

TRUE TO LIFE

An Evangelical Child and Family Agency Publication



2024 ANNUAL BENEFIT AUCTION

Our Annual Benefit Auction on November 22nd will be at a new location this year. If you have attended our Annual Anniversary Celebration in recent years, you will be familiar with the Marriott Milwaukee West Hotel. We hope that you will save the date to gather with us for a fun evening of bidding and fellowship in support of the work God is doing through ECFA in Southeastern Wisconsin. If you are unable to join us in person, you are still able to participate in the silent auction online as all silent auction bidding is done on a device whether in person or remotely. We are excited about the items, experiences, and services that have been donated for our silent and live auction.

You will be able to view auction items as early as one week prior to the event and online bidding for silent auction items starts at noon on November 20th; just in time to do some Christmas shopping for your family and friends.

Just like last year, you are invited to register and create an account online. The good news is if you have any questions or need any help with the online registration process, we are here to help!

We welcome individual and business sponsorships of this event to help us offset the cost of the event itself. We are also blessed again with a \$5000 matching grant from Friends of ECFA for our spot auction which will go towards providing our Pregnancy Support clients with the baby items they need to bring their precious babies home from the hospital.

The theme verse for this year's event is Proverbs 11:25 "A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed." We hope those in attendance or who participate online will experience refreshed motivation to affirm life through their support of ECFA. Daily we see the Holy Spirit refresh our clients' hope because of your generosity.

To register go to: ecfawisc.org/benefitauction



United Way

Each year, ECFA receives donations through United Way. The gifts assist us in our outreach to families who seek support through our Pregnancy Support Services program.

If you would like to donate to ECFA through United Way you need to list our agency name, Evangelical Child and Family Agency, and our address 1617 South 124th Street, New Berlin, WI 53151, in the optional designated contribution portion of the pledge form.

Please note: For United Way of Greater Milwaukee and Waukesha County the gift total must be \$50 or more, or it will go to United Way's general fund.

Last year we had 14 donors for a total of \$6,047. To once again be considered a partner agency of United Way that new people will have the option to choose as a designee, we need a minimum of 20 donors and \$10,000 in pledges for this year's campaign. Will you consider helping us reach this goal? Thank you!



1ST AND BOWL
FOOTBALL BOWLING

NEW EVENT:

First and Bowl 2969 N 114TH ST, WAUWATOSA
Saturday, January 25th, 2025 • 11am – 2pm

Founded in 2019 by three friends – First and Bowl was born from a shared love of sports and the desire to bring something new to Milwaukee. While they didn't invent football bowling, they were the first to bring this awesome game to the city, and it's been a hit ever since!

They're all about bringing people together for some fun and friendly competition. So, if you're in the mood for a great time, come check out our new event at First and Bowl. We will have games, pizza, and beverages as well as opportunities to win raffle prizes.

First and Bowl isn't just a place to play – it's an experience. They have seven different games under one roof, including basketball connect 4, indoor pickleball courts, golf simulators, a nerf arena, a wiffle ball field, and cornhole. Challenge your friends, hang out with family, they have something for everyone.

- Football bowling is a combination of football and bowling.
- Basketball Connect 4 is an exciting twist on the classic game of Connect 4, combining the strategic fun of the original with the thrill of shooting hoops!
- Pickleball is one of the fastest-growing sports in the U.S., blending elements of tennis, badminton, and ping-pong into a fun, fast-paced game that's easy to learn and great for all ages.
- Wiffle Ball at First and Bowl is the perfect way to add a twist of fun and excitement on the wiffleball field with a unique and engaging experience.
- Indoor Golf - These simulators aren't just for the pros – they're for everyone who wants to have a blast and maybe improve their swing along the way. Ever dreamt of playing on the best golf courses worldwide? Prepare to be blown away by graphics so real you'll think you're on the green.
- Cornhole is perfect for both casual play and serious competition. Whether you're a seasoned pro or just trying it out for the first time, you'll find the perfect mix of challenge and enjoyment.
- Nerf Wars Arena is all set up for an epic Nerf battle, packed with cool obstacles and structures strategically placed to ramp up the excitement. Our friendly team ensures everyone has a blast in a safe environment. They have a mix of game modes catering to all skill levels and interests.

More information to follow.

