CALHOUN COUNTY RESOURCES FOR PREGNANT WOMEN
AND INFANTS**

**Sallie Shears
Summit Pointe
May 2007**

Calhoun County Resources for Pregnant Women and Infants, 2007

211 System

34 W. Jackson St., Suite 4A

Battle Creek, MI 49017

Land Line: 211

Agency phone line: 269-966-4189

From cell phone: 269-565-4159 (Battle Creek);

other areas from cell phone: 800-250-5628

24-Hour phone line for human service and community resource information. 211 has an extensive data base of local agencies and resources and is the information hub for both clients and agency staff. 211 can also provide information for people who would like to give something back to the community by volunteering or making a donation in the community.

AIM, Albion Interfaith Ministry

118 W. Porter St.

Albion, MI

517-629-5260

AIM provides assistance to Albion residents, including crib referrals.

Alternative Education for Pregnant and Parenting Teens

Battle Creek Public Schools

Calhoun Area Technology Center

475 E. Roosevelt Avenue

Battle Creek, MI 49017

269-968-2271, ext.229

Or your local school counselor

Benefits of attending Alternative Education:

Earn full academic credit toward graduation.

Learn about pregnancy, child development, and parenting.

Receive preparation for labor and delivery through LaMaze classes.

Continue education without interruption in a positive, supportive environment

Obtain support services from over 20 community agencies working with pregnant and parenting teens.

Eligibility:

Any pregnant student who has not completed junior or senior high school.

Class Instruction includes the following:

- Parenting Skills
- Personal, Prenatal and Infant Health
- Nutrition
- Child Growth and Development
- Life skills
- Home and Family Living
- Individualized Academic Support

Battle Creek Health System

**300 North Avenue
Battle Creek, MI 49016**

Childbirth Classes: to register or for more information, please call (269) 966-8019

Prepared Childbirth

Focus is preparing for infant's birth. This series discusses stages of labor and delivery as well as practicing breathing and relaxation techniques to assist you during pregnancy and delivery. There is a registration fee of \$35.00

Prenatal Breastfeeding Classes

This single class, taken before the birth of the baby, will give information about why breastfeeding is recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics as the healthiest way to feed an infant. Moms learn basic information about getting started as well as other practical tips about fitting the new baby and breastfeeding into life. Taught by a certified lactation consultant, moms will have continued support from her after the birth of the baby. Fathers or other support persons are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Held at the Outpatient Center. Fee: None

Siblings Class--"Starting Together"

A special class for the big brother or sister to be. A fun 1 1/2 hour to talk about babies, see where mom will stay in the hospital, see a real baby, and learn about what it might feel like to have a new baby at the house.

Held at the Outpatient Center. Fee: \$10/family

BCHS Lactation Consultant Services

Susan Gehrman RN, IBCLC, CCE

(269) 966-8586 (can also be paged by hospital operator)

Monday – Friday 8:30-5:00 pm

Services offered:

- Prenatal Breastfeeding Classes
- Prenatal breast assessment for mothers with breast augmentations, reductions, or anomalies.
- Inpatient teaching, breastfeeding assessment and assistance.
- Consultation for breastfeeding patients in other areas of the hospital (ER, Pediatrics, Surgery, Medical-Surgical units).
- Outpatient consultation for feeding difficulty, poor weight gain, low milk supply, assessment of feeding, assessment of nipple pain, pumping issues.
- Phone triage for questions, problem solving and/or encouragement, safety of medications and breastmilk.
- Staff inservice (Hospital or Office) or Speaker

Little Angel Rest: Bev Kelley, Pastoral Care (BCHS): 269-966-8000

Grief Support for pregnancy or infant loss.

Burial arrangements

Calhoun County Department of Human Services

190 E. Michigan Avenue

Battle Creek, MI 49014

269-966-1284

Medicaid for Pregnant Women and Children under 19 Years of Age

To apply: Fill out the MiChild and Healthy Kids Application (DCH 0373)

For Pregnant Women, the income of the applicant and her spouse are counted. For a child, the child's income and income of the parents is counted.

