Network Updates
09.30.2019

Branch County Community Network
Get Involved!

If you'd like to become more involved in this important ministry, please fill out this form and return it to us.

We'd love to have your help!

Yes, I want to partner with Beginnings Care for Life Center!

☐ as a Prayer Partner

☐ with my enclosed gift

☐ by giving on a monthly/quarterly basis

☐ by donating new/gently-used baby-care items/gift cards

☐ by helping with annual fundraisers (Life Walk&Run, Concert, Banquet)

☐ by serving as a volunteer

☐ by offering technical support (website, computer, A/V)

☐ in other ways: ____________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Name: ____________________________

Address/Email: ____________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Phone: ____________________________

Beginnings
Care for Life Center
16 N. Clay Street
Coldwater, MI 49036
Our Mission

To reach out in the love of Jesus Christ to our community in a spirit of help, truth and hope. We offer education, material assistance and spiritual counsel in order to promote positive choices and healing for women, men and their families.

Services are available at no charge to all people, regardless of age, race or religious beliefs.

How Can I Help?

Pray
For our clients, volunteers and supporters
*Monthly Prayer Calendars are available.*

Serve
As a volunteer, serving clients directly or behind-the-scenes

Give
- New and gently-used baby care items
- Maternity and baby clothing (0-4T)
- Financial contributions
  *Long-Term giving options are available.*
Beginnings Care for Life Center is a 501-c-3 organization.

Our Free Services:

- Pregnancy tests
- Ultrasound confirmation
- Confidential pregnancy consultation
- Clothing & baby-care items
- Earning & Learning Program
- Parenting & Life Skills Education
- Fatherhood Involvement Program
- Abortion Recovery Program
- Referrals for medical, financial & adoption assistance as well as other needed services
- Abstinence & Healthy Relationships Education in Schools
- On-going friendship and support
- Foundations: Building Solid Relationships Program

Beginnings Care for Life Center
213 Marshall Street
Coldwater, MI 49036
517/278-3355
BeginningsCare.com

Funding & Staffing

Beginnings Care for Life Center is funded by donations from individuals, churches and organizations. We receive no government funding.

We are run by a small staff and many dedicated volunteers.
Beginnings Care for Life Center

Client Hours:

Mon-Thurs: 10a.m.-1p.m.
Mon & Thurs: 6p.m.-8p.m.
Tues (men only): 6 p.m.-8p.m.
Sat: 10a.m.-noon

16 N. Clay Street Coldwater, MI 49036  517.278.3355
BeginningsCare.com
Free and Confidential Services:

- Pregnancy Tests & Ultrasound Confirmation
- Baby and Maternity Items
- Referrals for Medical, Financial and Adoption Info
- Earning & Learning Program
- Parenting and Life-Skills Education
- Fatherhood Involvement Program
- Healthy Relationships Information
- Post-Abortion Support

Call for appointment: 517.278.3355
BeginningsCare.com
Upcoming Events:

- September 21 - Apple Fest - corner next to Wilbur's as well as at the Chameleon (117 E. Chicago - Next to Dally Tire)
- September 28 - Farm to Fork - Union City "Pumpkin Roll"
- September 30 - Volunteer Training - 5-8 Coldwater Downtown Location
- October 5 - Domestic Violence Awareness Day - 9-1 at county McDonalds
- October 12 - The Game Plan - Wilbur's to support Teenshare 6pm-9pm
- October 15 - Family Open House - 4C Building (behind Pizza Hut) 5-7
- October 16 - Strengthening Families Class begins (parenting class)
- October 17 - Community Resiliency Training - Dearth Center
- October 21 - Getting Ahead Begins (Financial Literacy Class)
- November 2 - Fall Festival & Craft Show - Legg Middle School - 9-2
- November 5 - Empty Bowl - Coach Eby Center - 11-7
- December 6 - Friday Night Lights - Open House Quincy location
- December 7 - Pancakes with Santa - 4:00 Coach Eby Center

shelterhouse@cbpu.com
www.278safe.com
www.facebook.com/278safe

Chameleon open Wednesday 9-5
Friday 10-6 and Saturday 10-2
WE NEED YOUR HELP!