2024 BIKE & HIKE RECAP

"We love because He first loved us. "1 John 4:19

We thank God for the perfect weather that we had on September 7th for our 38th Annual Bike and Hike. It was great to see some faithful familiar faces and some new faces as well. Participants traveled the Glacial Drumlin Trail by bike or on foot and then returned to the E.B. Shurts building for food, fellowship, and fun. We enjoyed lunch together, there were door prizes gifted, outdoor family games, and crafts, bubbles, and face painting available for the kids. Just over \$20,000 was raised including a \$5000 match from Friends of ECFA for our life affirming Pregnancy Support and Adoption Programs. If you couldn't make it this year, we hope you will join us in 2025!

Thank you to the fundraisers, generous donors, and sponsors that helped make this event a success!

Prize Winners:

1st - Dave & Lori Cottrill -
\$200 Kwik Trip gift card

2nd – Kathy Misany –
Brewers tickets

3rd – Kevin & Catherine Faulls
- \$200 Kwik Trip gift card

Financial Sponsors

Bank Five Nine
Friends of ECFA
Pro-Life Wisconsin
Thrivent Financial

Major Prize Sponsors

Grady, Hayes & Neary, LLC
Kwik Trip
Marriott Milwaukee West
Waukesha State Bank

Prize Sponsors

Culver's
Focus on the Family
Pizza Ranch
Prairieville Park

Food & Drink Sponsors

Costco
Sam's Club
Woodman's



ECFA PROGRAMS

ADOPTION Illinois & Wisconsin

Our Adoption programs offer training and support to families adopting domestically, internationally, or from the foster care system. We approve/license Christian families for children needing a forever home. These families open their hearts and homes as an act of faith, showing God's love because He loved us first.

Going through the adoption process can be overwhelming. Our desire is to come alongside families with love and compassion. The "Smith" family was excited to go through the adoption process and shared that their worker, Sarah, was easy to work with and they felt very cared for and supported by Sarah throughout the entire process.

The "Jones" family also had a wonderful experience working with ECFA as they opened their home to a child needing permanency. They shared that their experience went smoothly and efficiently and working with Sarah was a joy.



For Illustration Only

INTACT FAMILY SERVICES Illinois

Our Intact Family Services (IFS) program serves families indicated by DCFS for abuse or neglect. Often times the families have significant underlying issues that need to be addressed, such as substance abuse, domestic violence, and mental health concerns. Through referrals to specialized providers, including ECFA's counseling and pregnancy support programs, parents are given the help they need to prevent further abuse or neglect, improve overall functioning, and their family together.

"Ginny" has a history of substance misuse and has been a victim of domestic violence. Ginny and her children both have experienced significant trauma for many years. A couple of years back Ginny accepted Christ as her Savior and turned her life around. Ginny is sober and has left her abuser. However, the impact of trauma remains.

The family deeply appreciates the support given by ECFA which has included counseling for the mom and her children.

The oldest teenager living at home recently shared her testimony with her youth group and mom's 19 year-old daughter who lives on her own, recently accepted Christ as her Savior. The family's faith has become a focal point of their lives.



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Evangelical Child & Family Agency

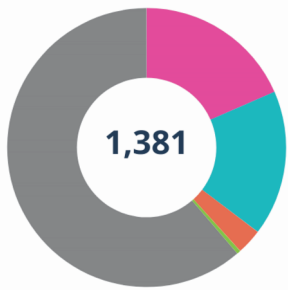


2024 Annual Report

ECFA's mission is to provide hope and healing to children, adults, and families, through compassionate, trauma-informed, Christ-centered, quality social services from a biblical perspective.

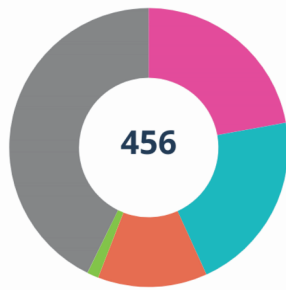
1,381 Clients Served

Individuals Impacted



- Pregnancy Support Services (255)
- Adoption (233)
- Counseling (41)
- Post Legal Adoption Services (6)
- Intact Family Services (846)

Families Impacted



- Pregnancy Support Services (101)
- Adoption (96)
- Counseling (58)
- Post Legal Adoption Services (6)
- Intact Family Services (195)

YOUR LIFE AFFIRMING IMPACT

Your support saved the lives of unborn children and came alongside families with newborns

Your support provided permanency for children through adoption

Your support guaranteed that individuals and families had access to quality counseling

Your support prevented child abuse and neglect while keeping children out of foster care

YOU ARE FOREVER CHANGING LIVES



AFFIRMING LIFE | BUILDING FAMILIES | HEALING RELATIONSHIPS | RESTORING HOPE

Agency-Wide



99% of clients were satisfied with their overall experience with ECFA

Agency-Wide



99% of clients felt cared for by their ECFA worker

Adoption



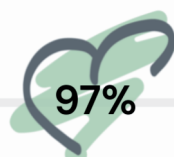
100% of children placed in adoptive homes have remained safe and stable

Pregnancy Support Services



100% of infants either had or were given a safe place to sleep

Counseling



97% of clients felt satisfied with the progress they made towards their goals

Intact Family Services



99% of families stayed intact; children did not go into foster care

We love because he first loved us
1 John 4:19

**Strengthening
Individuals and Families**

Pregnancy Support Services

"My caseworker has been incredibly sweet and helpful throughout my parenting and pregnancy journey."

