

# Alternatives

## The Value of Volunteering

*Care Net Volunteer Angela Bewell is awarded the Presidential Volunteer Service Award*

**I**t all started with a church bulletin. Before she knew it, Angela Bewell was at the White House receiving the Presidential Volunteer Service Award.

Angela is a genetic counseling intern at UW-Madison. While at school, she regularly attends Blackhawk Church. One Sunday, she opened the bulletin and saw information about volunteering at Care Net. And the rest was history.

"Since I was studying to be a genetic counselor, I saw Care Net had a need for counselors," said Angela. "I thought it would be a great opportunity to practice my counseling skills."

Since July 2007, Angela handles a 12 hour Careline/Hotline shift answering phone calls when Care Net's clinic is closed. Many appointments have been made to the clinic based on her gentle, non-judgmental demeanor.

In addition, Angela volunteers weekly as a Care Net Counselor in the clinic. During their sessions with Angela, Care Net staff has observed clients feel comfortable and safe to share their situation and have expressed their gratitude afterwards.

And her efforts at Care Net continue to expand. Living on campus, Angela has witnessed the need for Care Net among her fellow students. That is why she has also joined Care Net's campus outreach team.

One client story speaks volumes about Angela's caring heart. After receiving a negative pregnancy test, the client was unquestionably relieved. But Angela was concerned for more than just a pregnancy test. She shared with the client about

lifestyle choices and that she was worth waiting for. She then explained sexual integrity and wholeness. The client was very thankful for the counseling.

In 2003, President Bush created the Council on Service and Civic Participation to find ways to recognize the valuable contributions volunteers make in our nation. The Council created the Presidential Volunteer Service Award as one way to carry out their mission. Care Net nominated Angela to receive this award at the gold level, which she received on September 19.

Angela feels very blessed to be a volunteer at Care Net. "It has been a blessing to be in the company of some amazing men and women at Care Net. It is truly inspiring to see how they have dedicated their lives to serving the Lord and sharing the Good News."

When asked why people should consider volunteering at Care Net, she gave a great answer: "I see God working in miraculous ways at Care Net. Who wouldn't want to be a part of this effort? Care Net has such a warm, loving atmosphere and provides wonderful opportunities for volunteers to use their God-given gifts and talents."

Thank you, Angela, for your kind words. And from all of us at Care Net, congratulations on your well earned Award!

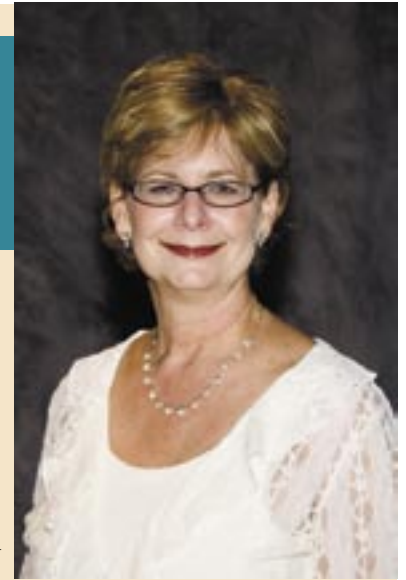


**Angela Bewell receiving her award with Admiral Joxel Garcia and Center Director Cassie Mott**

**CARE**  **NET**

Pregnancy Center Of Dane County

# From My Heart



Liz Osborn  
Executive Director

## Men — Why Bother?

The Boston Globe ran an article entitled, “Missing Men” which peaked interest greatly. It began by reviewing the historical account of government efforts focused on the “deserving poor” – the most vulnerable ... the disabled, the elderly, widows and children ... and how this relates to “missing men.”

Care Net has sought to do just that - for more than two decades – we’ve reached out to our “modern day” cultural orphans and widows, often impoverished as well. But our hearts also beat stronger every day for the men in the unplanned pregnancy equation, and for young men confused by what our culture and media defines as “a real man.”

The Globe article goes on to point out having a poor parent (of either gender) is hard on children, yet hav-

ing an uninvolved, and often incarcerated, parent is worse. Add to the mix economic/job difficulties, unplanned pregnancy, broken relationships ...and a banner that has been waved high in the faces of men that diminishes their value in the decision-making process – and you have a recipe for disaster.

