

London Pregnancy &  
Family Support Centre

ADVOCATING. EDUCATING. EMPOWERING.

# FALL/WINTER 2024

"Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him" - Psalm 34:8

## LPFSC Board

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### CO-CHAIR

Sophia Brus

### TREASURER

Rachel McKenzie

### MEMBER AT LARGE

Miraya Groot

### MEMBER AT LARGE

Kim Cechetto

### MEMBER AT LARGE

Al Mills

### WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS:

### MEMBER AT LARGE

Emily Robson


### MEMBER AT LARGE

Brian Cruz

### MEMBER AT LARGE

Kyle Cameron

## CURRENT NEEDS

- Prenatal Vitamins 
- Baby Wipes 
- Size Newborn, S & G Diapers 
- ST- GT Pull-Ups 
- Baby Wash 
- Gift Cards: Walmart, Food Basics or PC

**Lori's Note:** It's that time again, to catch you up, on all that has been happening at the LPFSC in these last six months. We put out two newsletters a year, our spring/summer, and this one our fall/winter one. I know you are going to enjoy reading through this newsletter, hearing about our clients and their families, learning more about our team, our board of directors, programs, special events. We also like to take this opportunity to thank our very faithful donors, who give so generously of their time, prayers, finances and resources. We are incredibly humbled by your sacrificial giving to this life-changing, life-saving ministry. You've given us the opportunity to share **TRUTH**, in a loving, caring atmosphere, that is non-judgemental, and does not use manipulation or coercion, to bring about a life making decision. We care deeply for each client, and their families. Our mission is to share accurate information, that educates on all of their options, and speaks to the whole person, body, soul and spirit. We want our clients to be in a position where they can make an informed decision, and that is only possible with receiving accurate information.

Some of you may be aware of what is going on within our government right now, regarding Pregnancy Centres across Canada, and it is very concerning. On October 29th the federal liberal government held a press conference to announce that they will be "introducing legislation to require charities that offer pregnancy counselling to disclose whether they also offer abortion and birth control or referral to those services." The legislation will be connected to charitable status. For more information, you can go to Government of Canada news release: [https://www.canada.ca/en/department\\_finance/news/2024/10/gov](https://www.canada.ca/en/department_finance/news/2024/10/gov). Also, the Abortion Rights Coalition of Canada (ARCC) is collecting negative stories about pregnancy care centres. Pregnancy Care Canada, did respond On October 30th with a media release, that you can read here: <https://pregnacycarecanada.ca/media-release-october-2024/>. Pregnancy Care Canada is also collecting stories of clients that have used the services/programs from various centres across Canada, and received great support, and had very positive experiences. Our centres can then share these stories with our supporters, and PCC can use them also, where needed, as this political situation unfolds.

We appreciate your prayers, and support at this time. The news can feel heavy and may bring mixed emotions and thoughts, but we know and trust that God is in complete control over this situation. He is our strength, our protector and provider, we lean on Him, and seek His guidance, and follow His leading. **The London Pregnancy and Family Support Centre is His ministry, He is our strong tower, our refuge, and the very foundation of this ministry and He will defend the rights of the unborn, and protect moms, and use this ministry to speak the TRUTH in love.**

As you consider Christmas giving, and blessing ministries and organizations, we appreciate your consideration in giving to the work of the LPFSC. We are so grateful for you, for standing with us on the front lines, when it comes to the issues of LIFE. The Lord will deal with the evil of this world, and as followers of Jesus, we can be thankful and rejoice because we know how this story ends! Amen!

Thank you from all of our families, who you so graciously love upon. From all of us at the LPFSC we wish you and your family a **very Merry Christmas, and a New Year filled with love, hope and peace!**

### AFTERNOON EXPERIENCE

### EVENING EXPERIENCE

# FIERCELY LOVED EVENT



On June 6th we had about 200 come together, on one day for two different event experiences. Our afternoon event was held at West London Alliance Church, and the Chapelaires gave a beautiful, inspirational performance! Our guests enjoyed desserts and refreshments, heard a couple stories from our LPFSC families, learned more about the ministry and overall just a great time of sweet fellowship.