- Pregnancy Support Services Client

**Affirming
Life**

Adoption

"We have used this agency twice now for international adoption. They have gone above and beyond to accommodate our needs."

- Adoption Client

**Building
Families**

Healing Relationships

"I love sharing a bond with my counselor and having laughs and talks"

- Counseling Client

Counseling

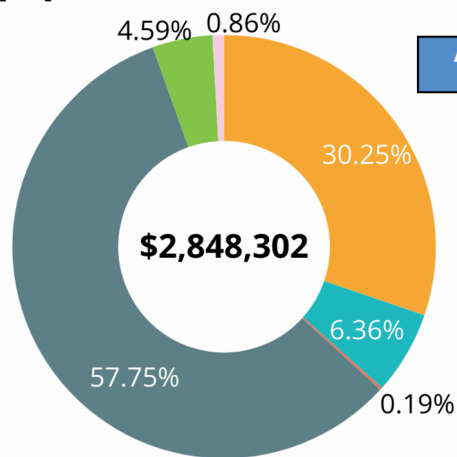
Restoring Hope

"I'm thankful for the experience and the help provided to help us to become better people and parents"

- Intact Family Services Client

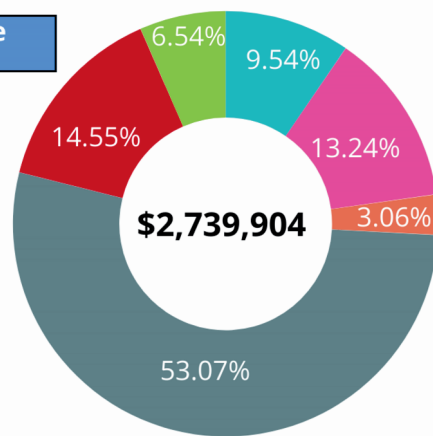
**Intact Family
Services**

Support & Revenue



A full financial report can be found on our website.

Expenses



- Contributions (30.25%)
- Counseling fees (0.19%)
- Gov't payment for services (57.75%)
- Events (4.59%)
- Misc (0.86%)
- Adoption fees (6.36%)

- Adoption services (9.54%)
- Pregnancy Support Services (13.24%)
- Counseling services (3.06%)
- Intact Family Services (53.07%)
- Management and General (14.55%)
- Fundraising (6.54%)

Evangelical Child & Family Agency
1530 N. Main St. Wheaton, IL 60187
www.evancfa.org | (630) 653-6400



EVANGELICAL CHILD & FAMILY AGENCY

Evangelical Child & Family Agency
1617 S. 124th St. New Berlin, WI 53151
www.ecfawisc.org | (262) 789-1881



DONATE



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PREGNANCY SUPPORT SERVICES

Illinois & Wisconsin

Our Pregnancy Support Services programs (PSS) affirm life by coming alongside moms and their families throughout her pregnancy and after the baby is born.

Two unique aspects of our program are that we go to homes of the families we are serving and all of our services are free. We offer emotional, educational, and practical support related to healthy parenting, child development, relationships, etc. We also have a mentorship program for moms wanting to connect with a mentor after case closure.

"Katie" came to ECFA feeling uncertain about her ability to parent as this was her first pregnancy. Katie was open to discussing adoption and parenting with her ECFA caseworker and ultimately decided she wanted to parent. Katie is now a mom to a sweet girl and the love she has for her daughter is evident. Using the information she learned during her time with her caseworker, she has adjusted well to her new role and shows a confidence she did not previously have. Katie has begun to make attending church a priority and desires to dedicate her daughter to the Lord.



For Illustration Only

COUNSELING SERVICES

Illinois

Our counseling program serves a wide range of clients including younger children, teenagers, adults, and seniors. We work with individuals, families, and couples. Fees are based on income and we are blessed to have two grants that allow us to offer low cost counseling to those who fit the criteria for these grants. Our approach is to treat everyone with compassion and provide personalized support to help them feel prepared to address and resolve their personal challenges.

