



The Gabriel Project  
Diocese of Tyler

Training and Resource Manual

# The Gabriel Project

**is a Parish-Based Pro Life Ministry of the Diocese of Tyler. est. 1993**

Our Angel Volunteers are Messengers of Hope from a nearby Parish, providing immediate and practical help to mothers who are experiencing a crisis or unplanned pregnancy. Angels offer love, prayer, encouragement and access to resources in the community so that a Mother can choose LIFE for her child and never have to consider abortion as a solution to her problems.

## Committee members

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The Gabriel Project is sponsored by the Tyler Diocesan Council of Catholic Women  
And is an Apostolate Ministry of the Tyler Diocesan Sanctity of Life Committee

We wish to acknowledge and thank the Gabriel Project of the Arch-Diocese of Galveston Houston  
for allowing us to reproduce a portion of their training manual.

Updated May, 2022

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# Part I

## Organizing Your Parish Gabriel Project

### Mission Statement

The Gabriel Project is a pro-life, parish-based apostolate of the Diocese of Tyler Texas.

Our mission is to respect all life—at every age, in every circumstance. This means we are profoundly committed not only to your unborn child, but to you, the mother.

Gabriel Project volunteers act to provide immediate and practical support as well as spiritual and emotional accompaniment and Christian witness to mothers in need.

### Getting Started

The Diocese of Tyler coordinates the Gabriel Project through the Sanctity of Life Committee. If you are interested in starting a Gabriel Project ministry in your parish, please contact the The Gabriel Project at [gabrielprojecteasttexas@gmail.com](mailto:gabrielprojecteasttexas@gmail.com) for more information.

Steps to getting started:

- 1. Obtain Pastor Approval.** Consulting with your Pastor is the first step when starting a Gabriel Project chapter in your parish. Interested Pastors should consider a budget, fundraising, Pro Life volunteers and parish staff in evaluating the commitment for a Gabriel Project Pro Life Parish Ministry.
- 2. Find Interested Volunteers.** Depending on the size of the parish and needs of the surrounding community, the number of volunteers will vary. We recommend starting with a Parish Coordinator, a Resource Coordinator, and at least two Gabriel Angels. Your parish may wish to add volunteers as the program grows.

3. **Obtain Resources for Mothers.** Store in the Parish if you have a storage closet that could be designated for items for young infants, particularly diapers. Ask your parish to host a Gabriel Project Diaper Drive to obtain a good supply of diapers. Later the parish may host a baby shower for an expectant mom and provide needed items.
4. **Advertise.** The Gabriel Project Director will supply a sign to be posted on the parish grounds to let the public know assistance for pregnant moms is available. Additionally, advertising materials such as brochures and business cards are available on request by contacting the Director at [gabrielprojecteasttexas@gmail.com](mailto:gabrielprojecteasttexas@gmail.com)
5. **Community Outreach.** You may wish to appoint an Outreach Coordinator to act as liaison with other parish ministries and to advertise the ministry outside the parish community. Possible outreach locations might include community health centers, public libraries, and high school or college campuses.

## Recruiting Gabriel Project Volunteers

As individuals ministering to mothers and children in need, those volunteering with the Gabriel Project must:

- Be Catholics in good standing with up to date ethics training;
- Be members of the parish in which they will volunteer;
- Have a strong prayer life;
- Be familiar with and accepting of Church teaching on marriage, family and contraception.

The roles of the parish Gabriel Project Coordinator and Gabriel Angels are outlined as follows:

**The Gabriel Parish Coordinator's** duties include:

- Receive referrals from Gabriel phone hotline, online contact forms or walk-ins to Parish office.
- Match each referred mother to an Angel in your Parish a timely manner.

- Advise team members of meetings and trainings at the parish and Diocesan levels.
- Communicate with the Pastor and parish office.
- Work with Resource Coordinator to ensure adequate resources are located for mothers being assisted.
- Work with Outreach Coordinator to ensure Gabriel program is being advertised in community and in the parish.
- Connect and collaborate with other parish ministries such as St. Vincent de Paul, Knights of Columbus and Ladies Guild.
- Communicate regularly with Angels concerning mothers they are assisting.
- Communicate with the Diocesan Gabriel Parish Coordinator in the event of concerns or special needs regarding a mother;
- Ensure all Gabriel Angels are current in [Safe Environment training](#).
- Attend quarterly meetings for all Diocesan Gabriel Coordinators to update the Gabriel committee on all moms helped. (other Gabriel team members are also welcome to attend these meetings).

**The Gabriel Angel's duties include:**

- Respond to her assigned mother promptly (within 24 hours)
- Check up on her mother regularly via telephone, text and in-person meetings
- Keep the mother in daily prayer
- Assist the mother to access parish and community services
- Communicate with the Gabriel Parish Coordinator or your Pastor about mothers being assisted, including any problems or concerns that may arise.
- Maintain the confidentiality of the mother(s) assigned to her

**The Parish Resource Coordinator's duties include:**

- Research and produce a list of all resources available within your community; such as food pantry, clothes closet, assistance with rent or utilities, state social services, employment assistance, etc. Share this list with the Gabriel Project Director so that it may be posted on the website.
- Maintain and keep a supply of baby item donations;
- Organize parish baby showers, diaper drives, etc. when baby items are needed;
- Work with the Parish Coordinator and the Outreach Coordinator to place donation requests in the parish bulletin, website and social media;
- Ensure large items (cribs, baby swings, etc.) are in good condition and have not been subject to recall. Ensure that Release of Liability forms are filled out when required.