The applicant must be a Michigan resident and intend to remain in Michigan. A Social Security Number must be provided by the applicant and they must be either a citizen or a legal alien.

There is no asset test.

NOTE: If pregnant women are ineligible for Medicaid, Healthy Kids or MiChild, there is one other program that she may qualify for: Maternal Outpatient Medical Services program (MOMS); information and applications are available from the Calhoun Health Plan at 269-969-6462.

Calhoun County Extension
Michigan State University Extension

Breastfeeding Initiative (BFI)
Family Nutrition Program (FNP)
MSU Extension
315 W. Green Street
Marshall, MI 49068
269-781-0784

Sidney Olson, (FNP and BFI)
solson@calhouncountymi.gov

Heather Peterson (BFI)
hpeterson@calhouncountymi.gov

The Breastfeeding Initiative program provides WIC and Food Stamp eligible women with breastfeeding information, encouragement and support. Staff is available to see mothers in person or by telephone, in the home, the WIC clinic or a public facility. Support can be provided throughout the first year of the infant's life, or as long as breastfeeding is continued.

The Family Nutrition Program offers a series of lessons either one-on-one or in groups in the areas of food budgeting, food safety, food preparation, menu planning, dietary guidelines and other nutrition topics requested by the clients.

Both programs provide services to anyone eligible for or receiving WIC coupons and or food stamp benefits.

Infant Safe Sleep Tipcards are available from Sidney Olson.

Calhoun County Health Department
190 E. Michigan Ave.
Battle Creek, MI 49016

Telephone numbers:

Administration:	969-6370
CSHCS	969-6390
Clinic Services (Immunizations, STD, Family Planning)	969-6370
Environmental Health	969-6341
Nursing Clinic	962-6565
WIC	966-1230
Marshall Office	781-0909
Albion Office	517-629-9434, or 866-303-5255

Children’s Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) 269-969-6390: for children and some adults with special health care needs and their families. Children must have a qualifying medical condition and be 20 years of age or younger. Persons 21 and over with cystic fibrosis or certain blood clotting disorders also may qualify. The program helps persons with chronic health problems by providing:

- Coverage and Referral for specialty services, based on your child’s health problems.
- Family-Centered Services to support you in your role as the primary caretaker of your child.
- Community-Based Services to help you care for your child at home and maintain normal routines.
- Culturally Competent Services that demonstrate an awareness of cultural differences.
- Coordinated Services to pull together the services of many providers who work within different agencies.

CSHCS works with you to ensure that you or your child receive the very best care. CSHCS assists with:

- Paying specialty medical bills.
- Coordinating services from multiple providers.
- Learning about specialty providers like doctors, hospitals and clinics.
- Coordinating health insurance benefits.
- Covering co-pays or deductibles.

Calhoun County Public Health Department, Immunization Clinic
269-969-6370

Calhoun County Public Health Department WIC Clinics: Battle Creek, Marshall, Albion; see separate listing under “WIC”

CALHOUN Health Plan

Toeller Building

190 East Michigan Avenue, Suite 385

Battle Creek, MI 49014

269-969-6462

Toll Free: (866) 562-9812

The Calhoun Health Plan serves as a resource for the uninsured and underinsured. Programs assist those who cannot afford to pay for medical services or prescription medications. The Calhoun Health Plan administers the Medicaid Adult Benefit Waiver program (ABW/Plan A). The Calhoun Health Plan B covers basic services (doctor’s office visits, laboratory work, X-rays, and generic medications). Eligibility is limited to Calhoun County residents between the ages of 19—64 who have no other health

coverage and is below income limits (call for the specifics). The Calhoun Health Plan also provides assistance in advocacy and referral to other Calhoun County resources regarding health or wellness-related concerns.

