

**ST. GIANNA CRISIS PREGNANCY HOME  
EDUCATIONAL TRAINING SHEET 2024**

**Who we are:**

- A faith-based program, whose mission is to help the pregnant woman in crisis who has chosen life for her unborn child by striving to provide support, spiritual guidance, a safe and nurturing environment, and life skills to achieve independence.
- A ministry blessed by Bishop William Medley and operated under the umbrella of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Owensboro, a 501 (c)(3) non-profit.
- A drug, alcohol and nicotine-free home.
- Named for Saint Gianna Molla, an Italian pediatrician known for her untiring care for the poor and ill of her community, who died in 1962 at the age of 39. She developed tumors in her uterus while pregnant with her fourth child but refused care that would have resulted in the death of her unborn baby. Her baby daughter was born healthy but Gianna died a week later from a C-section complication. She is a patron saint of physicians, mothers, and the unborn.
- Our motto is: Embracing Life

**Why we came into existence:**

- A group of Holy Spirit and St. Joseph Catholic Church members saw and investigated the need for a crisis pregnancy home in Warren County.
- When the 2022 Dobbs court decision was handed down, effectively making abortion illegal in Kentucky, this group realized the need for support and resources would be even greater.
- To provide the mothers and their babies with a secure environment where they can bond, give them tools to prevent child abuse and neglect, and to help improve their overall health and wellbeing.
- To provide the mother with the ability to achieve job-readiness and self-sustainability by increasing her education level and earning potential.
- To help her promote her child's development and readiness to actively participate in school.
- To give her skills and the confidence to be able to rise above difficult circumstances and life challenges.
- To connect families to needed community resources and support and give them a foundation which the family unit can build upon for the rest of their lives.
- To give a pregnant woman a chance for a healthy pregnancy and her child the best start to life we possibly can.
- To encourage residents to find a faith community that can provide them support after they leave the home.

**When we opened and Where we are located:**

- Accepted our first participant on \_\_\_\_\_
- On a serene piece of land in Bowling Green on Holy Spirit Church property.

**How we plan to achieve our goals:**

- Showing participants the love of Christ through the staff members and volunteers providing care and guidance to these women and their babies.

- Fostering community and family by providing a structured environment, monitored by the Housemother or relief staff, where there are rules, expectations, and boundaries to live within while showing the value in sharing chores, space, and respecting others and their property.
- Welcoming these expectant mothers at any stage of their pregnancy regardless of their faith or where they are from, who may stay and care for their infants up to 8 months after delivery. If the child is no longer in the care of the mother, she may stay up to 6 weeks after delivery.
- Requiring that all who are medically able must work or attend school.
- Assigning a mentor to each woman, who will meet with her weekly to guide and encourage her along her journey. The expectant mother's mentor will check on her mental and emotional well-being and show her how to go about getting a job or applying for school. She will assist her in navigating a positive new path by helping her set goals and strive toward reaching those goals.
- Providing, at no charge to participants, most basic day-to-day material needs, including evening meals.
- Requiring attendance at in-house classes and educational workshops to teach life skills essential to creating a loving environment for themselves and their babies. Examples of some of the subjects are parenting, infant care, budgeting, sewing, aspects of renting, resume writing, and healthy eating.
- Securing volunteers from the community to fill our areas of need.
- Requiring all volunteers and staff working in the house to have Safe Environment & Vulnerable Adult training and Transportation certification if needed.

#### **How we are staffed:**

- Daytime and Nighttime Housemothers will be the only paid personnel.
- All other positions are volunteer from the board of directors, House Directors, to the committee directors and members. Those volunteering inside the home or who have contact with the women must be female. Male volunteers may help with anything that does not put them in direct contact with the women.
- Volunteers do not have to be Catholic. Although we are a Catholic organization, we want this home to be a unifying program bringing people from all walks of life and faiths together to support women in crisis who choose life for their babies. We plan to reach out to regional Catholic and non-Catholic churches, organizations, and businesses to band together to form partnerships with us to give of their time, talents, services, and referrals as well as monetary and in-kind donations.

