

A photograph of a woman with brown hair, smiling and holding a baby. The woman is wearing a floral patterned top. The baby is wearing a blue headband with a bow and a striped shirt. The background is a soft, out-of-focus grey.

INDIANA'S PREGNANCY & PARENTING SUPPORT PROGRAM

**NOW THAT I HAVE AGNES,
I WOULDN'T GIVE HER UP
FOR ANYTHING.**
I love her SO much.

- Reannin, mom to Agnes (both pictured)

Updated Overview

Initiated in 2014, **Indiana's Pregnancy & Parenting Support Program** promotes childbirth rather than abortion. Through this initiative, the Indiana State Health Department hires **Real Alternatives**, a privatized social services program, to serve women and families across the state. **Since 2014, the program has served more than 93,100 Hoosier women.**

Last year, the State of Indiana increased funding to this life-affirming program in the hopes of serving even more women. Now, plans are in the works to achieve just that. Meanwhile, **FY 2020-2021** finished strongly for Hoosier women and their families, proving the continued importance of this program:

- ✓ More than 13,200 women served
- ✓ \$210 million in taxpayer savings for clients who received prenatal care in FY 2020-2021
- ✓ \$6.5 million in taxpayer savings for children having up-to-date immunizations in FY 2020-2021
- ✓ 6 Real Alternatives providers at 22 locations throughout the state
- ✓ Currently funded at \$2.5 million per year through federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families funds

A photograph of a woman with glasses holding a young child with curly hair, both looking upwards against a blue sky with clouds. The woman is wearing a striped shirt, and the child is wearing a white shirt with a small pattern and blue jeans.

INDIANA'S
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The Difference We're Making

At no cost to the women served, the state of Indiana is ensuring a caring, knowledgeable support system to Hoosier women during one of their greatest times of need: an unexpected pregnancy.

Since the program was signed into law by then-Governor Mike Pence in 2014, it has served more than **93,100 Hoosier women** with counseling, education classes, material support, and so much more.

Last year, the Indiana General Assembly and Governor Eric Holcomb chose to continue funding Indiana's Pregnancy and Parenting Support Program, generously providing \$2.5 million per fiscal year.

The new funding, which arrived this spring, is already being used for a statewide advertising campaign that is taking place between May and August 2022. Results from this initial advertising buy will help shape our client growth strategy going forward. Since May, nearly 2,000 more Hoosier women have been served

While results from this campaign are not available yet, new data from FY 2020-2021 demonstrates the continued importance of Indiana's Pregnancy and Parenting Support Program. The number of clients served (and therefore tax dollars saved) increased from the previous fiscal year. The steady success of this program is noteworthy during these two fiscal years, considering the broad impact of COVID-19 on health care, families, jobs, and other major aspects of living during the pandemic.

FY 2019-2020 → FY 2020-2021

\$2.9 MILLION →

in taxpayer savings for **139 clients**
whose children have up-to-date
immunizations

\$6.5 MILLION

in taxpayer savings for **309 clients**
whose children have up-to-date
immunizations

\$189 MILLION →

in taxpayer savings for **8,298 clients**
who received proper prenatal care

\$210 MILLION

in taxpayer savings for **8,945 clients**
who received proper prenatal care



INDIANA'S
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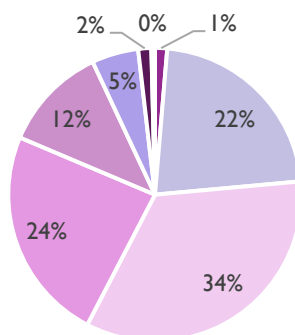


The Women We're Serving

Through Indiana's Pregnancy & Parenting Support Program, tens of thousands of Hoosier women are gaining increased self-sufficiency and improved parenting skills across the state. Support services to new mothers include counseling, shelter, food, clothing, parenting education, adoption information, and referrals to other community agencies for women who have a child under 12 months old.