The Calhoun Health Plan can assist with enrollment in MICHild and Healthy Kids (for children 19 and under) and the MOMs program for prenatal services. Call the number listed above for more information.

Calhoun Intermediate School District Early Childhood Programs

Calhoun Early On Program
Deb Fiesel, Coordinator
Calhoun ISD Pre-Primary Special Education
269-660-1606, or 800-323-0040

Call for more information regarding eligibility and services.

CAR SEAT Information
From the Child Abuse Prevention Council
Contact: Karmel Puzzoli
962-2562

The CAN Council has limited funds for Car Seats; funding is an annual grant from the Michigan Children's Trust Fund and local fund raising activities. Referrals are accepted from Social Workers, advertising is word-of-mouth. Eligibility is for families without other resources or options. The CAN Council works with the Michigan State Police Post who provide installation and training with the clients. Community Car Seat Clinics are scheduled throughout the year at local auto dealerships; dates are publicized in the local media.

CARE: Consultation And Resources for Early Education
269-781-4443
pospath@sbcglobal.net
A program of Summit Pointe

CARE is a free program that offers support and consultation for parents and child care providers when children ages 0—5 are having difficulty in child care. The CARE program serves families and child care providers in Calhoun County. The program is intended to provide prevention services and is funded through a grant from the Michigan Department of Community Health.

Tuesday	8:00a.m. – 4p.m.	blue cards only	(A-F)
Wednesday	8:00a.m. – 4p.m.	yellow cards only	(G-N)
Thursday	8:00a.m. – 4p.m.	pink cards only	(O-Z)
Friday *	7a.m. – 1p.m.	any color card	
2 nd Saturday	9a.m. – 12p.m.	any color card	

*The client store is closed the last Friday of each month for inventory

Special needs require additional referral:

- **Fire victims:** In addition to the clothing in the client store, children would receive new underwear, socks and school outfit, bedding, towels, washcloths, dishes, silver, pots/pans, personal hygiene products. *We recommend clients go to the Red Cross first for referral.*
- **New Residence:** *referral must come from caseworker or agency working directly with the client.*
- **Steel toed shoes:** *referrals normally come from business or back-to-work agency.*
- **Work or Interview clothing:** *referral can come from any community agency.*
- **Layettes:** *birth record from hospital or caseworker.*
- **Funeral clothing:** *referral can come from any community agency.*
- **Shoes:** *referral from Battle Creek Public Schools.*

In addition to the items available in the client store, clients receive:

- Annually a set of sheets and a blanket or bedspread or comforter (these are normally given out during the birth month of the head of household)
- In August and April, school clothing—this includes a new or gently used pair of pants and shirt, or dress, and one new pair of underwear and two new pair of socks.
- In October, we begin handing out winter coats, hats, mittens/gloves and boots and continue through March.
- Government blankets are available October through March when supplies are available.
- We try to give out new blankets during the month of December or January depending on funding resources.

The Charitable Union accepts donations during the Gift Shop Hours. Clothing for infants, children and in larger adult sizes is especially helpful.

Child Care Resources

**3304 Mindi Lane
Kalamazoo, MI 49001
269-349-3296
800-343-3470, 866-424-4532
WorkFamilySolutions.com**

Kalamazoo Regional 4C agency (Community Coordinated Child Care)

CCR helps parents find child care; works to build the supply of child care, works to improve the quality of child care; and documents needs and trends.

Child Care Resources (CCR) provides:

- Referrals to licensed child care programs in the 8 county service area.
- Education and information about choosing quality child care.
- Personal support and consultation.
- Information about financial assistance programs and child care rates by community.

CCR also provides assistance to child care providers and to businesses.

