



STAR OF THE NORTH MATERNITY HOME

www.StarOfTheNorthMaternityHome.org

Corn Roast Recap: An Evening of Fun, Food, and Fundraising!



What a day we had at St. James Parish on August 3rd! Our 4th Annual Corn Roast fundraiser was a blast, rain or shine. Thanks to the Knights of Columbus, Super One Foods, and our amazing team, we turned the gymnasium into a hub of fun and community spirit.

Todd Eckhart had us tapping our toes, and the food was finger-lickin' good. We even celebrated Lulu Johnson's 100th birthday - talk about a party!

Together, we raised over \$3,000 for Star of the North Maternity Home.

It's amazing what we can do when we come together, isn't it?

A big, warm thank you to everyone who joined us. You're making a real difference for local moms and babies!

Save the Date!

Saturday, October 26- Chili Palooza, Hibbing

Saturday, November 30- One of a Kind Holiday Show, Duluth

February 22, 2025- Women's Expo

March 2025 - Salmon Dinner

Dear SON Supporters,

October 2024

While my heart aches from the loss of my son Anthony, whom we adopted from a maternity home in St. Petersburg, Florida, in 1997, I am deeply grateful for the incredible support you've shown through your donations to Star of the North.

Anthony's birth mother made the courageous choice to step away from the path of abortion and chose life for him. Her second act of love was placing him in our arms, where we were blessed to have him for 27 wonderful years. We may not always understand God's plans, but we know that maternity homes are a crucial link in creating a culture of life within our communities.

Our SON Iron Range home has been at full capacity for the last two months, and SON Twin Ports is nearly full, with one more mom arriving soon. It fills my heart with joy to see our dedicated staff and volunteers working tirelessly to serve these mothers, babies, and children.

We are proud to share our 23-24 outcomes for both homes:

- We assisted 19 mothers and 20 children (up to age 10).
- We achieved a 0% rate for babies exposed to drugs or harmful substances.
- Resident attendance at medical and mental health appointments was 97.5%, surpassing our 95% goal.
- Educational session attendance reached 96.5%, exceeding our 95% target.

We hope you'll join us at our upcoming events: The Chili Palooza and the One-of-a-Kind Holiday Trunk Show. Your continued prayers, donations, and love mean the world to us, and we are especially thankful for the overwhelming support you've given to Anthony and our family during this time.

Dr. Susan E. McClernon, Executive Director

Thank you to the St. Louis County Family Services COLLABORATIVE GRANT for their support of the Star of the North Maternity Home



https://StarOfTheNorthMaternityHome.org

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Resident Spotlight



Crystal joined us in July after hearing from another resident how much they loved being here. After searching for the right place, she applied and was accepted. Crystal is a quiet, organized young woman with an adorable infant son. She has three siblings and is especially close to her youngest brother. In school, she often stayed in during recess to do extra work, and her dedication earned her opportunities to dress as Clifford the Big Red Dog or Franklin the Turtle to read to younger children. We still see that same diligence in her today. She is a blessing to our staff and other moms. We love Crystal!

SON IRON RANGE HOUSE UPDATE

As our family grew, we needed a larger kitchen table to fit everyone. A co-worker found one, though it was a bit beat-up, and I wasn't thrilled. My initial thought was, "It's so big; it should look nice." But over time, I realized that table symbolizes family life—sometimes messy, leaving scars and marks. It's where we laugh, cry, talk, and sit comfortably in silence. We celebrate victories, support each other in defeat, and teach and learn together. Every gathering begins with a prayer of gratitude for what God has generously provided. Now, I see it's a beautiful table because it represents our family and the love that surrounds it daily.



Volunteer Spotlight



Seventeen year old Hibbing native Sydney Dietrich has been babysitting for SONIR for well over a year, providing childcare for eleven different children ranging from newborn to six years old. She is well suited for this position in our home, as her mother runs the early childhood program at Abundant Life in Hibbing and Sydney has been her right-hand gal for years. She is currently a junior at Victory Christian Academy, earning credits online through North Central University, where she plans to attend after graduation. Sydney has shown remarkable maturity and compassion in our work with moms from all different backgrounds, as she says, "This is so awesome that we can do this for these moms." Her heart for children and her dependability has been a blessing to all of us here at the Iron Range House. We are so grateful that she has chosen to serve here and are certain we will see good things from her in her future endeavors in school and ministry!