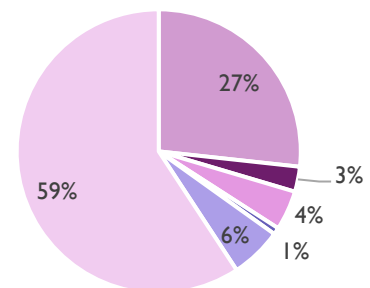
Here is a simple snapshot of the women we've served between 2014 and June 2022:

Age of Women Served



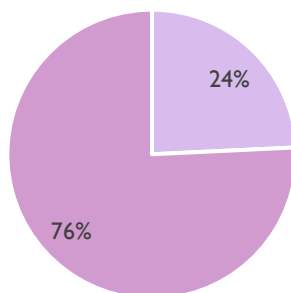
■ <16 years old
 ■ 16-20 years old
 ■ 21-25 years old
 ■ 26-30 years old
 ■ 31-35 years old
 ■ 36-40 years old
 ■ 41-45 years old
 ■ >45 years old

Race of Women Served



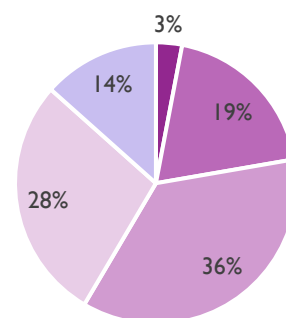
■ African American
 ■ Asian
 ■ Multi
 ■ White
 ■ Native American
 ■ Other

Marital Status of Women Served



■ Married
 ■ Not Married

Education Level of Women Served



■ Grade 0 to 8
 ■ Some High School
 ■ High School Graduate / GED
 ■ Some College
 ■ College Graduate

The Babies We're Serving

The goal of Indiana's Pregnancy & Parenting Support Program is to save lives by supporting moms and dads with resources, counseling, material help, and referrals. These services are available to a woman throughout her pregnancy, after she has given birth, and throughout the first year of her child's life.

Over the last several years, the state of Indiana has advanced in a life-affirming direction. Thanks to laws that protect life, educational efforts, and the critical work of pregnancy help organizations, lives are being saved.

The year before Indiana's Pregnancy & Parenting Support Program began, there were 7,621 resident abortions reported to the Indiana State Health Department. In 2020 (the last year data is available), the department reported 7,372 resident abortions—a difference of 3.26 percent.

Significantly, that same year, 13,015 women received services from Indiana's Pregnancy & Parenting Support Program. As abortion rates are expected to continue to fall, a wider social safety net will be required to support families in the coming year.

Additionally, support services will continue to be important in combatting infant mortality. Our state infant mortality rate, which stood at 7.1 in 2013, has fallen to 6.6 as of 2020.

The role of Indiana's Pregnancy & Parenting Support Program in this issue cannot be understated. Proper prenatal care plays a critical role in improving birth weights and preventing infant deaths. In FY 2020-2021, 10,487 Pregnancy & Parenting Support Program clients received proper prenatal care.

Furthermore, a two-year study from Women's Care Center—one of our state's six Real Alternatives providers—demonstrates improved birth outcomes for women who visited their centers multiple times. For women who visited Women's Care Center 1-2 times, the average birth weight of their babies was 6 lbs. 15 oz. For women who made more than 7 visits to Women's Care Center, the average birth weight for their babies was 7 lbs. 5 oz.



INDIANA'S
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Where We're Serving

Over the last seven years, the Pregnancy & Parenting Support Program has served Hoosier women in almost every Indiana county. The totals below reflect clients served through June 30, 2022.

| County | Total | County | Total | County | Total |
|-------------|--------|------------|--------|----------------------|---------------|
| Adams | 99 | Jefferson | 6 | Sullivan | 1 |
| Allen | 14,671 | Jennings | 2 | Switzerland | 1 |
| Bartholomew | 55 | Johnson | 388 | Tippecanoe | 5,105 |
| Benton | 180 | Knox | 8 | Tipton | 12 |
| Blackford | 14 | Kosciusko | 1,780 | Union | 2 |
| Boone | 297 | LaGrange | 130 | Vanderburgh | 288 |
| Brown | 13 | Lake | 4,092 | Vermillion | 3 |
| Carroll | 113 | LaPorte | 5,809 | Vigo | 44 |
| Cass | 60 | Lawrence | 134 | Wabash | 89 |
| Clark | 3 | Madison | 154 | Warren | 18 |
| Clay | 23 | Marion | 14,184 | Warrick | 27 |
| Clinton | 162 | Marshall | 2,729 | Washington | 5 |
| Crawford | 1 | Martin | 8 | Wayne | 29 |
| Davless | 15 | Miami | 40 | Wells | 189 |
| Dearborn | 3 | Monroe | 1,818 | White | 159 |
| Decatur | 15 | Montgomery | 58 | Whitley | 418 |
| DeKalb | 681 | Morgan | 347 | Grand Totals: | 93,142 |
| Delaware | 60 | Newton | 15 | | |
| Dubois | 9 | Noble | 518 | | |
| Elkhart | 10,604 | Orange | 24 | | |
| Fayette | 27 | Owen | 146 | | |
| Floyd | 3 | Parke | 2 | | |
| Fountain | 49 | Perry | 2 | | |
| Franklin | 4 | Pike | 4 | | |
| Fulton | 282 | Porter | 468 | | |
| Gibson | 3 | Posey | 9 | | |
| Grant | 109 | Pulaski | 71 | | |
| Greene | 99 | Putnam | 43 | | |
| Hamilton | 940 | Randolph | 7 | | |
| Hancock | 130 | Ripley | 3 | | |
| Harrison | 1 | Rush | 23 | | |
| Hendricks | 628 | Scott | 4 | | |
| Henry | 26 | Shelby | 53 | | |
| Howard | 71 | Spencer | 1 | | |
| Huntington | 256 | St Joseph | 1 | | |
| Jackson | 22 | St. Joseph | 23,352 | | |
| Jasper | 82 | Starke | 341 | | |
| Jay | 7 | Steuben | 161 | | |