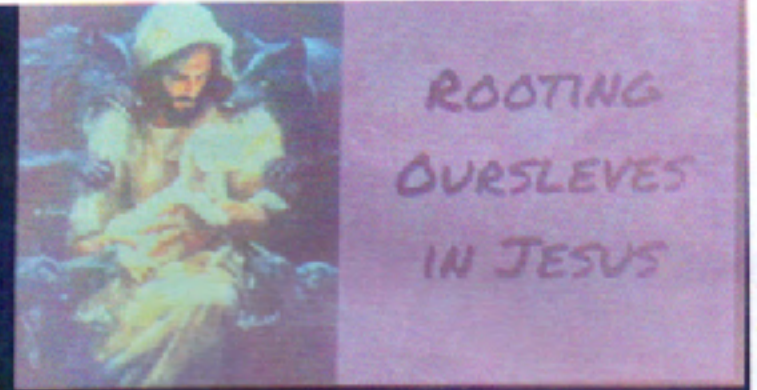
We changed gears, for the evening and headed to The Spare Room at Fleetway and turned up the volume, with a silent auction, pizza, and ice cream, heard powerful life changing/life saving stories, from a couple of our LPFSC families. Everyone was blessed by what they heard, and good times were had by all!

We received awesome feedback on both experiences. We felt it was time to change it up, from hosting a banquet, and give people some options to choose from. Be watching our website, and follow us on Instagram and/or Facebook to see what is coming in the spring. A bit of a hint, it will be similar to these two events!

Thanks to everyone who came out in support of the LPFSC!

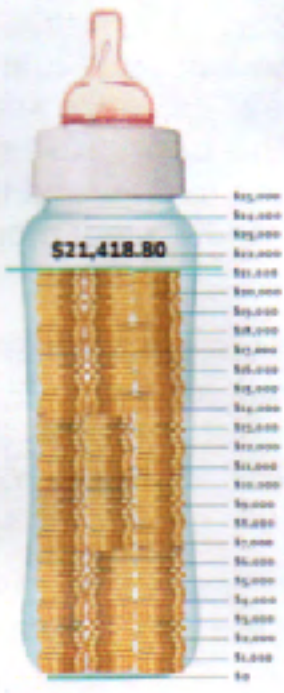
## YAKIRA 2024: ROOTED

London Pregnancy & Family Support Centre were thrilled to be sponsoring **Yakira 2024: Rooted** again this year, an event for girls grades 6 through 12! We had **over 200** girls come together for a full day, of meaningful worship, soaking up words that were spoken to the girls, and over the girls from our awesome speakers and those who shared powerful testimonies. They had fun doing crafts, playing games, sharing snacks and lunch together. They saw a thought-provoking presentation on who God is throughout the Bible, shared meaningful discussions in break-out groups, and had the opportunity to build relationships, make new friends, and ultimately grow their community. I have to make mention of the 'swag bags,' as they were a big hit with the girls, each gift in the bags, were hand picked specifically to help the girls grow in their faith, in reminding them that **their identity is in Christ Jesus**, and that they are a daughter of the King! We are so thankful for the day the Lord blessed us with, and look forward to what He has in store for us next year.



We raised over **\$21,000!**

Thank you to everyone who participated in this campaign!



## BABY BOTTLE DRIVE

Our **Formula 4 Hope Baby Bottle Campaign** was run online as well as through the churches again this year. Our Spring campaign ran from Mother's Day until Father's Day and our Fall campaign ran from Labour Day until Thanksgiving. Our goal was to raise **\$25,000**, and we are happy to share we raised **\$21,418.80**, which is wonderful! Our Baby Bottle campaign continues to stay open, so we are hopeful we will still make it to our goal by the end of year.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who participated in this campaign. Whether you participated individually or within your church, thank you for standing with us and helping us to continue to serve our community and see lives saved and lives changed.



