## doing life together.



Annual Report

a letter from our Executive Driector Monica Flynn

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we start a new year, I am filled with gratitude and awe as I reflect on all that God has accomplished through our ministry. The year 2024 was a year of growth, transformation, and unwavering faith as we continue to serve and support the single mothers in our community. It is my privilege to share some highlights from the past year and to express my heartfelt thanks to each of you who make this work possible.

## **Celebrating Lives Transformed**

In 2024, we witnessed countless stories of resilience, healing, and hope. If you attended our Fall Fundraiser, I'm certain Shawnte's story of strength and tenacity to overcome so many hardships touched your hearts. Like Shawnte, through the grace of God, we served over 150 single mothers and their children, providing them with critical resources, encouragement, and the message of God's unfailing love and grace. From providing financial assistance for housing, transportation, education, medical bills, and more, to providing a loving Christian community and one-on-one friendship and mentoring, every effort has been centered on empowering these women to walk confidently in their God-given purposes.

Another story that stands out is Anya's. When she first came to Mommies Matter, she was overwhelmed by the weight of her circumstances. With the support of our dedicated staff and volunteers, and only through the grace of God, she found hope and courage. Today, as you will read in her own words, her life has been totally transformed. This is just one example of how your prayers and generosity have made an eternal impact on so many mothers' and children's lives.

## **Expanding Our Reach**

Over the course of the past year, we expanded our services to meet the growing needs of single mothers in our area. With more than a 50 percent increase in referrals, we launched a second session of our monthly Enrichment Gatherings. We also created programming to address the on-going needs of the mothers after their children's second birthday. The new partnerships with local churches, organizations, and individual supporters have made possible our ability to meet the growing demands of the increased number of mothers. It is only because of your support that we were able to ensure that no woman felt forgotten or alone.

## The Power of Community

None of this would have been possible without you—our faithful supporters, donors, and prayer warriors. Your commitment to this ministry is a testament to the love of Christ, and I am continually inspired by your generosity and compassion. Whether you gave financially, volunteered your time, or lifted us up in prayer, please know that you are an integral part of this mission. Together, we are the hands and feet of Jesus to those in need.

This year, we continue to walk with great anticipation and trust in God's plan. We are prayerfully seeking solutions to housing challenges and childcare hardships our Mommies face, and we invite you to continue walking alongside us in this journey. The needs are great, but our God is greater, and we believe He will do immeasurably more than we could ask or imagine (Ephesians 3:20).



Monica Flynn Executive Director

Gina McCauley Executive Assistant

Lauren Steinbauer Family Advocate

Kendra Utt Family Advocate

Daphne Suh Outreach Coordinator

Kelly Rubadue Volunteer Coordinator, Events and Enrichment Coordinator

> Brandy Conley Accountant

Advocacy Partners

Lily Bell Financial Advocate

Meredith Murphy Life Coach

Board Members

Monica Flynn Leisa Ehlers Micah Haralson Phil Kraker December Summersett Daphne Suh

To every mother who has walked through our doors, you inspire us daily with your strength and courage. To our supporters, your faithfulness fuels this ministry and brings the hope of Christ to life. And to our staff and volunteers, your dedication reflects the heart of Jesus in every interaction.

May God bless you abundantly in 2025. Let us continue to serve with joy, trusting that He who began a good work in us will carry it on to completion (Philippians 1:6).

Warmly,



Monie Flyn

Executive Director, Mommies Matter

Our Mission

Empowering single, pregnant women by "Doing Life Together."

Jur Vision

For every mother to embrace her dignity and value as a woman.

Financial Summary

Theome

Grants: 15%

Organization: 18%

Private: 67%

Expenses

Development/Outreach: 17%

## Overhead/Admin: 9%



I have been a volunteer with Mommies Matter for over a year. I have helped administratively and more recently in the role of hosting baby showers! I have experience with several nonprofits in a volunteer capacity and would rate Mommies Matter as top notch! The love, patience and devotion that they share with their clients is remarkable - the difference made is palpable. I look forward to continuing my relationship with Mommies Matter for years to come to help mom's in need know just how much they and their babies are loved.

