



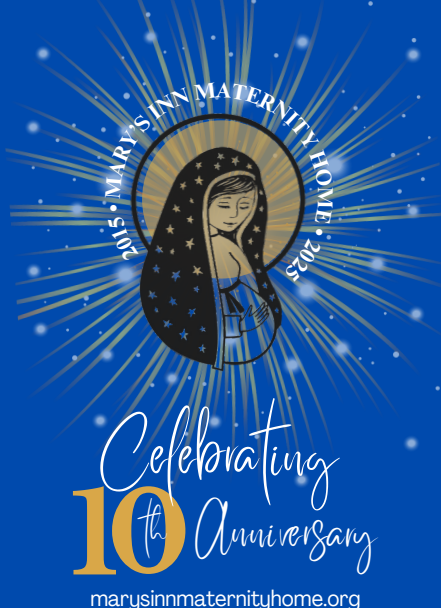
# Heart to Heart

July 2025



## Mission

Mary's Inn is a maternity home dedicated to the physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being of single pregnant mothers and their developing babies. It is a safe haven where they can stay while learning the skills they need to make a better life for themselves and their babies.



[marysinmaternityhome.org](http://marysinmaternityhome.org)

Dear friends,

"Summertime and the livin' is easy." At least I hope your livin' is easy and that you are getting some R&R over these summer weeks.

In late June we admitted two moms in one day, something we rarely do because of how intensive the intake process is. As part of their first few days here the moms take a couple of assessments so we can get to know them better, and so that they can get to know themselves better. One is a Personality Test that looks at various behaviors. Questions include, "I get stressed out easily." "I am relaxed most of the time." While it is not fair to surmise someone's personality based on 50 questions, it does give us an indication of 5 traits such as introversion/extroversion. The more the moms can learn about themselves and their strengths and weaknesses, the better. These types of assessments are also helpful as the mom works on her goals. Although our program has set features, like parenting classes, we also try to personalize it based on the moms' goals and situation. The assessments are just one tool we've found helpful.

May God bless you & your loved ones!

*Colleen Pasnik*

Colleen Pasnik, Director

## Homelessness

"An estimated 17,000 Iowa households will likely experience homelessness in 2025. 20% (or 3,400) are households with at least one adult and one child. The current inventory of beds and resource slots is insufficient to accommodate appropriately all people experiencing a housing crisis who need those resources to resolve their homelessness." *Statewide Needs Assessment Summary Results, Iowa Homelessness Needs Assessment, 2024.*

For women who are pregnant and/or parenting an infant, a maternity home might be an option. Besides Mary's Inn, the following four Iowa cities also have a maternity home: Des Moines, Ames, Milford, and Mt. Pleasant.

You might be surprised to learn that we get the most inquiries in July & August, but it is a trend that we see most years. There are many reasons for this, for example, family and friends are more willing to let a pregnant mom stay with them in the winter when it's freezing outside. The hot summer months can be brutal on a mom and infant, so finding a safe place to stay in the summer is just as critical as in the winter.



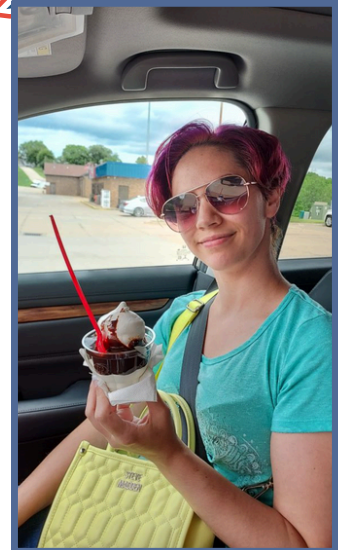
# Mary's Inn Tidbits



Immaculate Conception Parish has been actively partnering & giving to us for 7 years! Left to right: Joe & Diane Rubino, Colleen Pasnik, Duane & Carma Schmidtko, Brenda & Kevin Bodensteiner.



Kingston helps mom make his own birthday cake!



Kaitlyn passed her driving test! We are so very proud of her. Time to celebrate!



Kwik Stop sponsored us in the month of May & presented us with a generous check. Front row: Amber & Colleen. Back row: Cody, Karl the Kwik Care Bear and Heather. We appreciate our benefactors!



Learning about tummy time with mirrors donated by Ron & Nancy Drees Family & Friends of Becky Drees & The Becky Drees Memorial Foundation. Left to right: Jean Sigwarth, Nancy Drees & Kristi Wieseler.



Donation of a wonderful raised garden bed from the Rotary Club of Dubuque. We planted a dozen pepper plants.



We get a lot of wild life visitors come to Mary's Inn. The turkey has been a frequent flyer!

*Celebrating Freedom*

**Happy Birthday!**

July 3 Callie Merfeld  
July 4 Jolyn Hannan  
July 4 Katie McCann

July 13 Cheri Oglesby  
July 14 Teri Fairchild  
July 23 Kelli Uhlenkamp

 [director@marysinmaternityhome.org](mailto:director@marysinmaternityhome.org)

 [www.marysinmaternityhome.org](http://www.marysinmaternityhome.org)

 563-552-6288

 [facebook.com/marysinmaternityhome](https://facebook.com/marysinmaternityhome)