



PRESS RELEASE

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Dinner for Life to benefit homeless, pregnant women

Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri (CCSOMO) is hosting the Annual Dinner for Life on Friday, September 13, 2019 to benefit its LifeHouse Crisis Maternity Home program, for homeless pregnant women and their young children. This year's event will be held at the DoubleTree Glendalough Convention Center. Social hour and the silent auction will begin at 6:00 p.m. with dinner to follow. The evening will be emceed by local radio host Liz Delany.

“Dinner for Life is a celebration of life and how our community comes together to support this successful program,” said Maura Taylor, CCSOMO Executive Director. “Funds raised during this evening are critical to LifeHouse and the moms and babies who are seeking a brighter future for their family and working to achieve self-sufficiency.”

This year's Dinner for Life is a birthday party to celebrate the birthdays that have been celebrated because of this life saving program. In addition, it is Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri's 10th anniversary. During the evening guests can participate in a silent auction and a Dessert Dash, where participants will have to dash to get their favorite dessert. New this year, raffle tickets will be sold for a three-night glamping trip in Yosemite or a dinner for 16 people with Bishop Edward Rice. The evening will conclude with a presentation from a former LifeHouse resident.

LifeHouse Crisis Maternity Home, which is in its fifth year, has had 78 healthy babies born to residents. This long-term program not only provides safe housing for homeless, pregnant women, but also works with them to gain the skills they need to achieve long-term self-sufficiency through access to health care, counseling, employment, parenting and child development classes and more. Women can enter the program at any time during their pregnancy and stay for up to one year after the baby is born. Upon exiting the program, the Aftercare program helps support clients as they transition into their permanent housing.

To find out more about this program and to get tickets to ***Birthday Dinner for Life***, visit **ccsomo.org** or call **417.720.4213**.

Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri is a faith-based 501(c)(3) agency whose mission is to provide quality, compassionate social services that meet local needs. CCSOMO provides a wide variety of programs throughout the 39 southernmost counties of Missouri, including Homelessness Prevention, Support Services for Veterans, LifeHouse Crisis Maternity Home, Service Coordination for the Developmentally Disabled, Parenting and Pregnancy Support, Disaster Response and Recovery, and Home Repairs for disaster survivors, low-income families and seniors. CCSOMO serves all in need without regard to religion, race, or nationality.

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