**The Parish Outreach Coordinator's duties include:**

- Connect with the parish bulletin to advertise the Gabriel Project to the parish.
- Assist the Parish Gabriel Project Coordinator to reach out to other parish ministries for collaboration and support.
- Reach out to and develop relationships with organizations near the parish where women in need may seek assistance (e.g. community health centers, food pantries, libraries, high schools and colleges).

## **SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING**

Your Gabriel Team may be called on to assist a pregnant minor; a mother may also have other minor children in her care. Your volunteers **MUST** be Safe Environment certified before meeting with or assisting these individuals. Please contact your Parish or Diocesan safe environment coordinator for more information or to register for an online training or certification renewal. See the Angel website for a list of Parish Safe Environment Coordinators. <https://www.dioceseoftyler.org/safeenvironment/>

# Gabriel Intake Procedures

There are 3 primary ways a mother may reach out to the Gabriel Project:

- 1) **Gabriel Telephone Hotline.** This line is staffed by volunteers who will take information about the mother and contact the Gabriel Coordinator of the parish nearest the mother's home.
- 2) **Gabriel Online Intake form.** Mothers fill out a brief online form, at [www.gabrielprojecteasttexas.org](http://www.gabrielprojecteasttexas.org), which is received by The Director of The Gabriel Project. The Director will determine the closest parish to the mother's residence and provide the mother's intake information to the parish Gabriel Coordinator.
- 3) Occasionally, a parish will receive a **"walk-in" referral**. A mother may come directly to the parish office seeking assistance or be referred from another parish ministry (e.g. a food pantry or social service ministry). In this case, the Coordinator should advise the Gabriel Project Director that they are assisting a particular mother so accurate numbers of mothers helped can be maintained.

## Calls to the Gabriel Hotline

- After the Initial Intake Form is completed, the telephone volunteer will contact the Gabriel Parish Coordinator at the appropriate parish and provide her with the completed intake form. (Usually scanned and emailed)
- The Gabriel Parish Coordinator should review the intake form and assign a Gabriel angel for the new mother. Some Gabriel Coordinators may wish to schedule an initial meeting with a mother first or attend the first meeting between a mom and her assigned Angel.

## Assignment and Followup

- It is up to the assigned Angel (or the Parish Coordinator, in appropriate circumstances) to make the initial contact with the mother and arrange a first meeting.



- *All matters* relating to your mother should be kept confidential. Her name, identifying information and details of her circumstances should not be disclosed to individuals outside your parish Gabriel Project team. On rare occasions, the Gabriel Director may become involved. The only exceptions to confidentiality will involve reporting suspected abuse ([See FAQs](#)).

## The Importance of Prayer

- The Gabriel Project is founded on the importance of prayer. If your mom is comfortable, it is a great idea to begin and end your meetings with her in prayer. If space/time permits, you might consider taking her to the Church or chapel at your parish.
- Some women are not comfortable with prayer and would prefer not to pray with their Gabriel Angel. If this is the case, you may ask her if there is something she would like you to pray for privately. It is important that her Gabriel Angel and the entire Gabriel team continue to keep her in daily prayer. Prayer requests may also be sent to the Director who would reach out to all Angels in the diocese to ask for prayer. Of course due to confidentiality policies, the mom's name may not be used and any description of her need must not reveal her identity.
- In addition to praying with and for our moms, we recommend that our team members maintain an active prayer life so as to be open to the promptings of the Holy Spirit as they work with their mothers.

## **A Clients call for help may look like this:**

- A. Mother is pregnant, unwanted or unplanned. She does not want to have nor keep her baby. She wants an abortion.
- B. Mother is pregnant. She does not have the physical, emotional or material resources she needs.
- C. Mother is struggling to provide for her children. She is facing a crisis such as loss of job, basic needs such as diapers, formula.

## **Problems and Solutions:**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>1. Wants an abortion</b>                | <b>Counsel on reality of abortion.<br/>Refer to local Pregnancy Resource Center for ultrasound</b>                                |
| <b>2. Homeless</b>                         | <b>Refer to safe shelters or maternity home</b>   |
| <b>3. Needs food or clothing</b>           | <b>Refer to community food pantry or St. Vincent de Paul</b>  |
| <b>4. Needs rent or utility assistance</b> | <b>Refer to PATH, local utility companies, or local churches which may have funds for assistance.</b>                             |
| <b>5. Needs baby items</b>                 | <b>Check Gabriel Project closet, purchase or request help from Gabriel Project Director, hold a Parish sponsored baby shower.</b> |

**6. Needs material resources for other children**

**Contact St Vincent de Paul or other Community resources.**

**7. Medical Care, Substance abuse**

**Help locate DSHS Social Worker**

**8. Needs transportation**

**Volunteer to take to a Dr Appt. Network within Parish to locate an automobile.**

**9. No job**

**Refer to Texas Workforce. Network within Parish or community to help find employment.**

**10. No Family support**

**Locate a nearby Parish Support Group. Angel volunteer and Parish can give love and support**

**11. Mental health or emotional impact of pregnancy**

**Refer to community counselors or Texas counselor offering Telehealth. Local Pregnancy Resource Centers**

**12. Domestic violence**

**Refer to local Police Dept, or to local Domestic Violence Organization or Hotline**

**13. Parenting help**

**Refer local PRC for prenatal, breastfeeding and parenting classes**

# Working with Other Parish Ministries

Involve other parish ministries in the Gabriel Project!