- Do you like to help people?
- Do you have talents to share with others?
- Do you have spare time?
- Do you enjoy working with teens?

If you can answer yes to any of the above, we have the solution. Our agency serves families that have been impacted by domestic and sexual violence.

Many families and homeless teens come to stay at Shelterhouse or Altrusa Teen Share, attend our support groups, receive assistance with their legal needs regarding domestic violence and sexual abuse, or benefit from one or more of our many services. Due to limited resources, we need help from our community.

Please consider how you may be able to assist us with serving others. For more information, please call 517.278.SAFE (7233).

Our next Volunteer Training will be held on Monday, September 30, 2019 from 5 to 8 p.m. at 117 W. Chicago Street Coldwater, MI 49036. (Next door to Dally Tire)
We provide dinner and light refreshments. Call today and reserve your seat.
BRANCH COUNTY COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE

the GAME PLAN

SUPPORT YOUR TEAM! SUPPORT THE COMMUNITY!

OCTOBER 12TH - 6PM to 9PM

HANG OUT W/ FRIENDS, WIN PRIZES, HAVE FUN!
ALL WHILE SUPPORTING YOUR COMMUNITY

YOU COULD WIN: GAME TICKETS! CASH! FIRE RINGS! FIREKEEPERS $$, AND MORE!

HEAVY APPETIZERS INCLUDING WINGS, PIZZA, GOUDA MAC & CHEESE, AND MORE!

PROVIDED BY THESE GRACIOUS SPONSORS

WINGS ETC. GRILL & PUB
Good Food. Great Times.

JT's GRILL & PUB

BROADWAY GRILLE

Tickets are $50.00 which includes delicious appetizers, entertainment, a chance at winning your team’s game tickets and other great prizes. Also included are tickets for beautiful prize baskets. All of this while helping a great cause!

PROCEEDS ARE FOR THE REPAIR OF THE TEENSHARE SEPTIC SYSTEM & CHARACTER EDUCATION

CASH BAR! / BEER AND WINE PULL! / CORN HOLE / AND MORE!

Activities also include challenges with your rivals giving you an opportunity to win the famous Lumberjack Trophy!

Good Food.. Great Times.. Great Cause.. Come Celebrate Your Team!

EVENT IS LOCATED IN THE OLD WILBUR'S FURNITURE BUILDING
27 W. Chicago St. Coldwater. Parking in Rear of Building
SECOND ANNUAL
FREE COMMUNITY LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

BUILDING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

Please join us as we continue our mission to locally educate parents, teaching staff, law enforcement, and local professionals on the effects of childhood trauma. This year we will be viewing the documentary, "Resilience" - The Biology of Stress & the Science of Hope.

OCTOBER 17, 2019
DEARTH CENTER IN COLDWATER
4:45 FREE CHILI SUPPER
6:00 DOCUMENTARY
7:00 DESSERT AND PANEL DISCUSSION

This learning opportunity is brought to you by Branch Intermediate School District, Branch County Great Start Collaborative, and the Branch County Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence.
Getting Ahead is Coming in October 2019

The goal of the Bridges Out of Poverty – Getting Ahead Program, is a plan to put a person in a position to understand why they are in the economic turmoil they are in and how to better their situation by setting personal goals to get ahead, if they so decide. The participant will individualize their plan and are assisted with making contacts in the community to have access to connections that help them achieve their goals.

Our agency hosts the Getting Ahead class and we want to work with other agencies to supply the participants in this program. Each class is usually comprised of a diverse group of people in the community.

The Details

WHO: The Branch County Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence is hosting this program. Facilitators will be Julia McIntyre and Trienne Topp. The participants can be anyone who is motivated to learn and would like to go on a journey toward their goals.