In the consulting room we often hear (and studies have shown) how men can strongly influence a woman’s decision regarding abortion. Two of the most common reasons women choose abortion is directly related to “husband/boyfriend pressure” and “husband/boyfriend unsupportive.” If he virtually remains silent or worse yet - ignores her,

it is often perceived as a powerful negative message. She may be thinking that he’s communicating, “It’s your problem” – when her partners view of the situation could be quite different. Or take, “I’ll support you in whatever you decide.” It can be perceived by the woman as “he wants me to have an abortion” ...when in actuality he may be saying what he only believes is “right” - reflecting the mantra so frequently purported - “it’s a woman’s choice ... it’s her body. I have no say.”

Care Net believes a great opportunity is forfeited when we focus all our efforts on the woman. Doesn’t the man deserve to have the same knowledge, based on facts, presented to him as well? After all, his life will be forever altered – and men grieve lost children too.

While our ministry has always strived to be “father friendly” and welcoming of partners, we are gearing up to go way beyond that. It’s not news to any that the high cost of fatherlessness in our culture today is profoundly affecting the children. By serving men we are seeking to promote responsible fatherhood which calls men to act like the true definition of men - becoming humble servants, courageous providers and caregivers.

If Godly men will lead the way at our Center (Care Net provides training for male consultants), an opportunity lies within our walls to touch the lives of men in crisis – those who may never darken the doors of the local church! Your volunteer time can change and save lives both now and for generations to come. Please see page 7 for details on our next volunteer training dates.

Spiritual transformation lies at the heart of all we do and who we are as a ministry ... will you join us?

*Liz Osborn*

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### Hospital Referral

An area hospital who confirmed Patti’s\* pregnancy recommended that she contact Care Net to find out about our post-abortion counseling. She and her boyfriend had discussed the options and decided to abort. Patti was already scheduled for a counseling session at an abortion clinic before she came to Care Net.

The Care Net counselor soon found out that abortion was in opposition to Patti’s core values and beliefs. Through further discussion, the counselor had a sense that Patti was choosing abortion in order to appease her boyfriend. The counselor advised her to take more time to make a final decision and welcomed her and her boyfriend back for more counseling. Although Patti was clearly wrestling with things, she seemed determined to abort.

Please pray for Patti and her boyfriend, specifically that they would make a decision based on Patti’s core values and beliefs.

### Needing Time to Think

Before her visit with Care Net, Emma\* had already scheduled an appointment with an abortion provider. Emma was referred to Care Net by a county nurse who was working with her. A close family friend came with Emma to her Care Net appointment.

After reviewing Wisconsin’s informed consent booklet and seeing her baby for the first time during an ultrasound, Emma’s heart was softened. And her family friend said that she would help her in any way she could if Emma decided

to give birth. The Care Net counselor spent considerable time with Emma exploring her options and providing her with hope. Later, Emma canceled her appointment with the abortion provider and rescheduled for a later date because she needed more time to think about it.

Please pray for Emma as she is still unsure what path she will choose.

### Recommitment to Values

Mandy\*, a nervous college student, stood at Care Net’s reception desk 10 minutes before closing asking for a pregnancy test. She was greatly relieved when the test came back negative. Yet, she came back for a retest a week later, just to be sure.

Mandy and her boyfriend Joe\* had made a commitment to sexual purity until marriage. But things went a little too far. Afterwards, Mandy was sick to her stomach and she was unsure if it was because of nerves or if it was morning sickness. Hence, the pregnancy test.

Between her visits to Care Net, Mandy and Joe talked things over. They agreed to recommit to sexual purity and not put themselves in this position again. A follow-up phone call from the counselor confirmed they were still committed to sexual purity and they were both very grateful that Care Net was there in their time of need.

\*Fictitious names to protect privacy

# Community Connections



Church and community groups coordinate service projects to further Care Net's ministries. Recently some groups have received a taste of life at The Elizabeth House by making and sharing meals with The Elizabeth House mothers.

Other groups made Care Net's facility more beautiful by washing windows, cleaning and weeding while still others cleared brush so that Care Net's building and sign are visible from Hwy. 51. One group installed shelving and organized donated books and materials to serve as a library for Care Net clients.



## Madison Missions at Care Net

Some groups collected donations to further Care Net's ministries while others sorted and stuffed baby bottles to have them ready for our next Baby Bottle Campaign.