## Client Story

Maddie came to the Centre with her mom Debbie to confirm she was pregnant. She is 17 years old and in grade 11. Maddie was very quiet during her visit and let her mom do most of the talking. Her mom and dad recently separated and this has been a traumatic and sad time for Maddie as well as her mother. The two were just beginning to adjust to their new normal of dad not being in the home and then up comes an unexpected pregnancy. Maddie depends on her mom for a lot but now we have a mother soon to be grandmother who needs her own support and encouragement in yet another new journey she finds herself on.

There are a lot of grandparents out there in this world raising or helping to raise their grandchildren, a journey they never thought would be theirs. We raise our children to become independent, to move out someday

and raise their own children so we as grandparents can sit back and just love and spoil our grandbabies, but that is not the reality for many families. For Debbie, the reality of an unexpected pregnancy was scary and came with many questions and concerns. We listened to both Debbie and Maddie's concerns and questions, specifically regarding financial issues and we walked them through what this would look like and how they could do it. We helped them see what their roles would look like in this new chapter they found themselves in and assisted them in planning and working out financial assistance (Ontario works), schooling for Maddie, work leave for Debbie to help with the early days and months of childcare. They also participated in our STEP prenatal program to be prepared for when baby arrives. The two of them are moving through all of this one day at a time.

This story is ongoing as mother and daughter adjust as a team to co-parent this new little life that is coming soon. With the support from the LPFSC this family will make it with new found hope, strength, endurance and even joy and excitement. Life is precious. Praise God for supportive parents/families who stay the course when life brings on its challenges. We look forward to meeting this precious little life very soon!

## GRIP UPDATE

GRIP this fall has gotten off to a great start. We have grown significantly in numbers and this is very exciting. We continue to meet every second and fourth Tuesday of every month. We have a delicious and nutritious meal together, then gather with Compass Church to worship and hear a reading of the word of God followed by a short story for all the kids. Pastor Joey Mudde leads us in prayer and then we divide into our separate groups for the evening.

This season we are focusing on 'Who We Want to Be, A Better Version of Ourselves'. We've been talking about the characteristics we want to have to be more like Christ and in having Christ like characteristics that will attract us to more Godly friends. At Thanksgiving we all did a craft and a small devotion. It is always a precious time at GRIP. The moms are so thankful for this time together. God is doing a mighty work in these women's lives and it is reflecting in their children's lives. Everyone needs support in their life journey and GRIP does just that for these families and we are blessed to be a part of it.



## WELCOME NEW STAFF



**We are so excited to welcome Keira Wiersema to the LPFSC Team!** Keira joined us in June and has been a wonderful addition to staff. Here is a little introduction to Keira:

My name is Keira, and I am thrilled to be working with the London Pregnancy and Family Support Centre! I graduated this past May from Redeemer University with a Bachelor of Arts in Social Work, with a minor

in Psychology. I am also a single mother to my 2.5-year-old son, Brody.

My journey with the Centre began when I discovered I was unexpectedly pregnant. The support I received during that time was incredible. The care and guidance I received helped both my son and me navigate a challenging season, and I truly believe it was God's blessing.

Now, I am grateful for the opportunity to walk alongside other women and mothers who find themselves in need of support, care, and hope. In my role at the Centre, I meet with clients, conduct intake and assessments, provide resources and referrals, and offer a safe space for them to feel seen, heard, and supported.

I am grateful that God has given me the opportunity to serve as a support worker here at the LPFSC. I look forward to using the gifts He has given to me to care for and uplift those who come through our doors.

Thank you for your continued support, which makes this work possible.

## Giving Opportunity



If you are looking for an opportunity to give during this most special season please consider blessing our LPFSC families by donating one or more of these items for them for Christmas:

1. Walmart, Food Basics, President's Choice, Tim Hortons, McDonald's or Dollar Store Gift Cards to help out with their Christmas celebrations or to just treat them during the Holidays.
2. Purchase family board games for the families (younger aged games).
3. Purchase Craft Sets and Activities to encourage family time.
4. Christmas Chocolates & Candy Canes.