Some ideas for collaboration include:

- **Knights of Columbus/Knights of Peter Claver.** If your parish has a Knights chapter, this can be an excellent resource for assistance in fundraising, set-up and take down at Gabriel events or help with transporting baby items donated between one parish and another.
- **Parish Social Ministry/St. Vincent de Paul chapter.** Many times the mothers we work with need more (or different types of) assistance than the Gabriel Project can provide. Depending on a mother's need, you may consider contacting your Parish Social Ministry or St. Vincent de Paul chapter.
- **Women's/Men's/Seniors' groups.** These groups are excellent places to network when a mom or dad needs help finding employment, donated items or help with a baby shower.
- **Parish Prayer.** The Gabriel Project is grounded in the importance of prayer. You may consider asking members of these parish groups to pray for a Gabriel mother. If you choose this option, make sure not to provide a name or identifying information of the mother you are helping, in order to maintain confidentiality.
- **Youth/Catechetical groups.** Confirmation Programs or other youth teams can get involved in fundraising and helping to host a Gabriel Project baby shower or other events. Ask them to assist with promotional materials and in prayer.

## Additional Resources for Baby Items

1. Some Parishes receive more referrals due to the needs in their surrounding communities. Other parishes will have more resources to obtain baby items for moms in need. As a parish-based apostolate, Parish Coordinators are encouraged to share donated items and resource lists with one another to better assist our families in need. A list of Parish Coordinators will be posted on the Angel portion of the website. In most circumstances, they can share resource referrals and help you find the needed items in a short period of time.
2. If resources or funds are unavailable from the Parishes in your region or your Parish, please contact the the Gabriel Project Director at: [gabrielprojecteasttexas@gmail.com](mailto:gabrielprojecteasttexas@gmail.com). She will reach out to other members of the Sanctity of Life Committee to help locate needed items. Additionally, if the Parish budget cannot immediately supply a need, the Director may have funds available.
3. The Sanctity of Life Action Committee meets at the Chancery at 1:00 pm, usually each 3rd Saturday of the month. These meetings are an opportunity to meet Gabriel Coordinators at the Diocesan level, come early (12:30 pm) to discuss challenges or get updates. Stay informed of all Pro Life activities in the Diocese of Tyler by Texting: ENDABORTION to 84576 to join the Flocknote email list. The Flocknote email list may be used to reach out for prayer or to locate specific items.
4. Catholic Charities in Tyler provides Cribettes and diapers to Angels when needed. Contact Patty Brittain at 903-258-9492 ext 350
5. The Gabriel website, [www.gabrielprojecteasttexas.org](http://www.gabrielprojecteasttexas.org), will keep a list of Parish Coordinator contact information and additional resources for all volunteers. The Angel Tab on the website is accessible with a login password found on the first page of your manual, or by contacting the Director at [gabrielprojecteasttexas@gmail.com](mailto:gabrielprojecteasttexas@gmail.com). Please feel free to send us any updated resource information so that we can keep this as current as possible.

**IMPORTANT:** Many parishes receive donations of gently used items like bassinets or cribs. Before providing these items to a mother, a member of the Gabriel team should check the serial number of the item online to ensure it has not been recalled or expired. Car seats should not be donated. Check with Texas Safe Riders for new seats. We recommend obtaining a signed **Release of Liability Form**, found in this manual, for any large used items provided to the mom.

# Important Safety Considerations

As in any ministry, establishing appropriate boundaries between your team and those we serve is essential. The Gabriel Project recommends volunteers adhere to the following guidelines in order to maintain their safety and that of other parishioners and staff.

- Arrange meetings with your mother at the parish during hours when other parish staff are present. We ask that volunteers avoid making trips to the mother's residence or other locations determined by the mother and unknown to the volunteer.
- It is acceptable and recommended to attend doctor's appointments or social services appointments with your mother. We recommend that you meet your mother at the appointment location and avoid driving her in your own car.
- You may choose to contact your mother via your personal cell phone. Should you choose this option for communication, we recommend providing mom with your first name only as a variety of personal information can be obtained using your full name and cell phone number. If you have the option, you may also use a Parish telephone or dialing "\*67" before the number when using your cell phone. This deactivates caller id and your number will show up as "private number" or "restricted" on the recipient's phone.
- Avoid providing a significant amount of personal information in the course of your conversations, such as your home address or your children's names or school information.
- Remember that the Gabriel Project is not an emergency service. At times, you may be unable to return a call or email from your mother for a 24-hour period, or even longer. Mom should be advised to call emergency services in the case of a life-threatening emergency.
- Never give cash to a client.