Middle School students from Madison Missions canvassed the Madison area one week this summer seeking to place posters promoting Care Net's services to those facing un-

planned pregnancies or sexual health concerns. These students visited community centers, churches, restaurants, pharmacies and other businesses requesting permission to place the posters on community bulletin boards, in ladies' restrooms or in staff break rooms. These posters then become a link to Care Net's services to women and men seeking help, hope and healing regarding an unplanned pregnancy or sexual health concern. Their efforts have already paid off as several women have come to the clinic because of the posters.

These groups have recently helped to further Care Net's mission through their volunteer work:

- ♥ Heartland Church of Sun Prairie
- ♥ Blackhawk Church middle school students in "Madison Missions"
- ♥ Door Creek Church middle school students in "Mission Madison"
- ♥ St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church
- ♥ YWAM Discipleship Training School group
- ♥ Cardinal Stritch University class
- ♥ The Great Race
- ♥ Kim and Jason Retail Shop
- ♥ Door Creek Church Saturday Men's Bible Study

Care Net also provides speakers for church and community groups upon request. A Care Net volunteer nurse spoke, representing Care Net, at the kick off event for the 40 Days for Life in September.

To request a Care Net speaker or to bring a group to serve at Care Net please contact Rhonda at [rhondat@carenetdane.org](mailto:rhondat@carenetdane.org) or 608-259-1606 ext. 207

## June Thru August Care Net Statistics

<i>Total Clients:</i>	69	<i>Income:</i>	\$107,934.34
<i>Ultrasound Clients:</i>	17	<i>Expenses:</i>	\$120,647.46
<i>Client Calls:</i>	270	<i>Net Income:</i>	\$-12,713.12
<i>Men:</i>	12		

# Your Special Invitation for a Night Out

**A** mother who walks through our door today has a choice. Should she choose life for her child?

As the battle for hearts and lives of His precious sons and daughters rages around us each day we look to Our Father, who is in heaven, and ask for His kingdom to come in our midst and His will to be done in the lives of each woman and man facing an unplanned pregnancy or sexual health concern.

The battle is real. Every day in Dane County, 3 to 4 women choose abortion feeling it is their only option. But our Heavenly Father is greater. We have a big goal – to reach each of these women and their partners with life affirming options providing help, hope and healing.

To push toward this goal we need our Heavenly Father and we need to expand our base of financial, volunteer and prayer support. We are thankful for those who are committed to Care Net’s ministries on a regular basis and would like to extend the opportunity for others to get connected with Care Net to reach mothers and fathers facing unplanned pregnancies.

Care Net’s Annual Fundraising Banquet offers a great opportunity to introduce people to Care Net’s work who may wonder how they could be engaged in this battle and who may quietly desire to “do something” about the abortion crisis in our nation.



**Guests view a live ultrasound**

If you are one of those people, or you are married to one of them, let us challenge you to commit to being a part of this year’s banquet.

Our featured speaker, Rev. John Ensor, presents a compelling message on “Answering the Call: Saving Innocent Lives, One Woman at a Time” and Care Net’s program presentation will highlight how one may answer that call in Madison, Wisconsin. Former clients will share their stories of finding help, hope and healing through Care Net’s services and compassionate volunteers. And we will debut Care Net’s new DVD which will illustrate Care Net’s compassionate care through each of our areas of ministry.

Our goal is to raise \$110,000 or 20% of our 2009 budget through this banquet. If every couple or individual attending the banquet pledged to donate \$30 each month in 2009 we would exceed our goal.

Do not miss this banquet. God is calling His Church to be his hands and feet, bringing His kingdom so that His will may be done in Madison as it is in heaven. Will you be there to Answer the Call?

## Care Net’s “Our Father” Fundraising Banquet Details

Thursday, November 6  
Monona Terrace Convention Center  
Registration begins at 6:15 pm  
Dinner and program from 7 to 9 pm

To Register:  
Register online at [www.carenetdane.org/friends](http://www.carenetdane.org/friends)  
Or contact Rhonda at [rhondat@carenetdane.org](mailto:rhondat@carenetdane.org) or 608-259-1606 ext. 207

## Banquet Verse:

**“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.”  
Matthew 6:9b-10**

# Legacy for Life

## Care Net's Deferred Giving Opportunities

**W**hat would you like to accomplish with your money? Most of us put off that question for various reasons, especially when it means we have to consider what happens to our possessions after our death.

