

## **ABOUT GIANNA'S HOUSE PRC**

Gianna's House provides free and confidential services for families who are experiencing hardship before and after giving birth. Our caring and experienced client advocates are available to provide support and guidance to families, helping them to examine their goals and responsibilities as new parents. We welcome and educate all individuals in making pro-life choices consistent with the teaching of the Roman Catholic Church.

## History

In 2003, two Parish Respect Life Coordinators (Diane Melton of St. Andrew Church, Rock Falls & Gail Cassady of Sacred Heart Church, Sterling) met with Fr. Paul White of Newman High School to discuss pro-life projects at the school. Fr. White shared his opinion that we needed to open a pregnancy center where young Catholic women would feel comfortable. Fr. White shared these wise words: "Jesus said feed the poor, not covert them first and then feed them." From there God called several Catholics in the Sterling Deanery to help Him with this project. In 2004, a steering committee was formed and in 2006 the board of directors begins to meet. In the fall of 2007, Gianna's House opened its doors on property located on Route 30. In 2012, it was moved to its present location in a house on the St. Andrew Church and School property.

God confirmed His plan by sending a young High School student to us just weeks before we opened our doors. She and her family were in need of counseling, support, and love which our volunteers happily offered. We understood as we worked on opening our doors and hosting our first fundraising banquet why we were asked to do His work.

## Services

- Maternity clothes
- Pregnancy Options Consultation
- Pregnancy Testing
  - Material assistance
    - Diapers
    - Wipes
    - Wash/shampoo
    - Baby clothing
- Job postings
- Resume assistance
- Community Resources & Referrals

All our services are provided free of charge and available to anyone in need caring for an infant/toddler.