## Part II

### FAQs to Discuss with Your Gabriel Team Members

#### **What if a mother comes to the parish Gabriel Project as a “walk-in”?**

A mother may come to the parish for assistance without first calling the Gabriel Intake Line or completing the Online Form. She may also be referred from your parish Social Ministry, St. Vincent de Paul conference or other parish organization. Speak with other parish ministries about preferred procedures for Gabriel Project, including information about the services Gabriel Project does (and does not) provide. Make sure that the Parish Secretary has the contact information for the Parish Gabriel Angel Coordinator.

If a mother comes to you without calling first, especially where you determine that she lives nearby, it is important to complete an [Intake Form](#) with her. If it appears you are not the closest parish, contact the Gabriel Director by telephone or the online contact form on the website so she does not have to travel farther than necessary to obtain help.

After your Gabriel Team completes the Intake Form, forward a copy of this form to The Gabriel Project Director by email. This serves two purposes: first, it allows us to accurately track the number of mothers served in a given year and to estimate the future financial and other resource needs at a diocesan level. Second, we have on rare occasions had mothers who sought assistance from multiple parishes concurrently. Keeping track of the mothers served by each parish team helps us avoid this rare occurrence and be better stewards of our donated resources.

## **If a mom contacts the Gabriel Project very early in her pregnancy, can we still help?**

Yes, the earlier the better. You would want to guide her to a nearby Pregnancy Resource Center for a sonogram if she has not already had one. Establish a relationship with the mom and invite her to attend a Support Group if your Parish has one. Depending on her situation and needs, there are many other resources that we can and should offer to a mom early in her pregnancy. For example, she may need referrals for housing, legal services, food and clothing or immigration assistance. The Gabriel Project is also able to provide emotional and spiritual support during this time and many mothers develop positive relationships with their Angels from this type of support. We recommend that baby items or baby showers not be provided to a mother until later in her pregnancy (around 7-8 months).

## **What if the mother contacting us wants to have an abortion?**

On rare occasions, you may be contacted by a mother who is considering abortion or even has an abortion scheduled. Sometimes, the Gabriel Project will be contacted in error because the mother thought we provided these procedures.

In such situations, it is important to remain calm and ask the Holy Spirit to guide you in your conversation with this mother. Above all, it is important to listen to her. Often, she is considering abortion because she feels she has no other options and is very anxious. Ask her about the life circumstances she feels make it impossible for her carry her child to term. Try to offer her options about how she might overcome those circumstances and information about help available.

Generally, it is best to focus on her and her concerns about the obstacles she faces rather than on the baby in these discussions. Ask open-ended questions (rather than questions requiring a “yes/no” answer) about how she is feeling.



Many women in this situation feel tremendous pressure to deal with the situation quickly and “get it over with.” It is important that a mother take time to consider this decision carefully. If she has not seen a doctor or obtained an ultrasound, suggest that she visit a pro-life pregnancy help center to obtain more information about her pregnancy and what she can expect. Always feel free to contact the Gabriel Project Director with any questions about this topic. The Diocese of Tyler area is blessed to have a number of Pregnancy Help Centers, many of which have ultrasound equipment. Get to know the PHCs in your area in the event a mom needs this service.

### **What if mom is being pressured to abort?**

Sometimes, you may be contacted by a woman whose family or significant other is pressuring her to abort her child. This is common where the mother herself is a minor, but it is not unusual in other circumstances. It is illegal for anyone to “force” or “require” anyone to have an abortion against their will. However, women often feel coerced to abort and many family members may mistakenly believe abortion is the best option for the mother.

There are various ways to handle this situation. Depending on circumstances, it may be appropriate to work with the mother and her family to come to a reconciliation of this situation. Your pastor or other clergy at the parish can be helpful in this regard. Because of the sensitive nature of this situation and the large number of scenarios that may arise, please contact the Gabriel Project Director with any questions or concerns.

### **What if mom is experiencing homelessness/has no place to stay?**

Occasionally, a mother working with the Gabriel Project will come to the parish advising that she has nowhere to stay for the night due to domestic violence, lack of funds or other issues. While this is a rare

occurrence, it is very difficult to secure safe, overnight accommodations at local domestic violence or other shelters on short notice.

We recommend that the Gabriel Project team discuss this potential scenario with the Pastor and other parish teams including Social Ministry, St. Vincent de Paul Society or similar groups. The parish may have resources to deal with this situation or your pastor may have a particular way he wishes this situation to be handled. It is a good idea to be prepared with potential solutions before – and in the unlikely event – this situation occurs.

### **What if a mom doesn't want to have a relationship with her Angel?**

This is a frequent concern of Gabriel Angels and Coordinators. Our volunteers develop positive relationships with many of the women we work with. In many cases, mothers remain in contact with the Gabriel Project for years after the birth of their children. However, many other women are not seeking this type of mentorship and spiritual care.

Some of our mothers have experienced significant trauma and have difficulty trusting that Gabriel volunteers are sincere in wanting to help. That is okay. You are still able to offer your support, even if she is not ready to accept it fully. Provide the help your mom is willing to accept, continue to offer friendship and support, and keep her and her family in prayer.

### **How do I handle questions about adoption?**

While rare, a mother you work with may be interested in exploring an adoption plan for her child. If a mother would like to consider adoption or you have other questions, we recommend contacting any of the adoption resources listed in this manual.

## **What if a mom has already had her baby when she contacts the Gabriel Project?**

Although The Gabriel Project is intended for pregnant women, it is not unusual to receive a request for assistance from a woman following the birth of her child.

