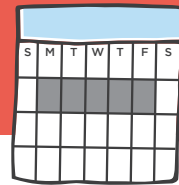


# SAVE THE DATE



## Save the date!

Get excited for Boots and Ball Gowns presented by Chickasaw Nation, Ketchum Charitable Foundation, Midfirst Bank, and Valor Bank! Don your favorite boots, and spend the evening of **March 4th, 2023** with us. The event will be held at **The Oklahoma City Convention Center from 6pm to midnight**. To learn more about the available sponsorship levels or to purchase tickets, visit [www.infantcrisis.org/boots](http://www.infantcrisis.org/boots) or contact Kelsi Jones at [kelsijones@infantcrisis.org](mailto:kelsijones@infantcrisis.org). Don't miss out on the boot scootin' fun!

## INFANT CRISIS SERVICES TEEN ASSOCIATE BOARD'S BABY STEPS 5K & 1-MILE FUN RUN

**SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2023**

### Bluff Creek

11301 N. Meridian

1-Mile Fun Run @ 8:30am

5K @ 9:00am

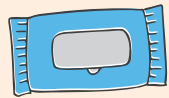
Register online at

[www.infantcrisis.org/run](http://www.infantcrisis.org/run)

Exercise AND support the babies! Infant Crisis Services' Teen Associate Board is proud to host the 5th Annual Baby Steps 5K & 1-Mile Fun Run! Runners and walkers of all ages are welcome, including strollers. The 1-Mile Fun Run is a perfect option for families with kids, a group of friends, or a dog walk! Register yourself, your family, or a group now! Sponsorship opportunities are still available.

**Please contact [katiekastl@infantcrisis.org](mailto:katiekastl@infantcrisis.org) with questions.**

## OUR MOST NEEDED ITEMS



Wipes



Sippy cups

You can check out our full wish list by scanning the QR code with your phone camera or visiting [www.infantcrisis.org](http://www.infantcrisis.org)!



## ON-GOING

### BUCKET LIST

# Golf Shot

**DRAWING CLOSSES ON APRIL 9<sup>TH</sup>  
WINNER DRAWN ON APRIL 10<sup>TH</sup>**

\$500 buys you a shot at winning one of the four packages. Consolation prize is golf lessons for four from Ball Golf.

**PURCHASE AT [INFANTCRISIS.ORG/GOLF](http://INFANTCRISIS.ORG/GOLF)**



WINTER 2023

# BABY TALK

The Newsletter of  
**INFANT CRISIS SERVICES**

## NOTES OF ENCOURAGEMENT

While sorting donations, Infant Crisis Services' Manager of Volunteer Services, Renee, stumbled across an anonymous note that had been taped to a bag of miscellaneous donated items. It read:

**"THREE YEARS AGO, MY HUSBAND WAS DEPORTED. I WAS LEFT ALONE WITH 3 CHILDREN AND I COULDN'T ASK ANYONE FOR HELP OR IT WOULD AFFECT THE IMMIGRATION PROCESS. THIS IS THE ONLY PLACE WHERE THEY HELPED ME, AND THEY GAVE ME MORE THAN THEY SHOULD HAVE... I WILL NEVER FORGET IT. THANK YOU."**

It is impossible to imagine the pain, loneliness, and confusion a mother in that position must feel. While attempting to make the best life possible for her children, she suddenly finds herself navigating motherhood without her husband, and her children suddenly find themselves without a father.

Working through such a delicate process with few places to turn, no family to help, and no partner to lean on when parenting gets difficult means that an already challenging road reaches seemingly insurmountable roadblocks. When a family's income is cut in half, a

mother is forced to make decisions between feeding herself or feeding her children.

That is why Infant Crisis Services exists. When families come to us in their time of crisis, we meet them where they are with kindness, compassion, respect, and love. We know that a crisis looks different for each family, and we are proud to offer a place of relief with no barriers. When mothers are doing their best to provide for their children, we are here to lighten the load. A visit to Infant Crisis Services means more than food and diapers, it gives struggling parents a sense of community and hope for a brighter tomorrow.

## DID YOU KNOW?

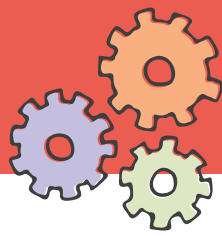
Two ways to make an impact on the lives of babies for generations to come are to name Infant Crisis Services as a beneficiary of your IRA or make a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) from your IRA to Infant Crisis Services.