Care Net supporter and past board member, Linda Coyle, was faced with this same question. She knew she needed a will and needed to make some decisions.

“God has placed a call on my heart to be a good steward of all the things He has given me,” said Linda. “I knew I needed a will and financial plan to make sure I continued to be a good steward.”

And Linda found that it was not as hard as some fear. With the help of a financial planner, she was able to accomplish this task with ease. “I really did find it easy to do and I received peace in my heart afterwards,” said Linda. “I have always wanted to increase my giving to Care Net, and now, through a life insurance policy, I will be able to do that.”

And, as Linda found out, you don't need an estate like Bill Gates to make a difference. “I found that I can make a large donation to Care Net in the future with small payments right now. You don't have to be wealthy and your small gift now will grow large in the future.”

Not only does Linda believe she will receive blessings in

### *Care Net is Changing Minds in the Community*

Care Net has been working with area nursing programs providing nursing students an opportunity to see clinical activities firsthand. A recent nursing student had this to say to her advisor after her Care Net visit:

“I had a prejudgement about them (Care Net) since they are a pro-life clinic. But what I learned is that providing options and education is more what they are about. They help women to tap into other resources available in the community and address the care of one's mental health too.”

*See a more in-depth article about this program in the Winter Edition of the Alternatives.*



heaven because of her stewardship, but she believes she also is receiving blessings now. “I have found in my life that whatever you give to the Lord, you will receive back even more. I have found that is true with the financial gifts I have given to ministries like Care Net.”

Did you know that Care Net's Board of Directors recommended in 2008 that ½ of all undesignated estate gifts be added to an endowment, from which only the income will be spent?

If you are interested in creating a legacy for life-affirming options, please consider consulting your attorney, and making a gift that will benefit Care Net Pregnancy Center of Dane County for now... and for the future.

### *Legacy for Life Information:*

**To receive more information on how you can make a Legacy for Life gift to Care Net, go to [www.carenetdane.org/friends/donate.html](http://www.carenetdane.org/friends/donate.html).**

### *All I've got is a smile - and that's enough*

When a client comes in our door one of the first things she needs is the assurance that she - regardless of the outcome of her pregnancy test - is going to be okay.

Sometimes all it takes initially to communicate that message is a smile.

If you like to smile, if you enjoy sharing help, hope and healing with others, we have a place for you at Care Net Pregnancy Center. We're looking for new volunteer staff to join our ministry, and we're just a phone call (and a smile) away.

# Record-breaking Baby Bottle Campaign

More than 50 churches of many different denominations joined together to raise over \$54,000 through Care Net's Baby Bottle Campaign in 2008, a record amount. Thank you to the following churches who are partnering with us to bring help, hope and healing to women and men facing unplanned pregnancies or sexual health concerns through this year's Baby Bottle Campaign:

All Saints Lutheran Church  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
Chapel Valley Community Church  
Christ Memorial Lutheran Church  
Christ the King Community Church  
Crosspoint Church of the Nazarene  
DeForest E. Free Church  
Evangel Life Center  
Fountain of Life Church  
Gateway Community Church  
Grace Church  
Hillcrest Bible Church  
Lake Trails Presbyterian  
Lutheran Church of the Living Christ  
Madison Seventh Day Baptist Church  
Metro Believers Church

Bethany E Free Church  
Blackhawk E. Free Church  
Christ Lutheran Church, DeForest  
Christ the King Catholic Church  
Community of Life  
Curtis Street Bible Fellowship  
Door Creek Church  
Fitchburg Christian Fellowship  
Fulton Church  
Good Shepherd by the Lake  
High Point Church  
Lake City Church  
Lake Wisconsin EV Free Church  
Mad City Church  
Messiah Lutheran Church  
Mission Hill Lutheran Church

Monona Oaks Community Church  
New Hope E Free Church  
Oak Grove Church  
Prairie Creek Community Church  
Sauk County Right to Life  
Springs of Hope  
St. Cecilia's Catholic Church  
St. John's Catholic Church, Waunakee  
St. Patrick Catholic Parish  
St. Pius X Catholic Church, Cambridge  
Westwood Christian Church

New Crossing Church  
Northside Christian Assembly  
Open Door Church  
Prairie Springs Church  
Sauk Prairie E Free Church  
St. Andrew's Catholic Church  
St. Dennis Catholic Church  
St. Michael's Church of Dane  
St. Paul's Catholic Church, Evansville  
Walnut Bible Hill Church

To involve your church in a future Baby Bottle Campaign please contact Rhonda at [rhondat@carenetdane.org](mailto:rhondat@carenetdane.org) or 608-259-1606 ext. 207.