The Gabriel Project is committed not only to the Mother but to her baby. We have access to many resources that are available to Mothers, their baby and toddlers. Do not hesitate to explore those resources and make any recommendations that the Mother would find helpful.

## **How long should the Gabriel Project assist a mom following the child's birth?**

Women will likely continue to need assistance after their child's birth. It is appropriate to continue assisting for some period of time after the birth until mom gets back on her feet. The exact time periods will need to be determined by each Gabriel Team depending on the needs of the parish, but many Teams assist for six months to one year following birth.

If a mother continues to need assistance after this period, it is acceptable to refer her to another program designed to help mothers with older children, including your Parish Social Ministry, Catholic Charities' Blessed Beginnings program, a local Pregnancy Help Center offering parenting classes, or other resources listed in this manual.

## **How should we handle suspicions of child abuse or neglect?**

In most cases, you should do everything possible to maintain the confidentiality of the mother you are working with. An exception will arise if you suspect a mother or someone in the child's life is abusing or otherwise neglecting the child. A person having cause to believe that a child's physical or mental health or welfare has been adversely affected by abuse or neglect by any person shall immediately make a report. (Texas Family Code §261.101)

If such concerns arise, immediately contact the Texas Department of Family & Protective Services to make a report at 1-800-252-5400, [www.txabusehotline.org](http://www.txabusehotline.org), or your local police department. Ideally, the Coordinator and the Angel can make this contact together. Please advise your Pastor as well as the Gabriel Project Director when such reports are made. If you suspect a child is in immediate danger, contact local law enforcement. Don't confront the (potential) abuser. Do report your reasonable suspicions. Even if your report does not bring decisive action, it may help establish a pattern that will eventually be clear enough to help the child. Your report of child abuse or neglect is confidential and immune from civil or criminal liability as long as the report is made in good faith and without malice.

## **Part III**

# **Forms and Other Helpful Information**

1. Confidential Intake Form
2. Release of Liability Form for used equipment/items

*Please copy these forms for your use*

# CONFIDENTIAL INTAKE FORM

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Referred By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Caller: \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Married/Single \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Children/Ages \_\_\_\_\_

How far into your pregnancy \_\_\_\_\_ Verified by ultrasound Y / N

Do you have a doctor \_\_\_\_\_ Have you been to a clinic \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have insurance \_\_\_\_\_ Are you considering abortion Y / N

Is the baby's father aware of pregnancy Y / N Is he supportive financially Y / N

Is your family aware of the pregnancy Y / N Are they supportive in any way Y / N

Explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have other emotional or material support \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a student Y / N School \_\_\_\_\_ Level/Grade \_\_\_\_\_

When is the best time to call \_\_\_\_\_ May we text Y / N Leave voicemail Y / N

List of immediate concerns/needs \_\_\_\_\_

List of goals \_\_\_\_\_

When is best time to meet \_\_\_\_\_

Place (public location) \_\_\_\_\_

Parish assigned \_\_\_\_\_

Follow up \_\_\_\_\_

## RELEASE OF LIABILITY FOR DONATED ITEMS

**THE GABRIEL PROJECT** is a nonprofit corporation with the purpose of assisting Mothers in Need.

Occasionally we receive donated items which are passed on to clients and members of the community, free of charge.

By signing this document, I agree to receive donated equipment as follows:

### 1. **Donated Equipment**

**USED CAR SEATS MAY NOT BE DONATED See Texas Safe Riders for car seats**

2. **Condition “As is”.** THE GABRIEL PROJECT makes no representations, warranties, or guarantees regarding the Donated Equipment. Including any implied warranties of merchantability and/or fitness for any purpose. I am accepting the Donated Equipment “as is”. I understand that THE GABRIEL PROJECT will not provide any instructions, assembly or follow-up services, replacement parts, or repairs.

3. **Assumption of Risk.** I understand that there are certain risks of injury that may arise from the possession, use or misuse of the Donated Equipment, including the risk of injury, disability, or death of my child or other persons, or damage to property. I assume full responsibility for all risks arising directly or indirectly from my possession, use or misuse of the Donated Equipment, both known and unknown, regardless of the cause.

4. **Waiver and Release.** I waive and release any and all claims against THE GABRIEL PROJECT, its officers, agents and employees with respect to any and all injury, disability, death, loss or damage to property resulting from possession, use or misuse of the “Donated Equipment”, regardless of the cause and even if caused by negligence, whether passive or active. I agree not to sue any of THE GABRIEL PROJECT parties on the basis of these waived and released claims.

5. **Indemnity.** I will defend, indemnify and hold THE GABRIEL PROJECT harmless from any and against any and all liability, loss, damages, claims and attorney’s fees that may be suffered by any of THE GABRIEL PROJECT parties resulting directly or indirectly from the possession, use or misuse of the Donated Equipment by me or any other person.

6. **Acceptance.** I have read and understand the terms of this agreement. I understand that this agreement covers each and every item of “Donated Equipment” which I am receiving. I sign it freely and voluntarily.

