



STAR OF THE NORTH MATERNITY HOME

www.StarOfTheNorthMaternityHome.org

Christmas this year was amazing!

A huge "Thank You" to St. John's and St. Benedict's Catholic Churches Giving Tree teams and a small church group in Woodland for their generosity!

As we celebrated the Birth of our Savior, the gifts and food really gave our Moms and kids the best Christmas ever!



Thank You to Our Grantors



Human Life & Development Fund



From the Executive Director's Desk

Winter 2026

Dear SON Supporters,

WOW! I continue to be amazed at God's support of SON through each of you! Only because of you and your prayers and generosity is Star of the North Maternity Homes able to continue providing safe housing and a life-changing maternity program with education, mentorship and holistic support for women during pregnancy and early motherhood across Northeastern Minnesota and Northwestern Wisconsin.

Thanks to faithful donors, churches and granting agencies we have sustained **six years in the Twin Ports and three years in the Iron Range**. We are more committed than ever to our mission, with moms returning to school and work, children enrolled in preschool, and new babies arriving soon.

Molly and I have been writing grants and we are proud to share the outcomes achieved across both SON homes during 2024-2025:

- Last year alone, we provided **more than 7,500 nights of safe housing and nutritious meals**, along with **more than 3,000 transports** to ensure mothers could attend medical appointments, counseling, and educational programs.
- Served **18 mothers and 17 children (up to age 10)**
- Achieved a **94% rate of babies not exposed to drugs or harmful substances**
- **95% attendance** at medical and mental health appointments
- **95% attendance** at parenting education, Bible study, financial literacy, and Bright Course sessions
- **90% attendance** in life-coaching sessions

This past year was especially meaningful. Our SON Iron Range home celebrated a milestone—remaining fully occupied with **four moms and seven children and babies for over a year**—while also completing major renovations, including roof and AC repairs and fresh paint. At our SON Twin Ports home, demand remained high, and at full capacity and a waiting list since August.

We are also grateful for the strong community support shown through our events, including a successful second annual Chili Cook-off in Hibbing and a wonderful Artists Trunk Show in Duluth

Since opening our doors in 2019, we have served **70 mothers and 65 babies and children**. Your continued support is vital as we operate our homes **24/7, 365 days a year**. Please keep our residents, their babies, our volunteers, and our staff in your prayers. Thank you again for partnering with us to build a **Culture of Life** for mothers and their children.

With deep gratitude

Dr. Sue McClernon, Executive Director

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ***Annual Salmon Dinner** March 20th 5:30-8:00 p.m.
St. James Catholic Church. Tickets available on our website.
(Please consider donating an silent auction item.)
- ***SON exhibit at Women's Expo** February 28th
- ***Mother's Day Flower Sale** May 10 at your local church

Please Join us and consider sponsoring us

See our new Annual Sponsorship Opportunities on our website

SON TWP & SON IR OPENINGS

- SON TWP Night Live-In (trade room & board)
- Volunteers - Babysitting & Transport
- Care Coordinators - weekends & evenings
- TFLN Board Members -2 from Iron Range

Please apply online at www.starofthenorthmaternityhome.org

Resident M Spotlight

“Something positive about being at SON is that I have a home where I can have peace of mind knowing that I can achieve my goals, learn how to be sufficient, and be independent to take care of my baby. I am so grateful and thankful to the staff for willing to take the time to help me succeed in my journey at SON. Here I have a home where I can have peace of mind knowing that I can achieve my goals, learn how to be sufficient, and be independent to take care of my baby. I am so grateful and thankful to the staff for being willing to take the time to help me succeed in my journey at SON.”

-Current SONMHIR Resident (who must remain anonymous)



Manager's Note: Kristyn Sinnott

We had a beautiful holiday season. The women enjoyed making cookies, decorating the home, and opening many beautiful gifts from generous donors. It's always a blessed and happy time around here. Now that we are in the throes of chilly winter weather, I recall when we first opened our home on the Iron Range. We were sorting donations into welcome baskets for the incoming moms, and there were some luxurious bathrobes tucked in. Now, each morning, when the women come down for breakfast, they are wrapped in cozy robes and fluffy slippers, reminding me of all those who give of their hearts to provide warmth and a touch of love. We were given funds for an extra refrigerator/freezer for those times our house is completely full and when we are enjoying a surplus of food. It has really filled a need and has been so appreciated by everyone. Thank you to those who provide financially, with time, and/or with prayer. I can assure you that nothing is not appreciated or wasted.

Staff Update: Meet Bridget



Bridget moved to the Iron Range from St. Paul about three years ago, and we're so glad she did! A mom of two boys, one in high school and the other grown and married, she loves having the opportunity to play with the little ones here at SONMHIR. She came to work for us last spring, pleased to be part of a personal, Christ-centered ministry. A quiet spirit who enjoys puzzles and reading in her spare time, she nevertheless steps in and goes above and beyond whatever is asked of her. We're so thankful that she's part of our team!