INDIANA'S
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6 Real Alternatives Providers *at* 22 Locations *throughout Indiana*

Provider

County

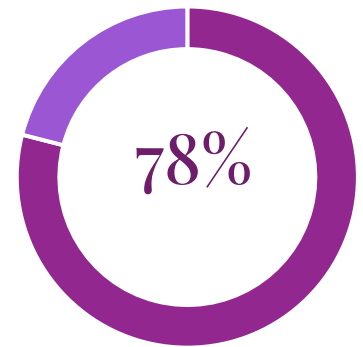
| | |
|---|-------------|
| Catholic Charities Diocese of Gary | Lake |
| Catholic Charities of Ft Wayne / S Bend | Allen |
| Catholic Charities of Ft Wayne / S Bend | St. Joseph |
| Evansville Christian Life Center | Vanderburgh |
| Heartline Pregnancy Center | Kosciusko |
| Bravely Women's Health | Tippecanoe |
| Bravely Women's Health Mobile Unit | Marion |
| Women's Care Center | Allen |
| Women's Care Center | St. Joseph |
| Women's Care Center | Marshall |
| Women's Care Center | Laporte |
| Women's Care Center | Elkhart |
| Women's Care Center | Marion |
| Women's Care Center | Monroe |
| Women's Care Center | Lake |

How We're Serving

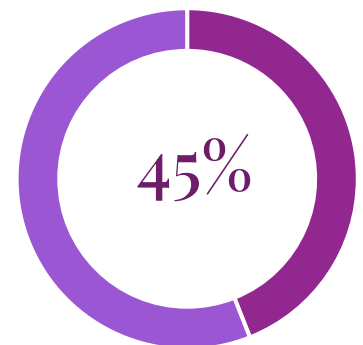
From postpartum depression to breastfeeding issues to emotional, physical, or sexual abuse, a variety of concerns can place added pressure on mothers across our state. Over the last seven years, thousands of Hoosier women have addressed these challenges by taking advantage of the following services and referrals through Indiana's Pregnancy & Parenting Support Program:

| Service/Referral | Total | Percent of Clients |
|-------------------------------|--------|--------------------|
| ✓ Abortion Risks & Info | 23,459 | 14.68% |
| ✓ Abstinence/Chastity | 15,738 | 9.85% |
| ✓ Abuse (Emotional) | 3,163 | 1.98% |
| ✓ Abuse (Physical) | 3,063 | 1.92% |
| ✓ Abuse (Sexual) | 1,447 | 0.91% |
| ✓ Adoption Education | 12,752 | 7.98% |
| ✓ Anger Management | 1,616 | 1.01% |
| ✓ Breastfeeding | 20,943 | 13.10% |
| ✓ Child Care | 25,766 | 16.12% |
| ✓ Childbirth Issues | 27,066 | 16.93% |
| ✓ Decision Making | 30,628 | 19.16% |
| ✓ Depression | 13,728 | 8.59% |
| ✓ Drug/Alcohol | 19,175 | 12.00% |
| ✓ Education | 42,010 | 26.28% |
| ✓ Fetal Development | 71,555 | 44.76% |
| ✓ Financial/Job | 52,347 | 32.75% |
| ✓ Housing | 40,423 | 25.29% |
| ✓ Initial Intake | 54,775 | 34.27% |
| ✓ Legal | 3,379 | 2.11% |
| ✓ Life Skills | 14,170 | 8.86% |
| ✓ Medical/Health | 86,334 | 54.01% |
| ✓ Mental Health | 14,064 | 8.80% |
| ✓ Nutrition | 42,185 | 26.39% |
| ✓ Other | 44,795 | 28.02% |
| ✓ Pantry Needs | 10,281 | 6.43% |
| ✓ Parenting Skills | 35,479 | 22.19% |
| ✓ Post Delivery Stress | 10,202 | 6.38% |
| ✓ Pregnancy Counseling & Info | 77,986 | 48.79% |
| ✓ Relationship | 59,406 | 37.16% |
| ✓ STD Risks & Information | 26,342 | 16.48% |
| ✓ Stress Management | 12,762 | 7.98% |
| ✓ Chastity Class | 3,695 | 2.31% |
| ✓ Parenting Class | 35,886 | 22.45% |
| ✓ Pregnancy Class | 4,713 | 2.95% |
| ✓ In-House Clothing | 58,780 | 36.77% |
| ✓ In-House Food | 56,033 | 35.05% |
| ✓ In-House Furniture | 48,707 | 30.47% |
| ✓ Pregnancy Test Kit | 1,728 | 1.08% |