"Sharon" shared that the counselors her family worked with, Ken and Faith, went above and beyond their mere obligations to clients. Sharon stated that they were full of passion and commitment and her family is grateful.

"Joan" and her husband sought out help with the challenging behaviors being shown by their children. Joan shared at the end of counseling that the help they received was wonderful during the difficult parenting seasons and they are thankful for the support they received.



For Illustration Only



WITH A GRATEFUL HEART

There is a continual outpouring of blessings received by this ministry. As a result, there are many individuals to be grateful for in each quarterly newsletter. *"I will give thanks to you, LORD, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds." Psalm 9:1*

Thank you to all the dedicated volunteers who assembled a mailing for the Agency in July & October:

Cathy Bogdanovich	Sue Korb
Art & Annette Cernohous	Sally Kronshage
Lori Cottrill	Sue Kusnierz
Pam Crown	April Old Coyote
Ruth Engelhardt	Marcia Smith
Marvin Engle	Darleen Snyder
Pamela Grande	Scott & Karen Snyder
Bonnie Gruber	Chris Steiner
Margo Hoffman	Nancy Stone
Rita Hoffman	Shevonn Tate
Pat Johnson	Margo Whitcomb
Anita Julius	Judy Zwitter
Pat Klug	

Pregnancy Support Services:

- Bibs, sleep sacks, blankets, clothes, & baby milestone kit from Gary & Lois Gantner
- Gift bags from James & Leah Valentine
- Monthly diaper subscription from Everylife Diapers, bibs, brush, bottle warmer, nail clippers, & pacifier from the Hardin Family
- Layettes and blankets from the Duchows
- Pack n play from the Luebkes
- Formula, baby spoons, & baby socks from Amanda Luthi
- 2 Car seats, pack n play, formula, diapers, wipes, post-partum supplies, blankets, puzzle, clothes, and a rattle from anonymous donors
- Baby clothes, blankets, stuffed animals, diapers, & wipes from Frieda Kamentz
- Diapers, bottles, hangers, ladies' items, baby monitor, leg warmers, teethingers, pacifiers, milk bags, toothbrush, diaper bag, nursing cover, bobby pillow, child neck pillow, & car seat/stroller net from Karen Griffith
- Baby wipes, diaper rash cream, & brushes from Sarah Blatt Prevatt

- Pack n play mattress, sheets, & bibs from Pat Klug
- Car seat, play yard, diapers, diaper rash cream, hooded towels, & pacifiers from Judy Zwitter
- Baby clothes from the Ellenbergers
- Slumber bear, bottles, diapers, & clothes for a client's children from Lori Cottrill
- Clothes for a client's children from Annette Cernohous
- Baby wipes from Tina Wienss
- Baby wipes, children's Bible, & nail clippers from Sue Kusnierz
- Baby wipes from Pat Johnson
- Facial cleansing masks, preggie pops, tummy balm, & breast pump accessories from Dana Hauser
- Kwik Trip gas card from Kevin & Catherine Faulls

Miscellaneous Gifts:

- Treats from our neighbors for letting them park in our lot overnight

Serving at Our Office:

- A summer of beautiful flower beds manicured by Tina Wienss
- Office maintenance & hauling of mail trays by Marvin Engle

Memorials

In loving memory of: My husband, Ken Connor
From: Gerry Connor

In loving memory of: Lawrence Fronk
From: Thomas & Susan Bugliosi, Anne Peterson, & Gregory & Gail Vorlob

In loving memory of: Our granddaughter, Laura Harwood
From: David & Lori Cottrill

In loving memory of: My brother and sister-in-law, Louis & Corinne Linsmeyer
From: Laura Krause

In loving memory of: My husband, Richard Rogahn
From: Ruth Ann Rogahn

Gift Cards

ECFA dispenses gift cards to clients to help them meet their basic needs of food or gas when there is a financial need. Currently, our gift card stock is extremely low. Amounts preferred are \$20-\$50 from: Speedway or Kwik Trip (fuel only), Walmart, Walgreens, or Aldi.





**Evangelical Child
& Family Agency**

1617 South 124th Street
New Berlin, WI 53151

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Benefit Auction – Friday, November 22, 2024

Marriott Milwaukee West – Waukesha

Doors open at 5:30 pm

**NEW
LOCATION**

**YOU'RE
INVITED!!**

First & Bowl – Saturday, January 25, 2025

2969 N 114th St, Wauwatosa, WI

11 am – 2pm

41st Anniversary Celebration Brunch – Saturday, May 17, 2025

Marriott Milwaukee West

For more information about these events, contact Sue at 262.789.1881 or suec@ecfawisc.org