Community Action Agency (CAA)

Education and Children's Services

P.O. Box 1026

175 Main Street

Battle Creek, MI 49016

(269) 965-7769

Fatherhood/Male Involvement: (269) 441-1372

The Fatherhood/Male Involvement Program is open to all men involved in the life of a child living in Barry, Calhoun or St. Joseph Counties. The program objectives are:

- Provides parenting classes to support positive parenting.
- Promotes social, personal and parental responsibility of fathers.
- Provides opportunities to discuss various issues that male role models are facing in family life today.
- Organizes Peer Support groups for encouragement and accountability.
- Offers family outings to encourage involvement and promotes family development.
- Increases father and male involvement in the lives of children through special programs and training opportunities.

Other CAA Programs Offered:

- Head Start/ Michigan School Readiness Program half day sessions
- Latino After School and Summer Enrichment Program
- Early Head Start/ Head Start full day sessions
- Expectant Mothers Program (EHC)
- Foster Grandparent Program
- Fatherhood Program

Crib Referrals

211 in Battle Creek

AIM (Albion Interfaith Ministry) in Albion; 517-629-5260

There are 2 community resources for Pack ‘n’ Play cribs, one in Albion and one in Battle Creek. Referrals are coordinated through the 211 system. Clients are responsible for arranging to pick up the Pack’n’Play with the site volunteers.

Infant Safe Sleep information (Brochures, DVD, Tip-Cards): Regional Health Alliance at 269-962-5992 (brochures, DVD), or Tomorrow’s Child 800-331-7437 (brochures, posters, door hangers); Tipcards are available from Calhoun County Extension (Sidney Olson 269-781-0784).

Family & Children Services

535 E. Emmett Street
Battle Creek, MI 49017
269-965-3247
www.fcsource.org

Parent Infant Program (PIP):
Sheila Hibbs, MA, LLPC, LBSW
(269) 965-3247 ext. 716

PIP services are requested by parents of any age who are coping with mental health challenges and are pregnant or have a child under age four. PIP services are family centered and build upon individual and family strengths in increase personal and community supports, promote healthy family functioning, and strengthen the critical parent-child bond. PIP provides comprehensive treatment partnering therapeutic and case management services for the family, offering flexible scheduling and a variety of treatment services including: family, individual, and play therapy, couples counseling, substance abuse treatment, and parenting support.

Healthy Connections Calhoun County, Parent Education and Support,
(269) 965-3247

Healthy Connections offers the opportunity for parents to learn much more about raising a baby or toddler. It will help in preparation for the variety of challenges faced by all parents during the first four years of a child’s life:

- Infant/Child Safety
- Sleep Issues
- Discipline
- Medical
- Behavioral
- Toilet Training

Parent Educators provide:

- Weekly home visits scheduled at your convenience
- Parenting education
- Age-appropriate activities for children

- Playgroups for families and children
- Help in connecting you with services your family may need
- Healthy Connections support to help answer your questions and concerns
-

Teen Parent Program

(269) 965-3247

The Teen Parent Program is designed to provide services and teach the parenting skills parents want to have as they create a bright future for their family. Included are:

- 24-Hour Crisis Hotline
- Home-Based Services and Community Referrals, including assessment of basic needs, goal and outcome identification
- Group Support and Parenting Training

You Are Your Child's Compass

(269) 965-3247

You Are Your Child's Compass is a series of workshops designed for parents of children, ages 2-17 years, that will create the foundation necessary to help children become responsible adolescents and adults.

Parents will learn positive strategies for helping their children make healthy decisions, so they will be able to resist premature sexual activity, teen drinking and violence. Parents will receive information and support to raise healthy and happy children to adulthood.

Family Health Center of Battle Creek

Women's Health Services

181 West Emmett St.

Battle Creek, MI

269-441-3443

Provides health care services for women, including obstetric (prenatal) and gynecologic services.

Family Health Center of Battle Creek

181 W. Emmett St.

Battle Creek, MI 49017

269-965-8866

Albion office:

115 Market Place

Albion

(517) 629-6540

Family Health Center provides a comprehensive set of health care services including medical, dental, immunizations, and have an on site Spanish translator. Services are for infants, children, teens, and adults.