---

Client

Date

**This copy will be kept in clients file**

# Guidelines for Answering the Hotline

*Hello, this is the Gabriel Project, my name is ( — —first name only— —).  
How may I help you?*

**The initial call is the first impression that we make with Mom. We must respond to Mom with respect and treat her with dignity. She is not just a category of people that we are helping. She is a unique child of God and deserves our Love and Care.**

## **How to answer the questions she may ask:**

### **Who are we?**

**The Gabriel Project is a network of volunteers based at area churches throughout East Texas. It is a pregnancy support program with volunteers ready to provide emotional, spiritual, and material support while walking alongside women who find themselves in a difficult or unexpected pregnancy.**

### **How do we work?**

**When you call our Hotline, we take your initial information and with your permission, contact an Angel Volunteer near you. We offer immediate and practical help at the local level. Our services are free and confidential and offered to ALL women. We are not an abortion provider nor an emergency service. (If you are experiencing an emergency, call 911)**

### **What do we provide?**

**Based on your unique situation, a Volunteer will offer the spiritual, emotional and material support you need throughout your pregnancy and afterward if necessary. You and your baby are remembered in daily prayer by our church. We will help you find the resources you need in the local community for resolving any challenges that you may be facing.**

### **What do we NOT provide?**

**We do not provide cash, emergency housing, or transportation. However we do make referrals for these needs.**



## **Advertising Materials**

The Sign of Life, Brochures, Business Cards, and Training Manuals are all available and free of charge.

Please contact the Gabriel Project Director by email to request advertising materials: [gabrielprojecteasttexas@gmail.com](mailto:gabrielprojecteasttexas@gmail.com)

The Gabriel Project brochure may be downloaded from the Angel website.

The Gabriel Angel Volunteer Training Manual may be downloaded from the Angel website.

Into Life 12 pt Series may be downloaded from the Angel website.  
Or go to: [www.IntoLifeSeries.com](http://www.IntoLifeSeries.com)

**Angel website:**

**[www.angels.gabrielprojecteasttexas.org](http://www.angels.gabrielprojecteasttexas.org)**

## **Part IV**

### **Resources for Mothers in Need**

**The following is a list to help you get started.**

A more complete list of Texas resources can be found on the Angels Website under [www.angels.gabrielprojecteasttexas.org](http://www.angels.gabrielprojecteasttexas.org)

Please help us to keep this list as current and as complete as possible. Share any resources you find in your community with the Gabriel Resource Coordinator at

#### **St Vincent de Paul in the Diocese of Tyler**

<https://www.svdptyler.org/conferences.htm>

Food Pantry, Thrift Store, Clothing

#### **Catholic Charities, Tyler**

<https://ccetx.org>

Counseling, Immigration Services, Baby Items

#### **Texas Department of State Health Services Health and Human Services**

<https://dshs.texas.gov>

<http://hhs.texas.gov>

<https://www.yourtexasbenefits.com>

Social Services, CHIP, WIC, SNAP, Medicaid, TANF

**WIC** Provides nutrition education, access to nutritious foods and breastfeeding support and (at some locations) vouchers for fruits and vegetables at farmers' markets.

**Eligibility**

Pregnant women

Women breastfeeding a baby age 0-12 months

Mother 0 – 6 months after birth of child

Women with children 0-5 years of age

Income below specified levels depending on family size

**How to Apply for Benefits:** Applications must generally be made *in person*

**Contact 1.800.WIC.FORU (1.800.942.3678), M-F 8am – 5pm to locate nearest WIC office or visit [texaswic.org](http://texaswic.org). Mom will need to make an appointment at a clinic of her choice and bring required documents.**

**SNAP** Provides food subsidies for individuals meeting applicable requirements. To determine eligibility, Mom must apply for benefits and interview in person or over the telephone.

**Eligibility** is determined according to:

Texas residency

Citizenship

Level of employment

Current resources and income

For more information about eligibility, or to make an online application for benefits, go to [yourtexasbenefits.com](http://yourtexasbenefits.com)

**TANF** Texas Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program may help you become self-supportive while receiving monthly cash benefits to meet your everyday needs such as rent, utilities, clothes, transportation or additional expenses.

Eligibility requires most adults be employed and proof of household income  
State residency, citizenship and other resources

