



# STAR OF THE NORTH MATERNITY HOME

[www.StarOfTheNorthMaternityHome.org](http://www.StarOfTheNorthMaternityHome.org)

## Iron Range Location Now Open!



Fr. Daniel and Deacon John Weiske were up to bless our new apartment style homes.

Dear SON Community,

We are so pleased to announce the official opening of SON Iron Range was April 18th and we have our FIRST Mom (or with her 1 and 3-year-old moved in this week and doing well. Fr. Daniel and Deacon John Weiske were up to bless our new home (apartments). Kimberly Fagan Program Director, her staff, and volunteers along with Pastor John Krhin worked so hard and diligently to get us open this quickly.

We are grateful and awed by their hard work! Kim has shared multiple stories of how their prayers daily are answered as you give and give from yourself and our communities to help make this mission work. We celebrated with a Ribbon Cutting and Blessing on June 3 – we are so thankful for so many that have come together to do this important work.

### Opening Positions:

[www.starofthenorthmaternityhome.org/volunteer/jobs](http://www.starofthenorthmaternityhome.org/volunteer/jobs)

Employment opportunities for 7am -9pm for night Care Coordinator.

Please email [starofthenorthmh@gmail.com](mailto:starofthenorthmh@gmail.com) with any questions

SON is an opportunity for us to go alongside and support women and their babies on their life journey at an important time - residential housing pregnant women or with babies. We are privileged as staff and volunteers to be there, where and how we can for them. They all have had a tremendously tough journey and when they arrive are often more fragile and broken than we can comprehend. Our expectations, hopes, and dreams are not always theirs, so we focus on being able to share from our heart Christ's love and care for them however we can.

Our hearts get filled often and our hearts get broken too. We are doing hard and important work with complex and long-standing root problems. As we strive to bring in professionals with a program mixed with caring volunteers, it works! We are so grateful as we have the things we need and are committed to helping how we can.

**SON Twin Ports Updates:** We recently attended a Mother's Day Brunch and SON Baby Shower hosted by Jean Esler and Holy Family Church community. Two of our past residents and their babies joined and it was a joy to see them growing as moms with healthy happy babies as they continue to build a life for their happy and healthy babies.

We are excited to welcome Co-Program Managers Margo Rathke and Carla Boyd joining us soon. We, like all organizations, are experiencing a shortage of staff and volunteers, and ask for your prayers for evening and weekend part-time care coordinator staff and volunteers to support our 24/7 coverage in Twin Ports.

We are excited to be partnering with Father Kunst and Stella Maris for the upcoming and unique Vatican Unveiled Event. Thank you as we are blessed with your amazing support.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Susan E. McClernon  
Executive Director

### Needs for SON Twin Ports:

- Baby Monitor with video
- Visit our Amazon Wish List and search StaroftheNorth



[https://StarOfTheNorthMaternityHome.org](http://https://StarOfTheNorthMaternityHome.org)



StaroftheNorthMaternityHome

Twin Ports | (218) 340-1645 | [sonmhtwp@gmail.com](mailto:sonmhtwp@gmail.com)

Iron Range | (218) 206-1931 | [sonmhir@gmail.com](mailto:sonmhir@gmail.com)

# Church Outreach: Nikki Karnowski



Nikki Karnowski, Volunteer  
Church Outreach Coordinator

Nikki states, "I love getting out and talking to members of different congregations on how they can get involved with SON, there are so many ways to help depending on your time, and commitment level."

Some give financially, others may have time to volunteer, bring meals, take our moms to appointments, or serve in mentoring roles -- there is something for everyone. Karnowski states, "Of course, we encourage everyone to be praying for the SON homes, the moms, and the children". Next up? Nikki is heading to the Iron Range to visit "Legacy Church." Pastor Brianna Holland and their members will be learning of ways they can connect and involved with SON and a unique offering will be taken. Nikki also recently presented information at the Duluth Gospel Tabernacle.

If you know of a church that would like to get involved you can contact SON at [starofthenorthmh@gmail.com](mailto:starofthenorthmh@gmail.com), or you can contact Nikki directly at 218-428-9501 or [nikkikarnowski@yahoo.com](mailto:nikkikarnowski@yahoo.com).

