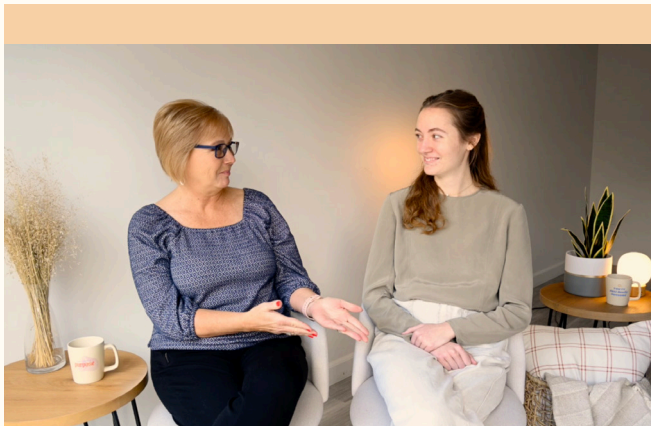


# Meet Avery McCutcheon



## THRIVE MEDICAL CLINIC'S NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Avery is a Registered Nurse who joined Thrive Medical Clinic (TMC) last summer in a different leadership role and quickly gained our trust and admiration for her incredible leadership skills, humble wisdom, and strategic thoughtfulness. She became our fearless leader in January after our amazing Director of over 32 years, Rhonda Wrede, retired. Avery has an acute focus on our mission to reach, love, and serve the abortion-vulnerable woman in our community and empower her to thrive in a life-affirming pregnancy decision.



**Scan the QR code below to watch a special video** of Rhonda and Avery together, sharing how Avery was chosen, her heart for the ministry, and a heartfelt farewell from Rhonda.

Email Avery to say hi and schedule a tour of TMC:  
[avery@thrivemedicalclinic.org](mailto:avery@thrivemedicalclinic.org)



## Q&A with Avery:

**What did you learn as an ER & NICU nurse that prepared you for this role?** Critical thinking, prioritization, communication, and how important it is to be a team player. In critical care nursing, I saw God's sovereignty and the truly precious miracle of human life.

**What drew you to Thrive Medical Clinic last summer?** I sensed a stirring in my soul to think outside of my original plans to work as a nurse, and a desire to work in ministry that was becoming more and more difficult to deny. This was initially discouraging because I did not know what to do with it all... thankfully God knew.

**What went through your mind when Rhonda approached you about being our new Executive Director?** I was completely caught by surprise. I never thought about pursuing the Executive Director role. In the days that followed, I felt thankful, honored, excited, nervous, and very, very small - like I was staring at Goliath. And those feelings have not waned!

**What are you excited for this year at Thrive Medical Clinic?** I am excited for the ways God is going to grow and refine TMC as we continue to serve and connect with our community. I think God has us in a unique position to evolve and grow healthily to best meet the abortion-vulnerable woman where she is as His hands and feet.

# Recent Wins You Made Possible

God has blessed Thrive with great momentum the past 6 months! These wins have enabled us to reach and serve more abortion-vulnerable women. Thank you!

**GROWING SUPPORTER BASE:** We gained 127 new donors last year. 46 local churches raised \$71,000 for Baby Bottle Boomerang, a record setting year!

**GREATER COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:** Many local churches and organizations have welcomed us in to present about TMC, expanding awareness and impact. Call us to discuss speaking engagements: 231-929-3488

**500+ VOLUNTEER HOURS:** 70 amazing volunteers donated their time last year to keep Thrive Medical Clinic running. You are indispensable! Email natalie@thrivemedicalclinic.org to volunteer.

**THRIVE BILLBOARD:** Thanks to your donations, we had our first-ever billboard on South Airport Rd in November and have three more scheduled for this year, including one downtown on Eighth Street during the Cherry Festival! Pray for God to use these to reach women in need!

**PRIVACY FENCE:** We asked, and you made it happen! Confidentiality is critical, so we put a privacy fence around our medical clinic entrance and patient parking lot to help Thrive Medical Clinic patients feel secure and respected the moment they pull in. This is such a blessing!

**THRIVE SHOP COLLECTION LAUNCH:** A HUGE thank you to each one of you who bought something from our Christmas Collection. You're helping us raise funds and spread awareness to people who need our services by wearing Thrive Merch! We're hearing amazing stories of conversations started by wearing these items! And there are still a few items left! **Shop online at [thrivemedicalclinic.org/shop](http://thrivemedicalclinic.org/shop)**

## WHAT'S AHEAD:

**Growing our patient services and marketing teams**, so we can expand our reach and service capacity.

**We're putting a new twist on our spring fundraiser, so be on the lookout for more exciting details!**

# Karli's Story



Karli\* first came to us seeking information on abortion to gain a better understanding of her options. When she saw her active, beautifully developed 13-week baby on the ultrasound screen and heard the precious heart beating, she smiled and said, "I think it's a girl." She quickly felt that getting an abortion would be wrong and wasn't what she wanted anymore. Throughout her pregnancy, what started as a quick visit to just pick up some baby supplies, gradually grew into visits with regular

deep conversations with our staff. One of our Thrive Mentors had it clearly placed on her heart that - in addition to the practical maternity supplies, baby clothes, diapers, car seat, and dresser Karli was able to receive from Thrive - one of the most valuable gifts she needed was someone to listen to her. Seeing Karli grow more comfortable - confident that she is genuinely loved and cared for - has been so beautiful! She's begun opening up more and more, and recently allowed one of our mentors to pray with her over a heavy challenge she's been going through.