## **Texas Workforce Solutions East Texas**

**<https://www.easttexasworkforce.org>**

**<https://www.twc.texas.gov>**

**<http://www.netxworkforce.org>**

## **Legal Services**

### **Lone Star Legal**

**<https://www.lonestarlegal.org>**

### **Sean P. Healy**

**Healy Law Offices, P.C.**

**113 E. Houston Street**

**Tyler, Texas 75702-8130**

**(903) 592-7566**

**Please say that you are with The Gabriel Project**

**<https://www.healylaw.com>**

**Email: [genghis@healylaw.com](mailto:genghis@healylaw.com)**

## **Mental Health**

**Matthew Joseph Sciba Licensed Professional Counselor, MEd, LPC**

**805 S. Broadway, Tyler, Texas. 75701**

**409-237-3347 15 min free consultation (tele-therapy available)**

**[www.catholictherapists.com](http://www.catholictherapists.com)**

**Most Texas therapists offer telephone/online/video services.**

## **Medical Services**

**<https://www.tylercircleofcare.org>**

**<https://wellnesspointe.org/social-services/alternatives-to-abortion-program>**

## **Emergency Shelter**

**Women's Center of East Texas.**

**<https://www.wc-et.org/services/emergency-shelter>**

**800-441-5555**

## **Salvation Army**

**<https://www.salvationarmytexas.org>**

## **Miscellaneous**

### **PATH**

**<https://www.pathhelps.org>**

**903-597-PATH (7284)**

**Dental, Vision, Food, Utility, Rent, Housing**

**Safe Riders -Texas DSHS Infant Car Seat Program**  
**<https://www.savemewithaseat.org>**

**National Domestic Violence Hotline at**  
**1-800-799-SAFE (7233)**

**[www.Texasabusehotline.org](http://www.Texasabusehotline.org)**  
**1-800-252-5400**

**Human Trafficking Resources**  
**<https://www.hhs.texas.gov/services/safety/texas-human-trafficking-resource-center>**

- **Call: 1-888-373-7888 (TTY: 711)**
- **Text: BEFREE to 233733**
- **Chat Online: [Human Trafficking Hotline Web Chat](#)(link is external)**

## **Post Abortion Healing**

**For confidential help, text or call Fonda at 903-539-2941 or**  
**email: [fonda.projectrachel@protonmail.com](mailto:fonda.projectrachel@protonmail.com)**  
**[www.hopeafterabortion.com](http://www.hopeafterabortion.com)**

## **Adoption**

**Living Alternatives**  
**<https://livingalternatives.org/loving-alternative>**

**Hannah House, Gilmer Texas**  
**Maternity home for adoption only**  
**[www.hannahhouse.life](http://www.hannahhouse.life)**  
**903-238-5351**

## **Maternity Homes**

**East Texas area:**

**Mercy Manor, Longview, Texas**

<https://mercymanor.com>

**903-932-9079**

**Fatherheart, Tyler, Texas**

<https://livingalternatives.org/fatherheart/>

**903-882-0182**

**Hannah House, Gilmer Texas**

**Maternity home for adoption only**

[www.hannahhouse.life](http://www.hannahhouse.life)

**903-238-5351**

**Heart of Hope, Keithville, La**

<https://www.heartofhopeministry.org>

[\(318\) 925-4663](tel:(318)925-4663)

**Crisis Line [\(318\) 277-9506](tel:(318)277-9506)**

**Other Texas Maternity Homes:**

**Selah Creek Maternity Home, Rockwall, Texas**

**214-923-0817**

**Live In My Shoes, Dallas**

**469-857-3264**

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

**Life House, Houston, Texas**

[info@lifehousehouston.org](mailto:info@lifehousehouston.org)

**(713) 623-2120**

<https://lifehousehouston.org>

**Breath of Life, Austin, Texas**  
**Jeanene Flores**  
**13170 Pond Springs Rd. Austin, TX 78729**  
**P.O. Box 202995 Austin, TX 78720**  
**Patient Line: (512) 200-4BOL**  
**Office Line: (512) 219-832**  
<https://breathoflifesite.org>

**Annunciation Maternity Home**  
**3610 Shell Rd**  
**Georgetown, Texas. 78628**  
**(512) 864 – 7755**  
<https://wp.thematernityhome.org>



Gabriel Project, Diocese of Tyler  
Active Parishes, August, 2022

Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception  
(Chapel of Sts Peter and Paul)  
423 S. Broadway Ave.  
Tyler, TX. 75702  
Fr. Hank Lanik, Pastor  
Church Office Phone: 903-592-1617  
Gabriel Contact:  
Anne Jackson  
Phone: 903-426-6145  
Email: [gjaxon@yahoo.com](mailto:gjaxon@yahoo.com)  
Ann Kohls  
Phone: 607-280-6525  
Email: [amkohls@gmail.com](mailto:amkohls@gmail.com)

Holy Family Parish  
1612 South FM 2869  
Lindale, TX. 75771  
Fr. David Bailey, Pastor  
Church Office Phone: 903-882-4079  
Gabriel Contact: Linda Wray  
Phone: 903-569-2432  
Email: [lwray936@gmail.com](mailto:lwray936@gmail.com)

Holy Spirit Parish  
1612 South FM 2869  
Holly Lake Ranch, TX. 75765  
Fr. Michael Snider  
Church Phone: 903-769-3235  
Gabriel Contact: Nancy Mullen  
Phone: 903-530-1426  
Email: [nancy53mullen@outlook.com](mailto:nancy53mullen@outlook.com)

Immaculate Conception Parish  
299 North Vale St.  
Jefferson, TX. 75657  
Msgr. Zach Kunnakkathara  
Church Office Phone: 903-665-2869  
Gabriel Contact: Collette Dockery  
Phone: 903-399-4925  
Email: [dockerycol@gmail.com](mailto:dockerycol@gmail.com)

Our Lady of Grace Mission  
415 S. Cypress St.  
Hallsville, TX 75650  
Fr. Roselio Fuentes, Pastor  
Church Office Phone: 903-668-5279  
Gabriel Contact: Alejandra Tamale  
Phone: 903-720-4294  
Email: [alejandratamallo@yahoo.com](mailto:alejandratamallo@yahoo.com)

Our Lady of Sorrows  
1023 Corinth Rd.  
Jacksonville, TX 75766  
Fr. Jay Lucas  
Church Office Phone: 903-586-4538  
Gabriel Contact: Carol Todd  
Phone: 903-521-6676  
Email: [bellababydesign@gmail.com](mailto:bellababydesign@gmail.com)