Gear in Review

61 Mommies in the program



Babies Welcomed in 2024

16



152

Total number of Mommies and children served





Number of Volunteers

230

# 2566

Volunteer Hours



Featured Mommie Anya

My name is Anya and my son's name is Yuri. I joined Mommies Matter in 2017 when I found out that I was expecting a boy who was due in 2018. When I found out I was pregnant, I realized the commitment and responsibility it would take. Coming from Russia, I experienced a different culture and country. It was hard to navigate the system and my family and how I was going to choose to raise my baby. Although my childhood was filled with troubles and hardships, I appreciated the simplicity of my country's approach to motherhood. I came to the realization that I was alone in the decisions I was making and in need of a support system. As I began to step into this journey, I was introduced to Mommies Matter through a local pregnancy center.

When I joined Mommie Matter I was introduced to Monica and paired with my Ally, Leisa. They both worked tremendously to ensure that I was equipped and well supported by the time I had my first son, Yuri. Having them come along my journey with me was very encouraging and healing. When I first reached out to Mommies Matter, I was already taking steps to start over and rewrite my story. Mommies Matter walked with me every step of the way. I was surrounded by strong women and was provided a safe space to release my shame. The fellowship and positive and healing atmosphere of enrichment nights allowed me to feel safe and to be vulnerable. My cup was being filled. The women of Mommies Matter set the example of what I aspired to be - a woman who feels safe as a woman and a healthy woman making my own decisions with confidence without trauma and triggers leading my life.

My life has had ups and downs. It's definitely been a process. I wouldn't have been able to be the woman I am today if it wasn't for Mommies Matter helping me to build a foundation for motherhood and redirecting me to a better path for the future of my child and I. Thanks to Mommies Matter, I was able to get my spiritual needs met and get the support I needed to jumpstart my journey into motherhood. Mommies Matter has given me the foundation I needed to face my pain and attach securely with my child. As well as with myself.



Volunteer Spotlight Leisa Ehlers

It is a privilege and honor to spotlight volunteer, Leisa Ehlers. Leisa has volunteered with Mommies Matter since its inception in 2018. Leisa has served as an Ally to five of the Mommies in the program, a member of the Board of Directors, and has used her decorating expertise on our Event Committee.



My journey with Mommies Matter began with a pick-up truck and a love of event decorating and planning. One Sunday after hearing a sermon encouraging us to share our God-given time, talent, and treasure, I was drawn to the Mommies Matter table at my church volunteer fair and learned about the organization. Their volunteer needs included trucks to move and deliver furniture to mommies (I have a truck!); event support for Mommies Matter functions (I have a barn full of event decor!); Allies to walk with single women, supporting them emotionally and spiritually during their pregnancy and journey through motherhood; and lots of love (as a labor and delivery nurse, I love moms and babies!). So, I joined the Mommies Matter family and was first paired as an ally with my first mommie, Anya. Since then my involvement has evolved and I have been so richly blessed by witnessing the deep faith, personal strength, and selfless love of these women who have chosen to walk the challenging path of single motherhood. I am in awe of them.

Fast forward seven-plus years, during which I have been blessed to be an Ally to five amazing mommies and their precious babies, a friend, a mentor, a volunteer/lead decorator with the Event Committee, a mover, a tutor, an emergency childcare provider, a birth coach, a member of the Board of Directors, a cheerleader, AND Granny Leisa to some of the children! I look forward to the next seven-plus years of serving alongside the incredible Mommies Matter volunteers and loving on our future moms and babies. My truck will also continue to serve during this journey. This May it will carry a special load of décor for my second mommy, as we celebrate her graduation from nursing school. It will be wonderful to celebrate this great accomplishment, which was five years in the making!

A Night to Remember

It is hard to believe that we held our 6th Annual Fall Fundraiser this year. As I reflect on the event I am filled with immense gratitude for the incredible and overwhelming gift of your support of Mommies Matter. As I looked around the room, I was in awe of the way the Lord has provided the Mommies we serve with such an amazing community to support them and truly walk beside them by doing life together.

A special thank you to Zayne of Blue Spectrum Band and Bishop Earl Fernandes for his improv comedy as well as the numerous sponsors, churches and Knights of Columbus Counsels that made the night a success. And a very special thanks to the Mommie Shawnte who was featured in this year's testimony video and who joined us for the evening. We are grateful for your courage to share your testimony!

Thank you for helping make this place we call Mommies Matter possible as a place of connection, grace, and transformation. We are excited to see what's to come as we continue to grow and look forward to seeing you again next year!

## -Monica Flynn, Executive Director







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