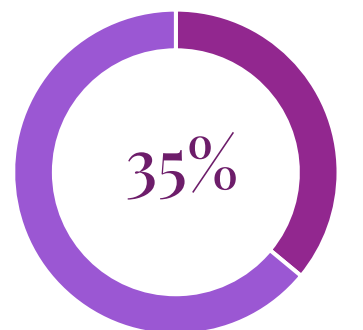
Total Services & Referrals Provided: 1,106,581



of women who were pressured by others to abort chose life after program services



of women who were abortion-minded chose life after program services



of women who were abortion-minded *and* pressured by others to abort chose life after program services

Our Fiscal Responsibility

Indiana's Pregnancy & Parenting Support Program operates at **no cost** to the women served.

The program is funded on a **fee-for-service basis**, meaning that Indiana only pays for services once they are performed. This incentivizes performance: The more services a center provides, the more the location is reimbursed for those services. This is notably different from grant-based funding, which provides funds up front, regardless of the number of women served.

Furthermore, the **administrative costs of the program account for 7.01 percent of our budget**—an incredibly small amount in the world of TANF-funded programs. Indeed, TANF federal funds cap administrative costs at 15 percent. Real Alternatives is able to keep its administrative costs low, thanks to multiple state contracts that contribute to overhead expenses, lowering shared costs.

Total Funding Per Year:

\$2.5
million

Requested Addition:

\$1
million

To span the last quarter of FY 21-22
(July - Sept. 2022) and first three
quarters of FY 22-23 (Oct. - June 2023)

Clients Served through Funding:

13,245
*FY 20-21 clients served
with \$2.25 million*

14,500
*FY 21-22 clients served
with \$2.5 million (estimated)*

17,000 +
*FY 22-23 clients served
with \$3.5 million (estimated)*

Projected Results from Increasing Marketing Budget:

- ↑ *Increased awareness of the program*
- ↑ *Increased women & babies served*

Projected Savings to Indiana to Date:

⚕ **\$1.3 Billion**
*in prenatal care**

💉 **\$62.7 Million**
*in immunizations***

*55,915 clients have received proper prenatal care. "If all U.S. women received adequate prenatal care, the estimated savings would be \$14,755 per low-birth weight birth prevented." [\$22,832 in 2020 dollars] - (CDC - 1999)

**3,059 children served through IPPSP have up-to-date vaccines. Up-to-date vaccines cost \$795 per child. "Every dollar spent on immunizations saves \$18.40 in medical and societal costs." [\$25.78 in 2020 dollars] (CDC - 2003)

Going Forward

For the last seven years, Indiana's Pregnancy & Parenting Support Program has proven itself worthy of state funding. Not only has the program saved lives, but it has also provided critical assistance to our state's strongest support system for moms: Pregnancy help organizations.

As such, Indiana Right to Life is respectfully requesting an additional \$1 million in FY 2022-2023 for Indiana's Pregnancy & Parenting Support Program.

