

Ben Ondersma

Board Member

Beginning in June of 2024, I began serving as one of the newest members of Daybreak LifeCare Center's Board of Directors. I am passionate about pro-life and the sanctity of the life of unborn children.

I'm blessed to have a godly wife, Meg, of eleven years and four children who keep us both very busy. We are active members at Shandon Baptist Church. Through friends at church, I was introduced to Daybreak in 2016. We began supporting the mission through giving and participating in its fundraising events, but I am honored to contribute as a member of its board.

Also known as "Dr.O.", I serve as a local optometrist in both Northeast Columbia and Camden, South Carolina. It was only through God making a way for an associate to join my practice that gave me the flexibility to dedicate time to Daybreak, for which I am very grateful. My hobbies include boating, gardening, and spending time with my family.

Originally from Michigan, I have been in South Carolina since 2010. Shortly after moving down, I met my wife who is from Camden, South Carolina. Growing up in the south, she is adamantly against living in a place that snows six months out of the year. So, as the Lord wills, I will be in the south for a long time.

Growing up, I lived in a home with parents who loved Jesus and taught me the truth of His grace and redemption through the cross. No stranger to sin, I can testify to its bondage. I also know from personal experience that the only way for someone to be found and freed from sin's grip, is for them to realize how lost they are and their need for a savior. One of my

favorite verses in the Bible is Luke 7:47, "Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she has loved much". The realization of forgiveness rendered through Christ's sacrifice leads to a greater love for the lost. This is one of the reasons why I, along with my family, support Daybreak.

Daybreak is not just a place where women come to receive help with an unexpected pregnancy. They are also introduced to the Savior of the world and the grace he is so willing to give. Which, as believers in Jesus, is a call we all have.

Another reason Daybreak is especially close to my heart is because of my father's birth story. Before my father was born, my grandmother, unwed at the time, had a difficult choice to make. Choosing either between abortion or letting her son live by being adopted by another family. She chose life through adoption! That single choice she made is the reason I am here today and can testify to God's goodness. Praise God for that!