Food Bank of South Central Michigan

5451 Wayne Rd.

Springfield, MI 49015

964-3663

www.foodbankofscm.org

The Food Bank serves as a solicitor, storehouse and distributor of food on behalf of nonprofit charity groups serving the needy. The Food Bank of South Central Michigan supplies a number of non-profit member agencies. These agencies operate emergency shelters, soup kitchens, food pantries, senior citizen programs, after school programs and day care centers. Provides food and related items to a network of community food pantries and participating agencies in Calhoun County. For a referral to a participating food pantry, call 211.

Gentiva Health Services

5401 Portage Road

Kalamazoo, MI 49002

www.gentiva.com

800-444-8427

269-381-5620

Maternal Infant Health Program (MIHP):

Home visits are provided by a team consisting of a Social Worker, R.N., and Dietician. Eligibility criteria include Medicaid, or uninsured adolescent mother, nutritional problem, alcohol or substance abuse during pregnancy, poor support system, mother with cognitive or behavioral health disability, a low birthweight infant, an infant with a failure to thrive diagnosis, family history of abuse or neglect, homelessness, transportation needs, or need for childbirth education. Services includes referrals to free parenting classes, assistance with transportation to any appointments related to prenatal care for the mother, or infant care for baby.

Referrals may be made directly to Gentiva Health Services.

The Haven

11 Green Street

Battle Creek, MI 49014

269-965-1148

The Haven of Rest Ministries offers two programs to assist homeless families. These programs provide necessary steps that lead individuals to self-sufficiency and productivity:

- Women and Children's Shelter: the women and children's emergency shelter. Provides emergency food and shelter to women and their children on a temporary basis (30-60 days). Advocacy, support, case management, and referral to local social services agencies are available through qualified shelter staff. Working in conjunction with local agencies, clients are able to receive medical, psychological and legal assistance. Safe, secure recreational facilities are available for children.
- Family Transitional Housing Program (WIN)

This program is a six month to two year transitional housing program for one and two parent families. The WIN program is designed to provide long-term life skills and management training to families whose poor life skills keep them in a continual cycle of poverty and homelessness. Intensive hands-on case management and mentoring are the framework vital to building better living and thinking skills. The WIN Program aids the client in learning to meet the responsibility of living independently and functioning as a participant in the larger community.

The Haven also provides a Men's Shelter, Life Recovery Program, Jail Ministry, and Adult Foster Care services.

LaLeche League of Marshall/Battle Creek

Suzanne 789-1537

Breastfeeding Information and Support

- Monthly Meetings
- Mother-to-Mother Support
- Lending Library: books on breastfeeding, childbirth, parenting and nutrition
- 24 Hour Phone Help
- New Beginnings: a bimonthly journal for parents

Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in the Marshall District Library, 124 West Green St., Marshall. Meetings are free and open to all pregnant women, mothers, and their babies and children.

Lifespan

Visiting Nurse Services

Good Samaritan Hospice Care

Lifespan Home Medical Equipment

166 E. Goodale Ave.

Battle Creek, MI 49017

269-660-3600

Lifespan is a private, nonprofit organization consisting of three divisions: Visiting Nurse Services, Good Samaritan Hospice, and Home Oxygen & Medical Equipment.

Visiting Nurse Services:

- Referrals may be made by anyone (usually from hospital or physician's office).
- Physician's orders are required for services.
- Skilled need is necessary. This refers to a new diagnosis, change in condition, or a change in the treatment plan. A skilled visit involves assessment, skilled procedures, and/or teaching to the client or caregiver.
- Homebound status is usually required by the insurance company.
- Multidisciplinary team approach is provided: nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, social worker, speech therapy, and dietician. Goals and objectives are coordinated on a regular basis.
- Interagency coordination/collaboration is an integral part of services.