**To learn more about supporting ICS with your IRA contact Lisa Perry at 405-778-7638 or [lisaperry@infantcrisis.org](mailto:lisaperry@infantcrisis.org).**

## HAVE A HEART FOR BABIES

Give a little love to the babies and toddlers this month when you shop at either Uptown Grocery Co. or Pruett's Foods on NW Expressway. These stores will be accepting monetary donations at the register as well as baby items from our in-store wish list from **February 1st through March 6th**. Donate and support the babies this Valentine's Day at these locations:

**Uptown Grocery** – 9515 N May Ave, OKC  
**Uptown Grocery** – 1230 W Covell Road, Edmond  
**Pruett's Foods** – 3501 NW Expressway, OKC



# YOUR IMPACT IN 2022

## 21,036 babies & toddlers were fed and diapered in 2022

### Services Impact



#### 890,299 DIAPERS

Ensured babies & toddlers went to bed with a dry bottom, preventing diaper rash, UTIs, & other health issues.



#### 263,375 BOTTLES OF FORMULA

Provided babies with the nutrients they need to have a healthy start in life.



#### 11,605 TODDLER PACKS

Ensured toddlers had shelf-stable food items.

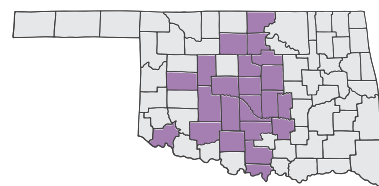


#### 23,000 POUNDS OF CLOTHING

Kept babies & toddlers warm, cozy, and covered.

### BabyMobile Impact

8,964 babies were served on our mobile units that visited **54 different locations** in **23 counties**.



### Donation Impact



#### 2,257 OVERALL DONORS

Helped us serve babies and toddlers across the state. If you were new this year, welcome to the family!



#### 57% OF DONATIONS - \$100 OR LESS

In 2022, 57% of donations were \$100 or less. Every single gift has an impact!



#### DONATIONS FROM 71 TOWNS

In Oklahoma, donations were received from 71 towns. We love our state!



#### \$798,704 WORTH OF IN-KIND GOODS

Were donated by our wonderful community!

### Volunteer Impact

2,735 volunteers gave 10,676 hours of their time to Infant Crisis Services.



That's the equivalent of **5 full-time employees!**



## MISSION MOMENT WITH MIKI



As I look back on the last year at Infant Crisis Services, I am filled with a range of emotions. The circumstances that brought 21,036 babies and toddlers to our agency in 2022 break my heart, but I am filled with hope as we step into the new year.

You see, despite the challenges we faced in 2022, we were able to feed and diaper every single tiny client who arrived at our door. Staff members fulfilled the needs of each baby and toddler. Volunteers worked tirelessly to pack, prepare,

and present each family with life-sustaining items. Our community heard our calls, and time and time again, flooded our building with unwavering support. **You gave us hope, and our clients are better off because of you.**

January brought over 2,000 babies and toddlers to Infant Crisis Services, setting the stage for an extremely busy year and providing us with an opportunity to raise the bar. As Infant Crisis Services enters 2023, I anticipate trials and tribulations, but I know that we can rise to the challenge together. **With your continued support, I am confident that more babies than ever can go to bed with full bellies and dry diapers.** We will continue to provide the resources so many families desperately need, but we cannot do it without you. Let us face this year hand-in-hand, knowing that our state's tiniest citizens will reap the benefits. Thank you for joining us on this mission. **Your dedication saves lives.**

Always for the babies,

*Miki Farris*

Miki Farris, Executive Director & Co-Founder

## MOTHER'S DAY CARDS

Send a Mother's Day card to your loved one for a suggested donation of \$20 and support babies and toddlers in need!

Visit [www.infantcrisis.org/mothersday](http://www.infantcrisis.org/mothersday) for details.



## 2023 YOUNG PROFESSIONALS BOARD

Congratulations to our 2023 Young Professionals Board – we can't wait to see what you accomplish this year!

**Chair**  
Jason Hogsett

**Vice Chair**  
Taylor Langley

**Secretary**  
Zack Smith

**Bingo for Babies Co-Chairs**  
Claire Ratliff  
Annie Stuart

**Members**  
Annie Baze  
Doug Brown  
Danielle Campbell  
Chandy Cornelius  
Alley Cottrell  
Katie DeMuth  
Jordan Edwards  
Emily Ellis  
Angie Garrett  
Sally Griffin  
Rachael Groves  
Alex Lemay  
Jefte Lozano  
Kristin May  
Motahareh Nickel  
Krishan Patel  
Karsten Perkins  
Hannah Riemenschneider  
Lauren Rogers  
Natalie Silver  
Alyssa Slayton  
Carson Smith  
Carrie Stevenson  
Julianne Thompson  
Natalie Turner

## THROUGH THE YEARS

We are the **ONLY food and diaper pantry** of our kind in central Oklahoma

We do not receive any state, federal or United Way funding – we are **100% privately funded**

Since 2004, we have received a **4-star rating from Charity Navigator**