#### **How we are funded:**

- By private donations and active on-going fundraising
  - "Do a 180" campaign looking for supporters to commit to donating \$180 a year for three years to help these women do a 180 degree turnaround in their lives toward becoming independent. The estimated operating cost to house 6 women, our maximum capacity, and their babies is \$180,000 a year. Once we have 1000 commitments, three years of operating costs should be covered, moving us toward our goal of becoming self-sustaining.
  - Annual Gala and Auction: St. Gianna Crisis Pregnancy Home will host an annual charity auction event. Our next Gala will take place on May 10, 2025 at La Gala in Bowling Green, KY. This event serves as the cornerstone of our fundraising efforts and enables us to make a positive impact in the lives of those we serve.
  - Applying for grants.
  - Church offering envelopes.
  - Fundraising nights at local businesses.
- We do not accept government funding.

## What are our needs:

- Time & Talent
  - Volunteers to act as mentors, teach classes, assist with food shopping, transportation to work, school or doctor's appointments, lawncare, host a game or craft night. Volunteers to help with newsletter mailing or serve on one of our seven standing committees: Communications, Spirituality, Operations, Mentoring, Resources, Development, Volunteers.
- Treasure
  - Monetary donations to provide for the operation of the home. Visit <https://www.stgiannacph.org/donate> for ways to donate.
  - In-Kind donations: maternity and infant items, diapers, wipes, infant care supplies, hygiene products, cleaning products and supplies, and office and classroom supplies. Our wish list will be posted on our website and Facebook.
  - Gift cards to St. Teresa Thrift Store, grocery/super stores, and gas stations are always welcomed.
- Tell Others
  - Raise awareness about St. Gianna CPH by allowing the placement of brochures at their business or by becoming an ambassador at their local church, house of worship, or charity organization.
  - Share information at club and organization meetings or post and share on social media.
  - Direct those whose business or organization serves expectant women in crisis to our website at [www.stgiannacph.org](http://www.stgiannacph.org).

## What is required of the potential resident for admission to the program:

- Go through an in-take process which includes drug screening.
- Agree to the house rules.
- Must be working or going to school. Mentor will show her how to apply for a job or school.
- Be ready to make positive changes in her life.

## Other Items:

- Anyone who has a skill or talent that they would like to share with the Participants, contact our House Directors. Sewing, Calligraphy, painting, budget setting, shopping for healthy foods, renting a property, filing tax returns, gardening, resume writing, job interview skills, cooking, running a household.
- Reminder that if you will be volunteering in the home, contact Karen Stringer to set up taking Safe Environment & Vulnerable training and Transportation certification if driving the residents.
- If you become aware of a non-government grant that we might qualify for, an organization that makes charitable donations to non-profits, such as Lil Angels Attic and Festival of Trees, groups that would be willing to take up monetary or in-kind donations, please contact Lisa Carter.
- If you become aware of an event anywhere that allows non-profits to man an information/donation table, for free or for a small fee, please contact Sylann Smith. Examples include women's conferences at local churches, Relay Worship Group Conference, Heavenly Birthday Bash, etc. We will have a table "kit" available for these events.
- Periodically check out our website and see what's new. It is maintained and updated by volunteers.
- Tell others about the home and the volunteer and donation opportunities available to help by:

- Talking with neighbors/friends/strangers. Direct them to our website and social media.
  - Follow our Facebook page and encourage others to do the same. (@stgiannacph)
  - Share our Facebook posts with friends.
  - If you have a LinkedIn account, follow us and share there as well.  
(<https://www.linkedin.com/company/st-gianna-crisis-pregnancy-home>)
  - Put up flyers for various events and fundraisers at businesses you own or are patrons of that will allow you to do so.
  - Encourage your priest/pastors to support the home's efforts by allowing information to be placed in bulletins, in the announcements after Mass/church service, or on their digital marketing tool.
- Direct interested parties to sign-up for our newsletter and committees as well as direct them to our website. For the newsletter sign-up, there is now a QR code which can be scanned to join.
  - Tell about the Marketing Toolkit on website under About Us, which has many fundraising, informational and training documents as well as QR codes.