WHAT: Each week at class a meal will be provided as well as child care if you Pre-Register. Participation makes you eligible to receive a $25.00 gift card that will be given at the end of each session that is attended. Participation in the entire eleven week program gives a person the fullest benefit.

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED! CALL 517-278-SAFE (7233).

WHERE: The class will be held at the Branch County Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence- Laura’s Place Community Room at 210 N. Michigan Avenue, Coldwater, Michigan

WHEN: The classes will be held each Monday with classes being held from 5:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Class begins Monday October 21st and will be each Monday for 10 weeks in length. This class requires a commitment to attend weekly.

WHY: We as a community are excited about partnering with United Way and offering a program that invokes change in the way that we look at our community and allows people to set goals and gives them the tools in which to reach those goals! We believe our community is ready for Getting Ahead and we are ready to supply it as a community agency!
If you would like more information or to Pre-Register, please call 517-278-7233 and ask for Julia. We look forward to hearing from you.

This program is possible due to funding and support from United Way.
The Branch County Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence proudly invites you to the 29th Annual

Fall Festival & Craft Show

The Craft Show with a Heart

November 2nd, 2019

9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Legg Middle School
175 Green Street
(Entrance on Western Ave.)

All proceeds will go to fund:
Backpack Buddies and prevention education programs in our schools.

For more information, contact 517.278.7233 or shelterhouse@cbpu.com
Concessions available
Help children stay safe from sexual predators

"Increase your awareness to Prevent child Sexual Abuse"

Workshop for parents, community members, and volunteers advocating for children

No cost for this workshop! Light dinner provided.

Hosted by Branch County Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence & Early Bird Exchange Club

October 7th, 2019
5:00-7:00pm
Our Downtown Coldwater location – Next to Dally Tire
Coldwater, MI 49036

The Stewards of Children program will increase knowledge, improve attitudes and change child-protective behaviors. This program is for any responsible adult who cares about the welfare of children. It is also appropriate for youth-serving organizations and personnel.

Topics Covered:
- Facts about the problem of child sexual abuse
- The types of situations in which child sexual abuse might occur
- Simple, effective strategies for protecting children from sexual abuse
- The importance of talking about the prevention of sexual abuse with children and other adults
- The signs of sexual abuse so that you might intervene and be able to react responsibly

What Outcomes You Can Expect:
- Increased awareness of the prevalence, consequences and circumstances of child sexual abuse
- New skills to prevent, recognize and react responsibly to child sexual abuse
- Individual commitment to action via a personal prevention plan

Contact 517-278-SAFE (7233)
Branch County Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence
Email: Shelterhouse@cbpu.com

CALL/EMAIL TO REGISTER BY October 1st, 2019
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Sept. 17, 2019

MDHHS reports four new cases of mosquito-borne disease and two additional deaths in Southwest Michigan

State taking action to prevent further Eastern Equine Encephalitis cases

LANSING, Mich. – State residents are being strongly advised by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) to protect themselves from mosquito bites as four additional cases of Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) have been confirmed in Southwest Michigan – including two that were fatal.

MDHHS is taking further action to protect the public health as the mosquito-borne disease remains a threat that has now resulted in seven confirmed human cases of EEE in Michigan with onset dates in July. The new cases expand the geographic area affected by human EEE cases to include Barry, Cass and Van Buren counties, along with previously identified cases in Kalamazoo and Berrien counties. Two of these additional cases, in Cass and Van Buren counties, were fatal, as was an earlier case in Kalamazoo County.

MDHHS is encouraging local officials in the five Southwest Michigan counties that have been impacted by human EEE cases and St. Joseph, Genesee and Lapeer counties – which have had animal EEE cases – to consider postponing, rescheduling or cancelling outdoor activities occurring at or after dusk, particularly activities that involve children. This would include events such as late evening sports practices or games or outdoor music practices. The MDHHS recommendation is being made out of an abundance of caution to protect the public health and applies until the first hard frost of the year.

The Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services Department also issued a recommendation to local municipalities and schools to consider cancelling outdoor events or moving them inside if they are scheduled at or after dusk.

“Michigan is currently experiencing its worst Eastern Equine Encephalitis outbreak in more than a decade,” said Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, MDHHS chief medical executive and chief deputy for health. “The ongoing cases reported in humans and animals and the severity of this disease illustrate the importance of taking precautions against mosquito bites.”

-MORE-
All Michigan residents can stay healthy by following these steps to avoid mosquito bites:

- Apply insect repellents that contain the active ingredient DEET, or other U.S. Environmental Protection Agency-registered product to exposed skin or clothing, and always follow the manufacturer’s directions for use.
- Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants when outdoors. Apply insect repellent to clothing to help prevent bites.
- Maintain window and door screening to help keep mosquitoes outside.
- Empty water from mosquito breeding sites around the home, such as buckets, unused kiddie pools, old tires or similar sites where mosquitoes may lay eggs.
- Use nets and/or fans over outdoor eating areas.

Infections can occur even when mosquito bite numbers are low.

EEE is one of the most dangerous mosquito-borne diseases in the United States, with a 33 percent fatality rate in people who become ill. People can be infected with EEE from the bite of a mosquito carrying the viruses. Persons younger than age 15 and over age 50 are at greatest risk of severe disease following infection.

Signs of EEE include the sudden onset of fever, chills, body and joint aches which can progress to a severe encephalitis, resulting in headache, disorientation, tremors, seizures and paralysis. Permanent brain damage, coma and death may also occur in some cases. Anyone experiencing these symptoms should visit their physician’s office.

In addition to the human cases, as of Sept. 16, nine cases of EEE in horses had been confirmed in Barry, Kalamazoo, Lapeer, and St. Joseph counties. None of the horses were vaccinated against EEE and all animals have died. There is an EEE vaccine available for horses, but not for people. Also, five deer in Barry, Cass, Genesee, Kalamazoo, and Van Buren counties have been confirmed with EEE infection and were euthanized due to the severity of their disease symptoms.

For more information about mosquito-borne diseases, visit Michigan.gov/emergingdiseases.

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GOING PRO TALENT FUND
INFORMATION SESSIONS

Learn about:

- Expanding your workforce
- Upskilling your employees
- The application process
- Grant requirements
- Types of training
- Funding parameters

Session Dates:

Aug 21st, 12:30 - 2 p.m. | Southwest Michigan First
Aug 22nd, 8 - 9:30 a.m. | Battle Creek Unlimited
Aug 27th, 10 - 11:30 a.m. | The Center @ Kalamazoo Country Club
Aug 29th, 10 - 11:30 a.m. | Glen Oaks Community College
Aug 29th, 1 - 2:30 p.m. | Coldwater Chamber of Commerce
Sept 5th, 8 - 9:30 a.m. | Kalamazoo Valley Community College - The Groves
Sept 11th, 10-11:30 a.m. | WE Upjohn Institute

Sept 11th, 2 - 3:30 p.m. | Kellogg Community College - RMTC
Sept 12th, 10 - 11:30 a.m. | Marshall Area Economic Development Alliance
Sept 17th, 9 - 10:30 a.m. | Battle Creek Unlimited
Sept 18th, 9 - 10:30 a.m. | Branch Area Career Center
Sept 19th, 9:30 - 11 a.m. | Albion Economic Development Corporation
Sept 24th, 10 - 11:30 a.m. | Three Rivers Chamber of Commerce

RSVP TO: GPTF@MIWORKSSW.ORG
OPEN HOUSE & Ribbon Cutting

Thursday, October 3, 2019
Open House
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Ribbon Cutting
5:30 PM
Appetizers & Cocktails

Branch County Community Foundation
2 W. Chicago St. Suite E1
Coldwater, MI 49036

The Branch County Community Foundation creates positive social change by providing funding, promoting education on important issues and leveraging community services.

brcofoundation.org