Sacred Heart Parish  
4505 Elizabeth St.  
Texarkana, TX. 75503  
Fr. Justin Braun, Pastor  
Church Office Phone: 903-794-4444  
Gabriel Contact: Silvia Rivas  
Email: [sylrivas@aol.com](mailto:sylrivas@aol.com)

St. Ann Parish  
1010 FM 515  
Winnsboro, TX. 75494  
Fr. Mani Mathai, Pastor  
Church Office Phone: 903-629-7884  
Gabriel Contact: Gail Peterson  
Phone: 214-356-2887  
Email: [lakedubya@yahoo.com](mailto:lakedubya@yahoo.com)

St Boniface Parish  
318 S. Broad St.  
Chandler, TX 75758  
Fr. Paul Key, Pastor  
Church Office Phone: 903-849-3234  
Gabriel Contact: Sabrina Adams  
Phone: 903-216-1697  
Email: [sabrinamadams77@gmail.com](mailto:sabrinamadams77@gmail.com)

St Edwards Parish  
800 East Tyler  
Athens, TX 75751  
Fr. Nolan Lowry, Pastor  
Church Office Phone: 903-675-2509  
Gabriel Contact: Karen Pfeiffer  
Phone: 832-651-4329  
Email: [karenkpfeiffer@comcast.net](mailto:karenkpfeiffer@comcast.net)

St Francis of the Tejas Parish  
609 N. Fourth St.  
Crockett, TX 75835  
Fr. Selvaraj Sinnappan  
Church Office Phone: 936-544-5338  
Gabriel Contact: Sharon Tucker  
Phone: 281-851-6648  
Email: [tucker\\_cs@yahoo.com](mailto:tucker_cs@yahoo.com)

St Joseph Parish  
410 N. Alamo Blvd.  
Marshall, TX 75670  
Office Phone: 903-935-2536  
Msgr. Zach Kunnakkathara  
Gabriel Contact: Juanita Cantu  
Phone: 903-926-8305  
Email: [js\\_cantu@hotmail.com](mailto:js_cantu@hotmail.com)

St Mary Magdalene Parish  
18221 FM 2493  
Flint, TX 75762  
Fr. James Rowland  
Church Office Phone: 903-894-7647  
Gabriel Contact: Rosalinda (Rosy) Coss  
Phone: 903-521-3503  
Email: [coss.rosalinda73@gmail.com](mailto:coss.rosalinda73@gmail.com)

St Mary Parish  
2108 Ridgewood  
Longview, TX 75605  
Fr. Daniel Dower, Pastor  
Church Office Phone: 903-757-5855  
Gabriel Contact: Melissa Aguilar  
Phone: 903-263-9819  
Email: [maquilar@stmaryslgv.org](mailto:maquilar@stmaryslgv.org)

St Matthew Parish  
2800 Pine Tree Rd.  
Longview, TX. 75604  
Msgr Xavier Pappu  
Church Office Phone: 903-295-3890  
Gabriel Contact: Erika Ponce  
Phone: 903-918-6243  
Email: [ariserika80@yahoo.com](mailto:ariserika80@yahoo.com)

St Michael Parish  
1403 E. First St.  
Mt Pleasant, TX 75455  
Fr Ariel Cortes, Pastor  
Church Office Phone: 903-572-5227  
Gabriel Contact: Vanessa Cadenas  
Phone: 903-336-2088  
Email: [office@stmichaelmp.org](mailto:office@stmichaelmp.org)

St Patrick Parish  
2118 Lowry St.  
Lufkin, TX 75901  
Fr. Denzil Vithanage, Pastor  
Church Office Phone: 936-634-6833  
Gabriel Contact: Stefanie Brunner  
Phone: 936-240-8367  
Email: [brunner\\_stefanie@yahoo.com](mailto:brunner_stefanie@yahoo.com)

St Peter the Apostle Parish  
203 Meadowbrook Dr.  
Mineola, TX 75773  
Fr. Lawrence Love  
Church Office Phone: 903-569-3665  
Gabriel Contact: Linda Wray  
Phone: 903-569-2432  
Email: [lwray936@gmail.com](mailto:lwray936@gmail.com)

St Therese Parish  
885 First Monday Lane  
Canton, TX. 75103  
Fr. Jesudoss Thomas  
Church Office Phone: 903-567-4286  
Gabriel Contact: Sheila Herrera  
Phone: 214-394-7258  
Email: [herreraSPA@gmail.com](mailto:herreraSPA@gmail.com)

St William of Vercelli Parish  
4088 NW Loop  
Carthage, TX 75633  
Fr. Steven Paradis  
Church Office Phone: 903-693-3766  
Gabriel Contact: Sara Warrington  
Phone: 903-241-6814  
Email: [warringtonh@sbcglobal.net](mailto:warringtonh@sbcglobal.net)  
Gabriel Contact: Katy Adams  
Phone: 903-752-2075  
Email: [katyleeadams19@gmail.com](mailto:katyleeadams19@gmail.com)

The contact information contained in this list is privileged information and only to be used by Gabriel Angels in the course of doing business for The Gabriel Project.