This funding will span the last quarter of FY 21-22 (July – Sept. 2022) and the first three quarters of FY 22-23 (Oct. 2022 – June 2023). The extra funding will be directed towards:

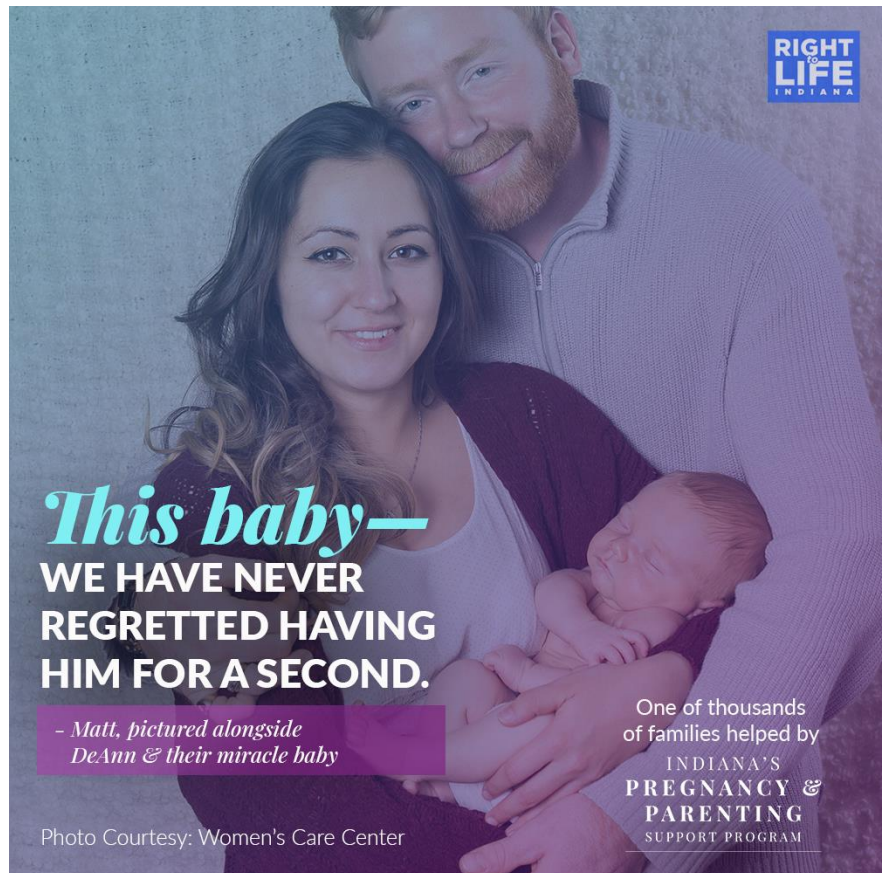
1. Building capacity at the service provider level, and
2. Expanding outreach to clients

The importance of Indiana's Pregnancy & Parenting Support Program was made abundantly clear over the course of 2020 and 2021, when many families faced unemployment, loss of income, isolation, and numerous other hardships.

Add in the decline in childhood immunizations as part of COVID-19's impact, and the importance of Indiana's Pregnancy & Parenting Support Program is all the clearer.

As abortions continue to decline in our state, we must ensure that resources are available to empower Hoosier women in caring for their babies. This program has saved our state millions, and most importantly, it has saved children from the fate of abortion, as well as infant mortality.

Hoosier women and babies are relying on the care of Indiana's Pregnancy & Parenting Support Program.



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“I want others to hear my story.”

Reannin had one option when she found out she was pregnant with her fifth baby.

Or so she thought.

“I was dead set on abortion,” she later said. “I thought, ‘Not gonna happen, nope, nope, nope.’ I had four kids already, this wasn’t planned. At first, it was just denial. ‘I’m not pregnant. I’m not doing this, not having this baby.’”

Seeking an abortion, she placed two calls: One to Planned Parenthood and one to Women’s Care Center. Planned Parenthood told her they’d see her “next week.” Women’s Care Center said, “We can see you right now.”

With that, Reannin walked into Women’s Care Center and the trajectory of her life changed.

“I told [the counselor] about my plan to get an abortion, and the counselor explained all the procedures to me in a truly non-judgmental, really supportive way,” Reannin said. “She told me my choices, including giving me the option to have the baby. At the time, having the baby hadn’t even crossed my mind!”

Along with the realization of a second choice came the knowledge of her baby’s biological reality and the procedure that almost ended her.

“I didn’t even understand what all went into an abortion—I thought it was just taking a little pill and then it was all done,” Reannin said. “But then I realized there was a heartbeat. Realized it was a baby! And it’s been a baby from the very start.”

At that first appointment, Reannin watched as her baby’s image was emblazoned on the ultrasound screen.

