Catholic Charities
Diocese of Madison

Walking with Moms in Need

Quarter 4 – 2026 Newsletter

Our annual Walking with Moms in Need Retreat was a wonderful success! We were blessed with an inspiring keynote address by Bishop Hying and informative presentations from Alisha Henning and Peg Weber. Their insights provided practical ideas and encouragement for parish leaders and volunteers. Thank you to everyone who attended and contributed to a day filled with learning, fellowship, and renewed commitment to this important mission. Be sure to check out retreat photos on page 2.

A Spanish version of the Diocesan Respect Life poster is now available, helping parishes reach more families and expand awareness of local support services. Both the Spanish and English versions are attached as PDFs, and the Spanish poster can also be found on page 3.

Walking with Moms in Need continues to grow throughout the Diocese. We are delighted to see renewed energy at both Mary, Mother of Mercy Pastorate and Queen of Apostles. At Mary, Mother of Mercy, a new Core Team has come together to lead Walking with Moms in Need efforts across the pastorate. We especially love their nickname, the "Mary, MOM Team!" The pastorate includes St. Norbert Parish in Roxbury, Divine Mercy Parish with St. Aloysius in Sauk City and St. Mary, Health of the Sick in Merrimac, and Holy Cross Parish with St. Barnabas in Mazomanie.

In Madison, the Queen of Apostles Walking with Moms in Need Team has also been renewed with a new Core Team serving the St. Dennis and St. Peter communities. It is encouraging to see parish leaders stepping forward to strengthen this ministry. Together, these teams are helping expand the presence of Walking with Moms in Need throughout the Diocese.

Parishes will soon have access to another new resource through the Diocese of Madison Respect Life Grant, which will support initiatives that promote a culture of life and strengthen outreach efforts. Please see the flyer on page 4 for additional information.

The Apostolate for Persons with Disabilities is developing a Prenatal Diagnosis Support Ministry. This ministry will accompany families who receive prenatal screening or ultrasound results indicating that their unborn child may have a disability or life-limiting condition and who choose to continue their pregnancy. Through compassionate accompaniment, practical resources, and balanced information, the ministry aims to help families navigate difficult circumstances with hope and support. Please read more about this important initiative on pages 5 and 6.

As Respect Life Month comes to a close, we are grateful for the many parish activities that have taken place across the diocese. Public Rosaries, Adoration and Holy Hours, and praying for families serve as visible witnesses to the dignity of every human life. These efforts matter, and your good work is appreciated!

Looking ahead, our goal is for every parish in the Diocese of Madison to be a place where mothers can easily find support, resources, and a welcoming community ready to accompany them. By building on our Respect Life Month efforts year after year, we can continue strengthening Walking with Moms in Need across the Diocese so that all moms encounter the love, hope, and practical support they need. And dads too!

Retreat Highlights



















Cuidado compasivo local

paraembarazos, infertilidad, y duelo debido a aborto o pérdida espontánea (natural)

Reversión de la píldora abortiva

Puede que no sea demasiado tarde
1-877-558-0333 | abortionpillreversal.com

Ayuda durante y después del embarazo

Caminando con las Mamás Necesitadas "Walkingwith MomsinNeed"
Conectando a las mamás con atención, recursos y apoyo
walkingwithmomsmadison.org

¿Sufre de infertilidad o de un diagnóstico adverso?

Planificación familiar natural
Fertilidad y planificación familiar
madisondiocese.org/nfp

Apoyo y sanación después del aborto

Proyecto Raquel
Recursos post-abortivos para mujeres y hombres
608-821-3177 | rachel@madisondiocese.org
madisondiocese.org/rachel

Apoyo para los que han tenido una pérdida espontánea (natural)

Ministerio de Santa Catherine
Un ministerio de la Clínica Our Lady of Hope
608-445-2064 | stcatherine@ourladyofhopeclinic.org
ourladyofhopeclinic.org/st-catherine-ministry-miscarriage-support

Para ayuda en línea para el embarazo:
1-800-712-4357 | OptionLine.org

Diocese of Madison



Diocese of Madison's

Respect Life Grant

Supporting those
who support life

If your organization or parish in the Diocese of Madison is engaged in pro-life work and has a project or a need that could use some financial assistance, you are encouraged to apply for the ***Diocese of Madison's Respect Life Grant!*** This grant is funded by the Respect Life Collection, which is conducted the first weekend of October every year in all the parishes of the Diocese of Madison.

WHO SHOULD APPLY:
Pregnancy resource centers, Catholic parishes with Respect Life ministries, and any organization that is engaged in pro-life work!

