

# Ashland Care Center *Life Lines*

Banquet Issue - XXXI Number 402

**JOIN US**  
FOR THE  
**ASHLAND CARE  
CENTER**  
**ANNUAL  
FUNDRAISING  
BANQUET**  
***“MAKING A  
DIFFERENCE”***

**APRIL 3, 2014**

WITH  
GUEST SPEAKER

***MELISSA OHDEN***

***ABORTION SURVIVOR***

at the

**ASHLAND UNIVERSITY  
CONVOCATION CENTER**

**6:30 PM DINNER &  
PROGRAM**

***RESERVATIONS REQUIRED***



**119 Sloan Ave. , Ashland, OH 44805 (419) 281-1111**  
**[www.AshlandCareCenter.org/donor](http://www.AshlandCareCenter.org/donor)**

**Our Vision:**  
**Ashland Care Center** is a Christ-centered ministry seeking to create a network of resources and education that affirms the Bible and the sanctity of human life.

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*"For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."*

*Jeremiah 29:11*

## **Director's Message**

On January 19, 2014, I had the honor and privilege to address a group of individuals at the Gazebo in the Square in Mansfield, Ohio. These wonderful people braved the cold and snow to be a voice for the voiceless and to take a stand FOR the Sanctity ALL Human Life! Below is an excerpt from that speech:

*For the past 40+ years we have been perceived as the OPPOSITION. We have been painted with the broad brush of only being against something—being AGAINST abortion, AGAINST a woman having a choice.*

*Let us make a conscious effort, that starting today, we will be a people known to stand FOR something - FOR life—FOR the empowerment of Women - FOR building a Wall of Hope to give a lifeline to those facing unplanned pregnancies...*

*The desire to do must be accompanied by the dedication to complete. [W]e need this dedication now because this is just the right time for God to work through His people in a miraculous way. God needs those who will stay the course even when times are challenging, even when the wisdom of this world tells us our culture is far too gone, that those who oppose us are too powerful and that we will never amass enough resources to complete our mission, when for the first time in history we have a president who concluded a speech with "God bless Planned Parenthood."*

*[W]e must also be a determined people...and have the kind of determination (that) cannot be swayed by critics, setbacks, or discouragement.*

*Look how far we have already come: In 1991 there were about 2100 abortion centers across the United States. Today they (have been reduced to )759 abortion clinics. Eighty-seven (87) abortion centers closed in 2013 alone.*

*Contrast that with the fact that in 2013 there were over 2000 Pregnancy Help Centers like Ashland Care Center in the United States, offering hope, education, support, and a hand-up to women and men in unplanned pregnancies. We are the ones that give options, options for parenting, adoption—life!*

*We will be a people who support Pregnancy Help Centers that commit to having their gates wide open, telling all who enter, "Your place of rest and refuge is inside."*

*We will be the ones who stand for ALL life from fertilization to a natural death!*

*We will be the people that build that wall of hope and re-establish a culture of life - one voice, one life at a time!*

(To read the entire address, go to: <http://www.ashlandcarecenter.org/blog/2014.02.10.building-the-wall-of-hope>.)

*Ducia Hamm, Executive Director*



#### **ABOUT BANQUET SPEAKER MELISSA OHDEN**

Melissa Ohden is the survivor of a failed saline infusion abortion in 1977. Despite the initial concerns regarding Melissa's future after surviving the attempt to end her life and being born alive a approximately seven months gestation, she has not only survived but thrived. She has a Master's degree in social work and she and her husband, Ryan, have a daughter, Olivia.

Melissa founded Abortion Survivors' Network in 2012 as a means to reach out to other abortion survivors and to education the public about failed abortions and the survivors. Fulfilling the purpose that she believes God set out for her when He saved her from the certain death of the abortion attempt, Melissa is truly a voice for the voiceless.





## SURRENDERING THE SECRET

Abortion can be one of the most traumatic experiences in a woman's life and most women find "surrendering the secret" of a past abortion to be a difficult thing. They deny their heart-breaking secret for years, ashamed, not wanting to let anyone in.

Ashland Care Center wants to help these women in their journey to come to terms with their past through a confidential, compassionate six-week "Surrendering the Secret" Bible study and discussion. This study is designed to lead women to post-abortion healing and study leaders Maryanne Wise and Nancy White want women to know they are not alone. Maryanne and Nancy want women who have been keeping a secret to know that God loves them, forgives them and wants to give them the same hope, healing, and peace that others have found.

The most recent study began on February 18th.

## PARENTING CLASS - Eat, Sleep, Poop

Ashland Care Center's parenting class is an open discussion going beyond the how-to's to the whys of raising children. It covers how to provide a healthy environment to grow your baby, help establish an eating and sleeping routine once the baby is born, and train your child to develop into a blessing and a joy.

Aaron and Aubrey Bates are the volunteers who lead this class. Aaron enjoys teaching, saying, "I think being a dad is the most rewarding thing in the world. We can have the greatest and longest lasting impact on our world through the legacy we leave with our children. I'm also convinced that we learn a ton about our Heavenly Father and how he cares for us as we parent our own children. So it's a win-win; we get to give and receive the fullness of God's grace and mercy as a mom and dad."



Our clients respond to Aaron and Aubrey with grateful hearts. Alexis Bowen remarks, "I really enjoyed this class because they did not just tell us the 'how to' but the 'why's' of parenting. I, myself, am about to be a first time mom and like many others I am nervous, but this class really did help me by explaining different things such as sleep and feeding schedules."

Jen Marker, a second time mom stated, "With this being my second pregnancy, I still forgot some things and attending this class reminded me how to do everything all over. This class was fun, interesting and very helpful."

**Aaron and Aubrey, thank you for making a difference in the lives we serve!**

## SANCITY OF HUMAN LIFE SUNDAY 2014

Thank you to Southview Grace Brethren Church for hosting this annual event on January 26, 2014. Even though the snow kept many away, there were about 120 in attendance. Many commented that this was the most spiritually uplifting and meaningful service they had attended. The evening consisted of praise & worship, 4 seasons of prayer, two testimonies, communion, and a candlelight memorial for those babies who have lost their lives because of abortion.





119 Sloan Ave. ♦ Ashland, OH 44805  
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If you prefer to receive your newsletter via email, or are receiving a duplicate mailing, please call us at 419-281-1111 so that we may more efficiently utilize God's resources.

## BABY ITEMS NEEDED!



Clients who complete parenting education activities earn our "baby bucks" to spend on needed items at the Boutique. The shop is currently running low

on some baby supplies.

**Can you help?**

### NEW ITEMS:

Diapers, sizes 1, 2, 3, 4  
Baby Wipes  
Baby Shampoo  
Baby Lotion  
Pacifiers  
Bottles

### NEW OR GENTLY USED:

Infant toys  
Baby furniture  
Strollers  
Bibs & socks  
Washcloths  
Baby clothes (up to 18 mo.)

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!**

**READY TO EAT OUT?  
COME TO OUR**

**Bob Evans**

**COMMUNITY FUNDRAISER  
"Dine to Make a Difference"**

for

**Ashland Care Center**

on

**Monday, March 24, 2013  
7 AM - 8 PM**

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