“It was at that very first ultrasound that I decided I was going to have her,” she said. “The first thing I ever remember seeing was the top of her head. And just like that, I thought, ‘I want her! I’m having this baby. This is going to happen.’”

Her child was small—the [same age most babies are](#) when aborted in the U.S.



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“She was only 10 weeks old, but she was already this *baby*—arms, legs, kicking, moving,” Reannin recalled. “And I’ve had four other kids before! But even as a mom of four, I still didn’t even realize the way a baby developed. I couldn’t have told you that was a baby until I saw a Women’s Care Center early ultrasound.”

Real Empowerment, Real Alternatives

Over the years, thousands upon thousands of women just like Reannin have walked through [Women’s Care Center](#)’s doors to have their lives changed in the best way possible.

The pregnancy help organization, which has 33 locations across the U.S., was founded in South Bend, Indiana in 1984. That first year, the center served 300 women. Today, the centers serve over 400 women every day.

In Indiana, the organization’s 16 centers have expanded their reach so that one in eight babies start with one of their centers.

Part of that success they attribute to Indiana’s Pregnancy & Parenting Support Program, an initiative that provides funds for services that promote childbirth rather than abortion. Supported by [Indiana Right to Life](#), the program was first signed into law by then-Governor Mike Pence in 2014. Through this program, the Indiana State Health Department hires [Real Alternatives](#), a privatized social services program, to serve women like Reannin across the state.

The initiative has served more than 93,100 women with life-affirming services since 2014.

Women’s Care Center is one of six Real Alternatives providers throughout the state that receives reimbursement for services, such as parenting classes, counseling, and material resources.

Since Indiana’s Pregnancy & Parenting Support Program started, Women’s Care Center has expanded significantly, adding five new centers to its Indiana fleet.

“We could not have expanded in the way that we have without Real Alternatives, there’s no question about it,” said Ann Manion, volunteer president for Women’s Care Center.

Manion says that in the years since the program started, her Indiana centers have seen an 82 percent increase in positive pregnancy tests. In 2019, the centers served 10,702 pregnant women.

Since Real Alternatives began, Women’s Care Center has been able to do even more than increase client intake.

“I think the depth of care has grown, as well,” Manion said. “We’ve been able to do more education and build more education programs.”

One program offers a parenting booklet called, “Raising Kids with Character,” a resource that highlights easy ways for parents to raise children with virtues, like honesty, patience, and kindness. Manion said this booklet would have been impossible without Real Alternatives funding.



With enough room in their budget to think creatively, Manion believes the centers have been able to further empower women in the choice for life.

“I wouldn’t give her up for anything.”

Reannin certainly felt empowered.

“It took a while, but I realized that I was ready for this,” she said. “I am a grown woman! I can have this baby—it’s not such a big deal. After I had Agnes, I came right back to Women’s Care Center. I’m grateful to have someone in that first, really scary time. To have someone with me.”

That support saved Agnes’s life, and a lifetime of heartache for Reannin herself.

“Now that I have her, I feel so guilty about what I almost did,” she said. “The guilt really hit me. I can’t imagine what life would be like if I’d gone through with it.”

Reannin is clearly aware of the very real alternative she chose to making an appointment with Planned Parenthood.

“If I hadn’t gotten an appointment at Women’s Care Center first, I would have gone right to Planned Parenthood and I probably would have aborted,” she said. “They wouldn’t have given me the care and counseling that Women’s Care Center did.”

Now, Reannin is speaking out so that other women facing similar circumstances will find the help that she did.

“I want others to hear my story, especially other women in my position,” she said. “If anyone is in that situation, it’s a really tough place to be. You feel like you get judged either way, no matter what decision you make. We are so judgmental of others’ choices.

“But I was never judged at Women’s Care Center. Women’s Care Center is truly wonderful. It’s very, very helpful to women in all walks of life. I’m most grateful for the early counseling, having that person who’s there for you. You’re going to make your own choice and they’re going to very kindly help you through the process.”

That process, one without judgment and one that is steeped in kindness, is what led her to Agnes.

“Now that I have Agnes, I wouldn’t give her up for *anything*,” she said. “I love her SO much. I want people in my situation to know it’s ok to have your baby. You’ll be ok! It’s hardest in the first moment, when you find out, and it may be hard in the future, but you will be ok. You can do it. That’s what I want people to know.”

Note: This story has been adapted from an interview collected from Women’s Care Center.

