

Resident Update

Our Sanford maternity house is home to three women and one baby girl currently. One of our residents grew up abroad and applied to come to the US while speaking little English; we are so proud of her hard work in completing her first ESL class! She amazed our staff as she writes beautifully in English already and works hard on her pronunciation in conversations! Her little one is thriving, and we await her first words!

Sanford recently welcomed a new resident who is excited to welcome a little girl in September. This resident works as a teacher and is starting her own tutoring business. Despite a health scare in her early pregnancy, she can keep working.

Our new resident is looking forward to her son's birth in late August and is seeking secure employment while finishing her college degree. Her resume and interviewing skills are looking great. She completed the new member class at Redeemer Lutheran Church recently.

The Transition House in Sanford is home to two moms and their little girls. Both babies recently began walking and climbing, and are best friends! Volunteers from St. Luke's Oviedo transformed the home's playroom with new furniture, paint and curtains, as well as fresh new toys and toy storage. Moms and babies say, "Thank you so much for the makeover!"



Cheers! Cheers! For our Volunteers!

Redeeming Life is powered by many people who volunteer their time to keep our ministry strong.

Whether that is on-site at the homes fixing things, balancing our books, or holding events and campaigns to grow our base of support, we simply couldn't do ministry without you!

If you are willing to serve, we have many opportunities such as site clean-up days, gardening help, guest chefs, and event organizers. If you have an interest we haven't mentioned, please contact us at info@rlom.org and let us know!

We are especially interested in FL volunteers to help with our October Gala and IL volunteers to host and organize fundraisers and friend-raisers.

Connect with us at info@rlom.org or reach out on our website at rlom.org/get-involved!



Monthly Donors Gift Stability



Our monthly donors give month after month and we are blessed to count on that regular support! We welcome more GEMS, those who *Give Every Month*, to keep our funding consistent and stable. Visit rlom.org and click *DONATE* to set up your giving!

Save the Date!

October 19 is our Annual Gala.

Come one, come all to our annual Gala scheduled for Saturday, October 19 in Heathrow, FL! Enjoy an evening out in your Boots, Bow Ties, and Bling as you enjoy fellowship, fine dining, and fun.

Event sponsorship packages are available and we welcome volunteers. Heathrow is conveniently located near Orlando, making it an easy weekend trip no matter where you call home! Come on out and make this our biggest turnout ever. *More details coming soon!*



**Boots
Bow Ties & Bling**
October 19, 2024

Welcome New Staffers

Deaconess Sarah Rusche was installed as Program Manager for the new IL maternity house during worship at Immanuel Dundee on May 19th. Dcs. Rusche celebrated the day with her husband, Pastor Jonathan Rusche, and her parents, who traveled from Memphis, TN. She will manage the program and employees for the home and coordinate volunteers who will serve the residents. She was blown away by the generosity of so many local supporters who have donated beautiful things to share with residents and their babies!

RLOM headquarters in Sanford, FL, welcomes **Sara Culbertson** to the Mission Advancement staff, where she will serve in the development area. She comes to the ministry with extensive behavioral health and business ownership skills, along with a heart for service. Sara and her husband, Pastor Tige Culbertson, hail from Oviedo. She jumps right into planning the 2024 Annual Gala on October 19 in Heathrow, FL and connecting with our partners..



Home Improvement

Volunteers from *Holy Cross Lutheran Lake Mary* are adding a deck at the transition home to give residents outdoor space for relaxing and eating. Our office headquarters welcomed a work team from *St. Luke's Oviedo* to add finishing touches to the renovations.

The East Dundee home needs improvements to the outdoor living space now that the interior is complete. The plan for a patio and walkway is in the works and we are looking for volunteers and supporters with vision and skills to make this a reality. Contact info@rlom.org for info.

Bottle “feeding” helps ministry growth!

We aren't talking about bottle feeding the babies, but “feeding” the bottom line with Baby Bottle Campaigns! FLGA District churches amaze us with their recent campaigns—thank you! In the past, our generous supporters collected change in those bottles then shared them with our ministry. Now our churches and donors are sharing *much more than spare change!* Some churches choose to use envelopes instead to avoid the coin-counting task. We are blessed by the generosity!

We are grateful for every gift of any amount, and with costs rising in every area, we are incredibly thankful for everyone who supports RLOM. To organize a campaign at your church, school, or organization, please get in touch with us at info@rlom.org.



Celebration Open House in East Dundee, IL!

Hundreds of supporters joined together this May to celebrate the opening of the East Dundee maternity home. Hosted by Immanuel Lutheran Church of East Dundee, the celebration included an opportunity to meet founders Sheryl and Ed DeWitt, enjoy food and fellowship, and tour the new home. Attendees were shuttled from the church to the nearby house in the ministry's new 12-passenger van and enjoyed touring the home's living spaces and 5 bedrooms.

The Open House featured local fiber artists from Mosaic Yarn Studio, who wove a wall hanging for the maternity home's kitchen as guests looked on during the event. The artists welcomed input from attendees regarding which fiber colors and textures to incorporate around the cross that will be central to the design. The art piece will grace the new home and serve as a reminder of how God is weaving life stories here at Redeeming Life.