MATERNAL (examples of skilled needs)

- Gestational Diabetes
- Hyperemesis gravidarum (requiring TPN)
- Pregnancy induced hypertension
- Preterm labor

INFANT (examples of skilled needs)

- Pre-maturity with O₂, apnea monitor, or feeding problems
- Intravenous/intramuscular antibiotic therapy
- Post hospitalization for surgical interventions (i.e., cardiac or thoracic surgery, placement of gastrostomy tube, tracheostomy tube)
- New or exacerbated medical conditions (i.e., asthma, pneumonia)
- Wound care (i.e., incisions, burns, ulcerations)

Hospice

- Referrals may be made by anyone.
- Physician's order required for services.
- An informational visit is available for anyone interested in the service.
- Available for infants with a life-limiting illness.
- Multidisciplinary team approach provided: nursing, social worker, home health aide, clergy, grief counselor, and volunteer staff.
- Emphasis is on promoting comfort and pain relief.
- Unit of care is the client and family.
- Bereavement services are offered after the infant's death.

Home Medical Equipment

- Provides nebulizers, apnea monitors, oxygen, tube feeding supplies, phototherapy
- Wheelchairs, bath aides, walkers and hospital beds
- Professional delivery, setup, additional training, and education materials provided by highly qualified technicians and respiratory therapists

Oaklawn Hospital
Birth Center

**200 N. Madison St.
Marshall, MI 49068
269-789-3929**

The Hospital provides several classes related to childbirth:

- Prenatal Classes—monthly
- Parenting Classes—monthly
- Sibling Classes
- Breastfeeding Classes
- Childbirth Refresher Classes
- Perinatal Loss Support Group, welcomes all parents, friends or family members who are grieving the loss of an infant through miscarriage, ectopic pregnancy, stillbirth, newborn death, or death under the first year of age. Grieving individuals are invited to share their own questions, concerns, and personal stories in a private, casual atmosphere. Call 269-789-3929 for more information.

Planned Parenthood of South Central Michigan

**693 Capital Ave., S.W.
Battle Creek, MI 49015
269-964-0885**

**101 N. Albion St.
Albion 49224
(517) 629-3910
(in the Calhoun County Health Department Building, Albion)**

**4201 W. Michigan Ave.
Kalamazoo, MI 49008
269-372-1205**

Toll-free in the 269, 616, and 231 area codes:

800-559-9093

www.ppscm.org

Planned Parenthood of South Central Michigan offers strictly confidential sexual health care services provided by caring physicians, nurse practitioners and other staff to individuals of all economic levels. Medicaid recipients are welcome with or without an HMO. Most insurance is accepted. Planned Parenthood provides a wide range of services for women and men including STI testing and treatment, all methods of birth control, midlife services, cancer screening, pregnancy testing, annual exams, sterilization services and abortion services. Referrals for adoption are also available.

Planned Parenthood also offers Education, Training and Consultation, Community Outreach, Peer Education, a Resource Center and Facts of Life Line (269-353-4870), and Advocacy for issues involving reproductive freedom.

Regional Health Alliance (RHA)

**34 W. Jackson St.
Battle Creek, MI 49017
269-962-5992
www.regionalhealthalliance.com**

Infant Safe Sleep Resources:

Free Infant Safe Sleep brochures and DVD (English, Spanish, and close-captioned for hearing impaired) are available from RHA. Pack-n-Play cribs are referred through 211. Infant Safe Sleep Tipcards are available from Calhoun County Extension (Sidney Olson, 269-781-0784).

S.A.F.E. Place and the Calhoun County Domestic Violence Council

**P.O. Box 199
Battle Creek, MI 49016
Battle Creek Area 965-7233
All Other Areas 888-664-9832**

S.A.F.E. Place offers multiple services for victims of domestic violence including a crisis phone line; shelter for the abused person with her/his children for up to 4 weeks; advocacy to assist in legal, medical, and social matters; counseling, support groups, parenting groups, information, and referrals to other community resources.