Kristyn Sinnott receives a check from Father Bill Skarich and Dell Brinsfield, President of the Iron Range Motorcycle Club who conducted a Presidents Ride on July 13 and raised \$3,000. Thank you for your support!



Needs for SON Iron Range:

Check out our [Target Registry](#)
Pillow Protectors
Toddler bed
toilet paper, paper towels, disinfectant
wipes, outdoor playset
AA batteries,
volunteers (especially care coordinators)
outdoor playset

Capital Needs:

Exterior Paint - \$10K
New AC & Roof Repair - \$35k
Payoff Mortgage - \$225K

SON Twin Ports

Resident Spotlight

Mackenzie and Lillia



SON Twin Ports Needs

Baby Bath for ages 2+
New Stroller

Visit our [Amazon Wish List](#)
and search StaroftheNorth

SON TWP Capital Needs:

Driveway Expansion &
Resurfacing - \$10K

Fixing Back Deck- \$2K

Pay off Mortgage -
\$300K

OPENINGS Board Members

TWP Co-Program Manager
SON IR & TWP need Care Coordinators and Volunteers.
Please apply online at togetherforlifenorthland.org

Pumpkin Bar Recipe

Courtesy of Linda Nervick

Ingredients

4 eggs
1 2/3 cups granulated sugar
1 cup vegetable oil
1 (15 ounce) can pumpkin puree
2 cups sifted all-purpose flour
2 teaspoons baking powder
2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon baking soda
Icing
1 (8 ounce) package cream cheese, softened
1/2 cup butter or 1/2 cup margarine, softened
2 cups sifted confectioners' sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla extract

A New Beginning: Mackenzie and Lillia's Journey

At the Twin Ports house, stories of resilience and hope continue to unfold in our amazing residents.

Meet Mackenzie, originally from Portland, Oregon, who found her way to Minnesota in 2017. Growing up she faced many challenges including foster care and homelessness. Her life took an unexpected turn with the birth of her daughter, Lillia, now four months old.

"I love watching her grow and develop into her own little person," Mackenzie shares, "Taking care of her gives me purpose."

Despite the demands of motherhood, Mackenzie is working tirelessly towards her goals. She's taking steps to return to school and pursue a career as a laboratory technician, with dreams of eventually becoming a Physician Assistant. Her passion for healthcare was ignited during her time as a Certified Nursing Assistant.

For Lillia, Mackenzie envisions a future filled with stability and opportunity. "I want to homeschool her and give her a better life than what I had," she says with determination.

At our maternity home, Mackenzie has found crucial support. "Everyone is pleasant and cares so much. They're all so sweet and supportive," she explains.

Contrary to those who claim parenthood ended their lives, Mackenzie feels the opposite. "I feel like my life began when I had Lillia," she confides.

We're immensely proud of Mackenzie's unwavering commitment to giving Lillia the best life possible. Her journey from adversity to hope serves as an inspiration, reminding us of the transformative power of God's grace and the joy of motherhood.

Instructions

1. Preheat the oven to 350°F.
2. Using an electric mixer at medium speed, combine the eggs, sugar, oil and pumpkin until light and fluffy.
3. Stir together the flour, baking powder, cinnamon, salt and baking soda.
4. Add the dry ingredients to the pumpkin mixture and mix at low speed until thoroughly combined and the batter is smooth.
5. Spread the batter into a greased 13 by 10-inch baking pan.
6. Bake for 30 minutes.
7. Let cool completely before frosting.
8. Cut into bars.
9. To make the icing: Combine the cream cheese and butter in a medium bowl with an electric mixer until smooth.
10. Add the sugar and mix at low speed until combined.
11. Stir in the vanilla and mix again.
12. Spread on cooled pumpkin bars



Who's Trying These?!



Maternity Home

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