APPLICATION DEADLINE:
December 1 (Grants will be awarded in the first quarter of the new year)

LEARN MORE AND APPLY TODAY!
madisondiocese.org/respectlifegrant

Diocese of Madison

New Prenatal Diagnosis Support Ministry Planned for the Diocese of Madison

The Diocese of Madison Apostolate for Persons with Disabilities is excited to share a new opportunity with Walking With Moms in Need volunteers and others who feel called to accompany families facing difficult circumstances.

Currently planned to launch in early 2027, the Apostolate for Persons with Disabilities is developing a Prenatal Diagnosis Support Ministry. This ministry will accompany families who receive prenatal screening or ultrasound results indicating that their unborn child may have a disability or life-limiting condition and who choose to continue their pregnancy.

Receiving an unexpected prenatal diagnosis can be a deeply traumatic and vulnerable experience for parents and families. During this time, many face complex decisions while trying to understand medical information, navigate uncertainty, and care for their family. The Prenatal Diagnosis Support Ministry seeks to provide compassionate accompaniment, practical resources, and balanced information so families can better understand their child's diagnosis and confidently move forward with hope and support.

A key component of this ministry is education and awareness. The Apostolate hopes to ensure that parents, family members, clergy, healthcare professionals, and parish leaders know that support is available for families facing a prenatal diagnosis. Walking With Moms in Need volunteers can play an important role in helping spread this message and connecting families to available resources.

To support this effort, the Apostolate for Persons with Disabilities is pleased to promote a training opportunity developed by Be Not Afraid (BNA) called Care for Abortion Vulnerable Parents. The course was developed by individuals who have personally experienced prenatal diagnoses or have accompanied families through similar situations. Their firsthand experience and expertise have shaped a program designed to help others provide compassionate, informed support to parents navigating a difficult diagnosis.

About the Training

Cost: $50

Format: Online and self-paced

Time Commitment: Approximately 4 hours

- The parent experience following a prenatal diagnosis
- Prenatal testing and screening
- The impact of language and communication on families
- A five-step approach to accompanying and supporting parents after a diagnosis



Special Reimbursement Offer

To encourage participation, the Apostolate for Persons with Disabilities will reimburse half of the registration fee for Walking With Moms in Need volunteers who complete the training. After successfully completing the course, participants need only submit a copy of their certificate of completion to receive a $25 reimbursement check.

How to Register

Visit Be Not Afraid at www.benotafraid.net. Scroll to the bottom of the homepage and, under Courses Offered by Be Not Afraid, select Care for Abortion Vulnerable Parents. Complete the interest form, and a member of the Be Not Afraid team will contact you with registration information and course access details.

Please consider sharing this opportunity with others who may be interested in serving families through the Prenatal Diagnosis Support Ministry or in becoming involved with Walking With Moms in Need.
Interested in a Larger Role?

Be Not Afraid also offers a more comprehensive Parent Care Coordinator Training, which members of the diocesan ministry team are currently completing. This advanced training requires a greater commitment but prepares participants to serve more extensively within the Prenatal Diagnosis Support Ministry.

Those interested in learning more about joining the ministry team are encouraged to contact Megan Wedwick at megan.wedwick@madisondiocese.org.



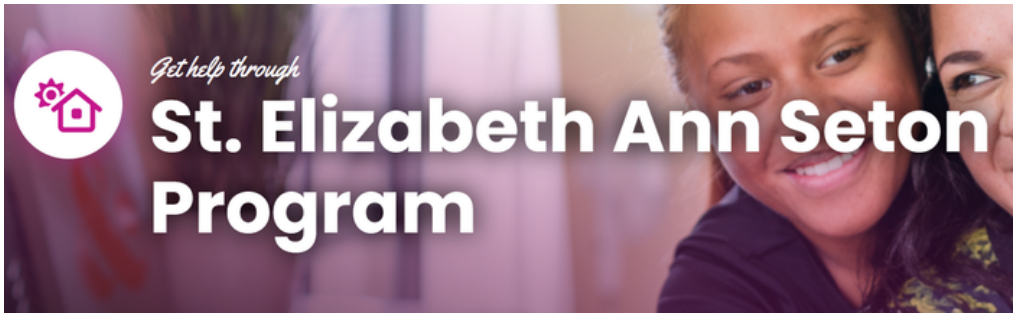
Together, we can help ensure that families facing a difficult prenatal diagnosis know they are not alone and that compassionate support is available throughout their journey.

https://www.benotafraid.net/pages/about

Local Resources

Here are some local resources that support moms and families in need. As always, we encourage you to inquire and ask questions about their life affirming services.

SOCIETY of ST. VINCENT de PAUL
MADISON



THE ELIZABETH HOUSE
HOUSING & HOPE FOR MOMS AND BABIES



Sponsor Families

Volunteers "adopt" a family in need, delivering food weekly and building ongoing, authentic relationships.

Zeteo Community

Serving women who have been sexually exploited by providing residential programming and supportive community in which they are free to dream and thrive.