The Salvation Army

Family Emergency Services

Battle Creek Office
890 B North Ave. 269-966-4162
Albion Office
203 S. Superior St. 517-629-6632, or 269-781-3408

For assistance from the Family Emergency Service Unit, clients need Photo ID and Social Security cards for anyone receiving assistance.

Soup Kitchen, Youth Work, and Office

118 West Van Buren 269-963-3640

Food: Emergency food available year around with 30-day interval. Referral from DHS (FIA) may be required from DHS clients. Co-op Pantry Pacs, \$22.00 buys \$50.00 worth of food, four times a month as available.

Utilities: Available by grant. Emergency basis only (shut off notice required). Access only once a year. Consumer Energy-People Care program. Gas and Water on an emergency basis as funds are available. No funds for nonessential services such as cable or telephone.

Rent: Available by grants, i.e., CDBG and FEMA. On an emergency basis only (eviction, foreclosure, or referral from shelter program required).

Transportation: Available most of the year, biannual eligibility. State of Michigan residency required, for in-state travel only. Examples:
Stranded in Battle Creek, lives in Michigan
Discharged from VA
Released from Calhoun County Jail
Must have job or family at destination

Clothing: Referral to Charitable Union or Voices of Hope. **Clothing Worx** program for **Work First** clients provides work clothing from Salvation Army Thrift stores, on referral from our office. Clothing for fire victims on referral from Red Cross.

Personal Care Items: As available, given to those without income.

Prescription Drugs: Available most of the year. Biannual eligibility (or to maximum limit of \$150).

Emergency Shelter: Three days in a local motel, **if shelters are full and Client must remain in town due to employment or legal concerns**. Operation May Day in cooperation with the Michigan State Police, provides emergency shelter and auto repair to motorists stranded in Calhoun County. Also 1-800-SHELTER (753-5837).

Christmas Outreach:

Food and Toys for the holiday season are provided for those who apply at our Christmas Clearing House. .

Disaster Work: Food, shelter, canteen, and other needs as warranted, in cooperation with FEMA and the local Red Cross.

Other Requests: emergency requests are considered on an individual basis.

Showers for Blessings

Linda Grap

73 Christy Rd.

Battle Creek, MI 49015

269-963-1253

lgrap@yahoo.com

Showers for Blessings is a local ministry committed to meeting some of the critical material needs of babies born in poverty. The ministry is entirely dependent on churches, individuals and groups who are willing to contribute money, host a baby shower or collect new items for mothers who do not have the resources to provide for all the needs of a new baby.

Individuals and groups donate new infant items such as diapers, wipes, bottles, sleepers, blankets, onesies, socks or booties or anything else a new baby needs. Some donors prefer to give money. **Showers for Blessings** has no paid staff or administrative expenses, so 100% of every dollar given goes directly to purchase items for infants in need. Used or new cribs, strollers, changing tables, car seats and small chests of drawers are always needed.

Except in rare cases, there is no direct contact between **Showers for Blessings** and the mothers and babies receiving help. Requests for help are accepted from social service agencies and medical providers working with pregnant teens and women. Healthcare or social work staff request help on behalf of individual mothers and babies who need help that is unavailable through other agencies.

First-time and teen pregnancies receive priority attention along with crisis situations such as domestic violence, unexpected unemployment or substance abuse. The level of assistance provided is based on available funds and supplies, the number of requests pending and the recommendation of the caseworker making the referral.

Showers for Blessings is a grassroots ministry, run entirely of a voluntary basis; donations to assist with purchase of infant items is also appreciated. Chapel Hill United Methodist Church serves as a fiscal agent to assure accountability for contributed dollars needing oversight. The church provides this service at no cost to **Showers for Blessings** as part of their mission outreach.

Substance Abuse Council

**140 W. Michigan Ave.
Battle Creek, MI 49017
269-968-4699
www.drugfreebc.org**

The Substance Abuse Council is a community drug prevention coalition serving Calhoun County. Coalition activities utilize multiple strategies over multiple sectors to reduce substance abuse problems. SAC coalition members include representation from many community sectors: youth, parents, media, schools, youth-serving organizations, law enforcement, religious organizations, civic/volunteer groups, healthcare professionals, government agencies, business and others. Call the coalition for more information regarding ongoing activities.