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## Upcoming Care Net Events

### *Whole Heart, post-abortion healing ministry, confidential support group*

If you or someone you love has had an abortion, you may be experiencing anxiety, sadness, confusion, emptiness, anger or heartache. Whole Heart, a service of Care Net Pregnancy Center, provides post-abortion counseling to help heal the emotional wounds of abortion. Through individual or group consultation, Whole Heart offers free, confidential and non-judgmental help for women, men and family members who are experiencing emotional turmoil following an abortion. Day and evening groups are available. Please contact us today. There is help, there is hope, there is healing following an abortion.

Our next Whole Heart group begins on Monday, October 20. Must register by October 13. For more information or to register contact Cassie at [wholeheart@carenetdane.org](mailto:wholeheart@carenetdane.org) or 259-1606.

### *Volunteer Training*

Fall Volunteer Training  
October 17, 18, 24 and 25

This valuable ministry training is held two Friday evenings

and two Saturdays, preparing those who desire to serve at Care Net to volunteer.

Interested in volunteering for Care Net? Many opportunities are available. For more information visit our website at [www.carenetdane.org/friends](http://www.carenetdane.org/friends) or contact Cassie at 259-1606 or [cassiem@carenetdane.org](mailto:cassiem@carenetdane.org).

### *Care Net's Annual Fundraising Banquet*

November 6, 2008  
Monona Terrace Convention Center  
Registration begins at 6:15 pm  
Dinner and program at 7:00 pm

### *Sanctity of Human Life Sunday*

Sunday, January 18, 2009

Care Net provides Sanctity of Human Life brochures/bulletin inserts free of charge to area churches. For information about how your church can participate with Care Net in observing Sanctity of Human Life Sunday, please contact Rhonda at [rhondat@carenetdane.org](mailto:rhondat@carenetdane.org) or 608-259-1606 ext. 207.

Help  
Hope  
Healing



**Pregnancy Center of Dane County**

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1350 MacArthur Rd  
Madison WI 53714

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Voice: 608-259-1606  
Fax: 608-258-9507  
Toll Free: 800-395-HELP  
Website: [www.carenetdane.org/friends](http://www.carenetdane.org/friends)  
Email: [carenet@carenetdane.org](mailto:carenet@carenetdane.org)

**Staff**  
**Liz Osborn, 258-9473, [lizo@carenetdane.org](mailto:lizo@carenetdane.org)**  
Executive Director

**Cassie Mott, [cassiem@carenetdane.org](mailto:cassiem@carenetdane.org)**  
Center Director

**Tanis Jean-Louis, RN, [tanisj@carenetdane.org](mailto:tanisj@carenetdane.org)**  
Nurse Manager

**Paula Reif, [paular@carenetdane.org](mailto:paular@carenetdane.org)**  
Director of The Elizabeth House

**Monique Simmons, RN, [moniques@carenetdane.org](mailto:moniques@carenetdane.org)**  
Assistant Nurse Manager

**Jim Govier**  
Financial Assistant

**Rhonda Thompson, [rhondat@carenetdane.org](mailto:rhondat@carenetdane.org)**  
Director of Community Relations

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## Support Care Net Through United Way

The United Way Campaign is underway. If you plan to participate through your workplace and would like to designate your donation for Care Net, you may do so even though Care Net is not listed. Just write in "Care Net Pregnancy Center of Dane County," which is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit charitable organization.

## Care Net Pregnancy Center Mission Statement

We are a caring network of resources dedicated to equip, empower and support women and men to CHOOSE LIFE for their unborn children and to make wise life choices for themselves and their families.

With loving compassion, we minister to those affected by abortion and share with all the hope, forgiveness and peace found in a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.