Empowering churches to begin or expand ministry to pregnant women in need through love, friendship, prayer, and practical support.

## Introducing the Gabriel Project

What is the church's role in the Gabriel Project?

Essentially, all the church is doing is making a conscious effort to reach out to pregnant women and say, "We're here for you, we can help, you are not alone."

The Gabriel Project is intended to be a whole-church response of love and compassion to pregnant women in need. The bulk of the effort is put in by a few key volunteers who provide mentorship and support to the women, but the whole church should be supporting the ministry through regular prayer and by responding to practical needs as they arise. For instance, if a woman is moving from one residence to another, the church can be called upon to help with the move.

What is Sanctuary Outreach's role in the Gabriel Project?

We will help you set up your ministry, provide volunteer training, and support you through ongoing mentorship. When we receive calls on our helpline from women who are interested in being paired with a Gabriel Project, we will assess her needs and refer her to your church when appropriate. As a Gabriel Project, you will be provided with a copy of our comprehensive "Community Resource Guide." We are also able to help with the cost of any promotional materials you might need, such as flyers or signs for your church.



The goal of the Gabriel Project is to support pregnant women in such a way that they feel their needs have been met by God's people and in His house.



#### Why is it called the Gabriel Project?

The Gabriel Project was developed in the United States as a way of helping churches visibly and actively support pregnant women in need. We have modified it to fit our community, but the premise remains the same. In Luke's gospel, the angel Gabriel appears to Mary to tell her the good news that she will give birth to Jesus, calming her fears, and telling her she is blessed. The Gabriel Project continues this joyful work, by helping every mom and baby in our community to feel welcomed, loved, and supported.







### **Get Involved**

#### Ready to start a Gabriel Project?

1. Contact Sanctuary Outreach

You can get in touch with us either by e-mail (info@sanctuaryoutreach.com) or by phone (519-836-6311). We are excited to help you get started!

2. Find 3 women to volunteer

To launch a Gabriel Project, it is best to have a core group of 3 female volunteers minimum. This ensures that there are a few people available to support pregnant women, as the needs arise, as well as to support each other in serving the women in need. These core volunteers should attend a Sanctuary Outreach training session before getting started.

3. Get vour church excited

For the Gabriel Project to truly be a whole-church response to crisis pregnancy, your church needs to be on board. This means you need to inspire them to be willing to pray for the pregnant women and to provide practical help to your ministry as needed.

4. Open your doors to pregnant women in need

The most important part of the Gabriel Project is just simply being available and willing to help. It may be helpful to put up posters in your church or display a sign on your lawn indicating the support you offer.

We don't have enough volunteers to start a Gabriel Project, but we still want to be involved. Is that possible?

Yes! There are a two ways you can be involved. The first is having your church support an existing Gabriel Project as a prayer partner. The second is by getting yourself trained in pregnancy help and volunteering with Sanctuary Outreach.

# What if we already support local pregnancy resources?

If you already support a pregnancy resource of some kind, the Gabriel Project may still be a great fit for you! The Gabriel Project will actually allow you to welcome pregnant women in need into your church community and refer them to the pregnancy resources you are already connected to. Sanctuary Outreach and the Gabriel Project are not intended to replace existing resources, but rather to expand their reach.



#### What is Sanctuary Outreach?

We are a project of Guelph & Area Right to Life that seeks to ensure every pregnant woman in need has the resources she needs to be successful during and after pregnancy.

Sanctuary Outreach Crisis Pregnancy Support Program 26 Norfolk St., Guelph, ON, N1H 4H8 www.sanctuaryoutreach.com | @sanctuaryguelph 519-836-6311 | info@sanctuaryoutreach.com 24/Hr Crisis Pregnancy Support: 519-803-0313