

**Pastor's Notes: A New Program to Help Parents in Need**

November 8, 2020

The Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul has been selected to pilot a new pro-life program that the U. S. Bishops are encouraging parishes around the country to offer: "Walking with Moms in Need". It is an outreach program to help local mothers as well as fathers to be able to gain the skills and access the tools needed to support themselves and their children. This program is very much in line with living out the pro-life principles that we profess as Catholics, and I am looking forward to being able to offer it at the Basilica. We will need help from many of you to be able to make it a success. Below I share with you the initial information that we have from Sheri Fava, Director of the Pregnancy Help Center at Catholic Charities of East Tennessee.



*"With equal clarity and determination we must identify the steps we are called to take in order to serve life in all its truth." – Pope John Paul II*

The Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul has created a new ministry in response to the USSCB's call for a year of service to help mothers in need. After assessing local resources, we have decided to host six pivotal two-hour sessions in early 2021 for direct one-to-one assistance in assessing skills, setting goals and preparing for an education or job placement. We are in the planning stages and looking for volunteers to help in several capacities:

**Topic Developers** to help research our planned topics and organize each night's topic.

**Speakers** who have knowledge/experience in the field of personality/skills, goal setting, career paths and higher education, FAFSA and essay writing, college and job applications, interviewing skills and dressing for success.

**Dinner Prep and Servers** – we want to serve a light and easy dinner for our participants. The meetings will be held every two weeks for 12 weeks. We will limit the number of participants to 10 women.

**Childcare** – care for participants' children and sanitize room.

**Father Mentoring** – one-on-one support and mentoring of fathers in need by other fathers

**Leader** – this person would coordinate with all others as well as church administration for all meetings, location rooms needed, etc.

**Find out More**

If you are interested in helping with this ministry and/or would like more information, please contact **Sandy Pricer** at [slpricer@gmail.com](mailto:slpricer@gmail.com) or 423-619-1163.