Summit Pointe

**140 W. Michigan Ave.
Battle Creek, MI 49017
269-966-1460**

www.summitpointe.org

Summit Pointe is the community mental health agency for Medicaid and uninsured residents of Calhoun County.

Services offered: Summit Pointe offers mental health treatment choices and resources to provide mental health interventions and to link customers to health care programs and community services needed. The person-centered plan begins with service delivery choices linking customers to appropriate community-based care. These choices include:

Access and Care Management

Alternative Intermediate Services/Habilitation Management

Assessment and Testing Services

Assertive Community Treatment

Case Management

Crisis Residential/Crisis Stabilization

Counseling Services for Jail/Justice and Court-ordered Programs

Community Education, Training and Volunteer Outreach

Day Programming

Homeless Housing Assistance

24-Hour Crisis Emergency Services

Inpatient and Partial Hospitalization

Nursing Services/Medication Management

Physician Services Psychotherapy/Support Groups

Specialized Residential Services

Specialized Treatment (Children's Services)

Supported Employment

Supported Living

Who is eligible: Calhoun County Residents

How to contact Summit Pointe: Call 269-966-1460 and ask for “**Intake**”; to be scheduled for an intake appointment. Based on this initial appointment, the appropriate services, and following appointments are arranged.

For customers with private medical/health insurance; Behavioral Health Resources, 3630 Capital Ave. S.W., Battle Creek; call 269-979-8333 for an appointment.

Transportation Resources

Several local programs assist with transportation to medical appointments: Medicaid Managed Care plans, Maternal Infant Health Care Program (Gentiva), Family and

Children's Services (Teen Parenting program, Healthy Start program), Children's Special Health Care Services. Other information is available through 211.

WIC

Calhoun County Health Department
520 W. Michigan Ave.
Battle Creek, MI 49017
966-1230
781-0909 (Marshall office)
517-629-9434 (Albion office)

WIC is a federally funded program serving low income pregnant, breastfeeding, and postpartum women and infants and children up to age 5 who have a nutrition-related health problem. The program provides a combination of nutrition education, supplemental foods, breastfeeding promotion and support, and referrals to health care resources. Participants spend WIC food coupons at participating grocery stores and pharmacies.

WIC has demonstrated positive effects on pregnancy outcomes and on child growth and development.

Eligibility is based on income guidelines. Calhoun County women can schedule an appointment at any of the offices in the county.

Woman's Co-op

Trinity Lutheran Church
2055 East Columbia Avenue
Battle Creek, MI
269-966-8988
Womansco_op@yahoo.com

The Woman's Co-op is an organization seeking to enhance and improve the quality of lives of the women in our community. Through education, development programs, and a variety of support services, the Woman's Co-op can empower, improve, and change women's lives.

There are no dues or fees to pay, however it works on a share concept, which means there is always something for all of us to give-may it be skills to share, resources to pool, or just a friendly shoulder to lean on.

YWCA Mentoring Program, Battle Creek

47 N. Washington Avenue
Battle Creek, MI 49017
269-288-0023

www.ywca.org/kalamazoo/battlecreek

The YWCA Mentoring Program is part of *Yes we can!* and provides personal support and encouragement to adult women seeking economic and personal self-sufficiency through education and employment. By matching women with mentors, the YWCA helps mentees explore options, set positive goals, and direct their own futures.

The purpose of the YWCA Mentoring Program is to break the cycle of poverty for women and their families, through the accomplishment of educational, employment, and personal goals. Mentors complete a formal training process that includes information on goal setting and available community resources.

Education or training for adequate employment is widely recognized as the most effective means by which individuals reach economic self-sufficiency. Mentors and community organizations provide one-on-one job readiness services to mentees.