Seeing this steady transformation in Karli's life and being able to help and encourage her has been such a humbling experience for our staff. It is beautiful to see God currently working in the details in her life, reminding her repeatedly that she is seen, loved, and that she and her child are not forgotten.

Oh! And she's having a girl. :)

\*Names and images are changed to preserve confidentiality.

## "How Will My Church Family Respond?"

Our abortion-vulnerable patients are often very nervous to tell their families and church friends about their unplanned pregnancy. The sad reality is that many women in the American Church silently choose abortion for fear of judgment and an assumed lack of support and acceptance of them and their baby. We know the local Church is their biggest support system, so we encourage them to tell you about their pregnancy, and they are usually so surprised and relieved by how well you respond! **When they know with confidence that they will be embraced and lovingly supported, they are much more likely to tell you they're pregnant and choose life for their baby!**

Proactive tips to help her know you'll accept and support her:

- **1. Vocalize your unconditional love beforehand.** Tell your close friends and family that if they were ever to face an unplanned pregnancy, you would unconditionally love and support them, and would celebrate their child's life. These simple words can dispel their fear, and give them courage to reach out to you if they do become pregnant.
- **2. Help her know she's not alone.** Fear of judgment and lack of financial resources may cause her to believe she'll be completely alone if she chooses to parent. Whether you're her partner, family, or church, you can help alleviate this crushing assumption by vocalizing your love and tangible support.
- **3. Affirm them as parents and their baby as a blessing.** Hearing "you are going to be an amazing mother/father" when they expect to hear disapproval can have a profound impact.

Contact us if you're interested in learning more about how you can create an active culture of grace and truth in your church or family around the topic of unplanned pregnancies.

# Emily's Story

Emily\* came to Thrive Medical Clinic completely overwhelmed, with a child in her arms and another on the way. She also carried a heavy burden of hurt and distrust from a painful past relationship, and it was taking a toll on her current one. To help her physically prepare for her baby's arrival, we gave her maternity, postpartum and baby supplies, and connected her with other local resources. She also met with a Thrive Mentor on numerous occasions to mentally, emotionally, and relationally prepare for this next season as a mom of two. Through her continued mentorship, she's received critical tools to help restore trust and unity in her relationship, and has gained clarity and confidence with parenting and communication skills to create a more healthy, stable, and joyful home. During these conversations and prayers with her mentor, Emily's guarded heart became tender as she opened up to God's love for her and His beautiful plan for her life. The support she's received from Thrive has been transformative in her life. This is the impact of your prayers and support!

\*Names and images are changed to preserve confidentiality.



# Thrive Medical Clinic Prayer Requests

WINTER - SPRING 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>For the Abortion-Vulnerable Woman:</b></p> <p>That she will be surrounded by love and support to see that she can choose life.</p> <p>For the Holy Spirit to soften her heart toward her baby and to lead her to make an appointment with Thrive.</p>	<p><b>Marketing Team:</b></p> <p>For stamina, wisdom and blessing over projects, and for Holy Spirit inspired messaging.</p> <p>That our efforts would create increased awareness of Thrive to reach more people who are considering abortion.</p>	<p><b>Patient Services Team:</b></p> <p>For God to speak through the team and help us anticipate and serve each patient's needs.</p> <p>For strength during difficult appointments and God's peace and insight as we process afterwards.</p>	<p><b>Leadership &amp; Admin Team:</b></p> <p>For our Executive Director, Avery, to follow God's leading and foster a healthy, mission-focused culture.</p> <p>For our Admin Team to strengthen and expand relationships with donors, volunteers, and churches.</p>	<p><b>Supporters:</b></p> <p>Pray for wisdom, refreshing and blessing for our amazing board, donors, volunteers, partner churches, prayer warriors, word-of-mouth/awareness champions, and Thrive shoppers.</p>	<p><b>For God's Love to Change Lives:</b></p> <p>That our patients will see and understand their own value and the value of their child.</p> <p>For patients to know Jesus and be transformed by His love.</p> <p>For people to find healing in Jesus from past abortions.</p>	<p><b>For Patients to Thrive:</b></p> <p>That they will choose life for their babies and be spared the devastating pain and loss of abortion.</p> <p>For God to bless, protect, encourage, provide for, and strengthen our patients and their children.</p>



***“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” - Jeremiah 29:11***

Our patients often come to us feeling like there is no hope for their future or their ability to thrive as a parent. **This despair and doubt leads many to believe abortion is the only option**, but when a woman sees her baby on the ultrasound and realizes there is a loving support system waiting to embrace her, God opens her eyes to see His hopeful, beautiful plan for her future and for her child's life.

There are countless women, men, and tiny babies right now in unplanned pregnancies who desperately need your generosity and faithful support. With each donation, you are being a vessel for God's plan for their future; you are truly helping transform and save lives right here in our community.

**Scan the QR Code to Donate Online:**



**Contact**

231-929-3488

info@thrivemedicalclinic.org

121 South Garfield Ave.  
Suite C, Traverse City, MI 49686

**New Office Hours**

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,  
Thursday | 10AM - 2PM

**Websites**

Patient: [thrivemedicalclinic.org](http://thrivemedicalclinic.org)

Supporter: [friendsoftmc.org](http://friendsoftmc.org)



We are on all social media platforms as **Friends of TMC and Thrive Medical Clinic**

If you wish to be taken off of our mailing list, please let us know by calling our office at 231.929.3488 or by sending an email to [info@thrivemedicalclinic.org](mailto:info@thrivemedicalclinic.org)