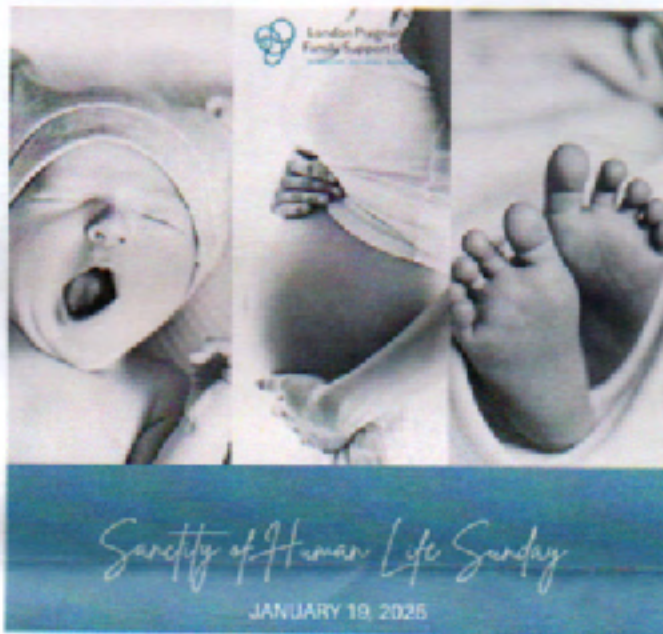
We ask that all donations be dropped off no later than Monday, December 9th so we can hand out to the families in time for Christmas.

Thank you for your consideration & generosity. You will make this a blessed Christmas for some wonderful families in need!

## Sanctity of Human Life Sunday

Just a reminder that **Sanctity of Human Life Sunday** is coming up in the new year on **Sunday, January 19th, 2025**. Churches across North America use this day to celebrate God's gift of life, commemorate the many lives lost to abortion, and commit themselves to protecting human life at every stage.

Help support this nationally celebrated day by taking up an offering on **Sanctity of Human Life Sunday** within your church community or partnering with your local Pregnancy Care Centre. If ever there was a time to rise up and take a stand, that time is upon us.



## LPFSC Prayer Requests



- The largest demographic of calls we receive continues to be the abortion minded client. Please continue to pray for the multi layered and challenging needs of all those we have the opportunity to walk along side.
- Christmas is a wonderful time of year, however for some it can be a difficult time. Please lift our families up in prayer during this season.
- A lawyer who would be willing to consult with us regarding custody issues.
- A professional Counsellor who we can refer our clients to partner with us.

## Thank You!

1. To our Regular/Monthly donors who faithfully stand with us.
2. To the Diaper Lady & crew for keeping us stocked with diapers.
3. To all those in the community who have donated material items to our Care Closet to help our families.
4. To our wonderful volunteers who give of their time.
5. Our Prayer Warriors for continually lifting up the work of LPFSC.



**Please consider the LPFSC for a special Christmas donation as a year-end gift. Your gift allows us to provide Godly counsel, education, advocacy, community engagement and unique programming to all those who need it.**



You can support the LPFSC by e-transfer to [info@lonpfsc.com](mailto:info@lonpfsc.com), or sending a cheque, by phone with your credit card: 519-432-7098 or online on our DONATIONS page at [www.lonpfsc.com](http://www.lonpfsc.com).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation to: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*All donations must be received by December 31, 2024 in order to be receipted for the 2024 tax year.**

- I give permission to LPFSC to email me the newsletter & updates
- I would like to become a monthly supporting partner, contributing \$\_\_\_\_\_ on the 15th of each month from my chequing account (Please include a void cheque).
- I would like to give a one-time donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_.
- I am already a monthly supporting partner and would like to increase my giving to \$\_\_\_\_\_ per month.