## How to Give:

- Make a difference in a mom & babies life today!
- Give online: [www.starofthenorthmaternityhome.org](http://www.starofthenorthmaternityhome.org)
- Sponsor or Purchase tickets to our LARGEST fundraiser in 2022: Vatican Unveiled! See back page for information.
- Questions or drop offs? Call 218-340-1645.

## Needs for SON Iron Range:

- Check out our Target Registry
- Target Gift Cards
- Shelving
- Full Size Bed & Frame
- Tupperware

## Volunteer Spotlight: Andrea Babinski

*"I have such a huge heart for these moms because I know how scary it is to find yourself unexpectedly pregnant, and I am so happy to do what I can to support them and help out."*



Andrea Babinski (Vol. July 2020) resides in Duluth with her husband and 3 boys.

When she started in 2020, current events felt overwhelming, frustrating, and out of control. She began to volunteer to get her focus off of herself and spend time with the moms and the kiddos at SON. She states, "Volunteering is a way to put actions behind my faith and beliefs, showing love to the moms that chose life for their child". Andrea helps the residents in any way she can, whether that's holding a baby while they rest, bringing a meal during her shift, cleaning, or just sitting and chatting with them. Recently, she reorganized the kitchen and made a meal planning binder so things are easier to locate in the kitchen.

"I love being with the moms and babies, and the house itself is super cozy, and I really do my best to show God's love to them while I'm there".

If you're interested in volunteering, please apply at [www.starofthenorthmaternityhome.org](http://www.starofthenorthmaternityhome.org) or call 218-340-1645."

# Staff Spotlight: Kim Fagan

*"We're thrilled to empower moms towards independence and success with their lives."*



Kim Fagan - Program Manager of Iron Range

Star of the North Maternity Home would like to welcome Kim Fagan to our team! Kim is the new Program Manager for our new location on the Iron Range. Born and raised in Hibbing, Kim came back to retire with family. She's a mom of two amazing children, and loves to travel. Her background includes being a foster mother, running a day care that specializes in infant and toddler care, and 12 years working in occupational therapy. Her biggest passion has also been working with non profit organizations working as a financial counselor, and being a HUD Certified Housing counselor helping the homeless find housing.

Kim's story is one of a kind and she loves to tell it. Semi-retired, Kim was walking down the street one day and came across a sign that said "Pray to End Abortion". She says, "something just came over me, and I stopped dead in my tracks! Then, I heard this voice, and it was loud in my head telling me that I can't just pray to end abortion, that I would have to work for it". She says the voice was so loud, she instantly called her priest, Father Daniel, to tell him her experience. Coincidentally, he had just heard talk of a possible maternity home starting in Hibbing. Father Daniel connected Kim with Star of the North, and then her journey began.

SON Iron Range is like our Duluth location, with a twist. We offer four, two bedroom apartments, and are building two more. It's ideal for Moms that have infants, or wanting to reunite with their other children or families. It's a unique because we can house up to 10 moms, with 24/7 staff.

She currently has a team of 6 part time staff members, and 16 volunteers that have been helping her open our new location. Kim can't say enough good about her staff and volunteers, "They come from a variety of backgrounds, offer a lot of different opportunities to teach, like taking over cooking on Mondays and helping with meal planning." In addition, we have a Bible study instructor, ECFE connections, life coach and a travel blogger who shares her worldly experiences with our moms in an effort to broaden their perspectives.

She says, "We're thrilled to empower moms towards independence and success with their lives."

**Pantry Drive—SON Iron Range! We are currently filling our pantry. Please drop off any items at 212 E. Howard St. Hibbing, MN. See a complete listing on our website**

**SON Iron Range is looking for volunteers to help with transportation, weekend help, and managing the office. Please email [sonmhir@gmail.com](mailto:sonmhir@gmail.com).**

## Update from a New Resident Mom: Paige



Paige new resident mom with her children, Celine and Lewis

*"I just want to be the best mom that I can be."*

Originally born and raised in Grand Rapids, Paige came to Star of the North Iron Range after a divorce left her homeless. She was a stay at home mom with two children who suddenly found herself unable to pay for child care and trying to go back to work full time with no family and no support. Paige found SON and just recently moved in to an apartment with us. Being adopted, she's working on her mental health issues. Her goals are to save up enough money to buy her own home, meet new people and she's really excited to part parenting classes that are offered at SON Iron Range.

If you're interested in donating to our new moms on the Iron Range, please email [sonmhir@gmail.com](mailto:sonmhir@gmail.com).

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questions.

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