Check out our [Target Registry](#)



Needs For SON Iron Range:
Gift Cards: Walmart, SuperOne, Aldi & Target
Disinfecting wipes
Cleaning supplies
Volunteers and babysitters
Part-Time Staff

Capital Needs:

Garage Heater - \$4.5K
Replace Steam Heat - \$39K
Landscaping - \$2K
Payoff Mortgage -\$220K

SON Twin Ports

Resident Update Lindsey



When we first interviewed Lindsey, we thought that she was a Mom in whose life SON could make a real difference and offer her the opportunity she needed to succeed. She joined us in October, and now we know we were right! Lindsey is a mother coming out of addiction and homelessness. She is in her third pregnancy and getting ready to welcome her daughter at the end of February. She said, "SON is my safe haven, sheltering me and my child while I get back on my feet and helping with all of our needs - food, shelter, clothing, and transportation." When asked if there is anything she wanted to share, she said there is no other place for Moms in her position. If SON hadn't been here, she would have had to choose between placing her child for adoption or being homeless with her child. We are thankful to be here for her – that's not a choice any mother should need to make.

Since moving in, Lindsey has started classes at Lake Superior College. She has also found safety and stability during this phase of her pregnancy. She told me that her favorite part about being at SON is not being alone. She said, "Being together with other people in my position who understand and can go through this experience with me makes a big difference." Lindsey has fit right into our SON family, and we are excited to meet her daughter in a few weeks!

Lindsey has 2 other children living with family members and is in regular contact with them, playing an active role in their lives. Her goals are to continue her education, learn about daycare, and create a stable home. She also looks forward to being in a place where her other kids can come spend time with her and their sister. Lindsey is committed to making progress. She is grateful for the support she has in that journey. And she loves her family! She is proving that our first instincts were right, and SON is blessed to be here and help her succeed!

Managers' Note: Molly Rathke & Roxanne Rainey

SON Twin Ports is full and that brings lots of life and energy, and we love it! We have two expectant Moms, both due this month, along with two Moms and their preschool-age daughters. Moms are taking classes and working, the little girls are in school, and there are two babies on the way!

This means Moms will soon be needing some post-partum rest, we have "maternity leave meals" in mind. We would love for anyone to make a meal in advance to freeze, bring dinner after the babies come, or donate a gift card to give Moms the night off! It is so important for Moms to take time for recovery and bonding. Please reach out if you'd like to provide a meal. We also have a Mom looking for a good used car to purchase, so reach out if you have ideas on how to assist a Mom in securing a good used vehicle.

We have a wonderful group of women and children at SON TWP, not to mention our staff and volunteers. We are truly grateful to work with such an incredible group of people and I can't thank them enough for being so generous with their time and talents! We have been busy writing grants and planning upcoming fundraising events.

Staff Spotlight Meet Wendy



Wendy joined Star of the North (Twin Ports) as a Care Coordinator last fall, but her heart for helping Moms in crisis has been with her for years. Having known many women facing challenging pregnancies and parenting journeys, she felt an instant connection when she discovered SON on Facebook. "I knew [SON] was for me!" she shared. Wendy came to us in 2024 as a babysitter/volunteer, and we are so happy she has joined the Care Coordinator team. She finds joy in watching our Moms work hard to build better lives for themselves and their children, and she's proud to be part of an organization that empowers them.

While she's passionate about our mission, Wendy's favorite part is still "the littles." The children light up when they see her and are eager to play – no surprise with 10 grandchildren! Her kind, generous, warm and playful spirit fills our house. Wendy being part of the SON family is truly a "win-win," and we are thrilled she's chosen to share her time with us!

SON TWP Needs:

Gift Cards- Walmart,
SuperOne, Amazon &
Target

Plastic Storage Bins

Towel Sets

SON Twin Ports Amazon Needs



SON TWP Capital Needs:

Payoff Mortgage -
\$292K
Carpet Replacement -
\$15K
Exterior Painting -
\$12K



Maternity Home

Star of the North Maternity Home
11 E. Superior St, Executive Suites 273
Duluth, MN 55802

SON TWP | (218) 340-1645 | sonmhtwp@gmail.com
SON IR | (218) 206-1381 | sonmhir@gmail.com



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Salmon Dinner & Silent Auction

Benefit for the Star of the North Maternity Home

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Friday | March 20, 2026
5:30 - 8:00 PM

Live Music, Silent Auction, Drawings, & Fun
Tickets at: www.starofthenorthmaternityhome.org
St. James Catholic Church | 721 N. 57th Ave. W. | Duluth

\$25.00 in advance
\$30.00 at the door

Discounts for children, veterans and
seniors available online

For more info call: 218-340-1645
Salmon or Vegetarian Alternative
Advanced Ticket Sales Appreciated






2026 Women's Expo
Saturday, February 28, 2026
DECC

2026 Salmon Dinner
Friday, March 20, 2026
St. James Catholic Church

2026 Mother's Day Flower Sale
Sunday, May 10, 2026
Don't Forget to Buy Flowers for Mom!

2026 Corn Roast
Saturday, August 1, 2026

