



*Serving Needy Newborns in Southwest Washington*

### *Our Babies and Their Families ~*

**Sharon\*** is an older, single mom with complex medical issues of her own. She never carried a pregnancy to term before and had struggled financially throughout this high-risk pregnancy. Forced to take time off from her hourly retail position during the pregnancy, her hours were permanently reduced. She was proud to have saved for and purchased a new infant car seat, and shared her plans to shop the local children's consignment shops for the baby's needs. When I brought the layette into the room she exclaimed at the number and beauty of the gifts as she pulled out each item and showed them to the baby.

**Toni & Mark\*** are first time parents whose baby was born right before Halloween. They didn't have clothes for their baby as he was smaller than they'd expected. They were very much in need financially and were thankful for the clothes you provided in their layette. The father loved the Halloween outfit: "my first Halloween". Thank you!

**Francesca & Xavier\*** had just moved into town when their baby arrived. They spoke no English and had no money. They were overwhelmed with gratitude for the layette and diapers.

**Laurie\*** was relieved to hear about the *Babies in Need* program because she didn't know how her family was going to afford her being on bed rest. It was a relief to know they had clothes, diapers and a car seat for the baby and could focus on money for food and rent.

**Margaret\*** was admitted to the Family Birth Center for a high risk pregnancy and long-term hospitalized bed rest. Her three other children, the youngest only 11 months old, were being cared for by a neighbor and the baby's working father. While she was on bed rest she worried about the safety of her three older children, losing her food stamps, cash assistance, family's medical coverage and not being able to adequately prepare a nursery for the new baby.

She eventually delivered her baby prematurely at 30 weeks. Occasionally her older children came to the NICU to visit their brother. It was wonderful to be able to provide them with Sibling Bags so that they could entertain themselves while she held and cared for her fragile son. She saved her food stamp money and on the day of discharge she brought a huge tray of her special home-made enchiladas, her demonstration of gratitude for all who provided care to her and her son.

Thank you for all that you do for these families!!!

\* Names changed to protect privacy

~ Notes from Social Workers

### *December 2011*

#### *Current Need per Month*

25 Layettes  
10 Car Seats  
8 Sibling Bags

#### *Given Since 1999*

3160 Newborn Layettes  
1551 Newborn Car Seats  
584 Sibling Gift Bags

#### *Board of Directors*

Jackie Smith, MD, *Chair*  
Jayne Knoop, *Vice-Chair*  
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#### *Babies In Need*

PO Box 65825  
Vancouver WA 98665  
360-573-8299

Kitty Ash, Director  
KittyAsh2@msn.com  
www.babiesinneed.org

#### *A Ministry of*

All Saints Episcopal Church  
2206 NW 99th Street  
Vancouver, WA 98665  
&  
Caring people of Vancouver,  
Western WA, and beyond.

#### *Drop-off Location*

2206 NW 99th Street  
Vancouver, WA 98665

**You are cordially invited**  
to the  
**Blessing and Dedication of our New Building**  
**Sunday, January 8, 2012 at 2:30 pm**  
at  
All Saints Episcopal Church  
2206 NW 99th Street, Vancouver, WA 98665

**WE'RE MOVING!** ...but just a few feet away ... into our own new building on the same property. We outgrew all the nooks and crannies we were occupying in the church building, and now will have enough room for our current ministry *and* room to expand it.

This dream became a reality thanks to the generosity and vision of the people of **Vancouver First United Methodist Church** led by **Ray Johnson** and his team of builders and workers. Their Christmas outreach offering of \$6,000 was supplemented by a grant of \$24,999 from **Meyer Memorial Trust**, \$5,000 from **Vancouver Rotary Foundation**, and many groups and individuals. We broke ground in September and will move in within a few weeks. The building itself is beautiful!

Construction was amazing to watch. The anonymous "**Mr. T**" designed the building and directed its construction with knowledge, skill and many hours of his time. **Habitat for Humanity** helped with donations. **The Friends of the Carpenter** constructed 30 trays and eight large bins for donated layette items. To learn more about the miracles, blessings, and people involved in the building, please visit our website at [www.babiesinneed.org](http://www.babiesinneed.org).

Thank you to **ALL** who made this dream a reality!



**Portable Cribs & Strollers!** We now have room for these important items and will accept them new or used. Safe cribs prevent falls, provide a flat surface free of objects that could harm a child or obstruct breathing, and create a barrier against young siblings and pets. Folding cribs are easy to move as housing conditions change for our moms.

**Program Funds** ~ We've focused so hard on the building this year, that program funds are a little lower than usual. We're thankful for our faithful supporters.

Six-year-old **Francie\*** had a twin brother and sister in the NICU. She enjoyed the *My Baby and Me* activity book in her Sibling Bag. Her new little sister passed away during the stay, and the book helped her talk about her loss.

**Bereavement Care** ~ we use the tiny outfits for infants that pass away. The outfits are treasured FOREVER. One said "angel" on it and was given to a little baby girl that died. It was the perfect outfit for the time...

**Giving Trees** Kiwanis Clubs and eleven McDonald's Restaurants team up for the sixth year to sponsor Christmas Giving Trees for *Babies In Need*.

**A note from Justine** ~ My package was amazing! I cried when I was going through it. It made me feel so happy that people care so much - even when they don't know you. It was truly a blessing to receive these things. Thank you so much. My twin boys are my first children. Please keep us in your prayers. We are in need of the strength, courage, and faith that only God provides. Thank you again for everything!

Faithfully,  
*Kitty Ash*

*"Inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these...you have done it unto me." - Matthew 25:40*

## *Who We Serve*

Low-income families of all racial, ethnic, educational, and religious backgrounds; unsupported mothers, homeless women and babies, immigrants; victims of domestic violence or substance abuse; families with medical problems or job loss, and premature or special needs babies.

## *Fact*

500 babies are born in Clark County every month. 30-35 of them need our help.

## *A Typical Layette*

*(Premie & Newborn sizes)*

Pajamas & Gowns  
Onesies & Undershirts  
Fleecy pajama-sleepers  
Washcloths & Towels  
Receiving blankets  
Crib blanket or quilt  
Diapers & Wipes  
Sweater, Hat  
Book, Crib Toy

Card from *Babies In Need*  
*Home Prayers for Little Children*  
*To the Mother of a New Baby*  
*A Man and a New Baby*  
Storybook  
Car seat safety sticker

## *Layette Assembly*

One afternoon a month  
Phone: 360-573-8299 or  
Email [KittyAsh2@msn.com](mailto:KittyAsh2@msn.com)

## *Speakers Available*

We can provide a 15-minute program on *Babies In Need* for your church, civic, or social group. Phone: 573-8299  
Email: [KittyAsh2@msn.com](mailto:KittyAsh2@msn.com)

*We cannot all do great things, but we can do small things with great love.*

*~ Mother Teresa*