



The Philomena House Newsletter

*A beautiful autumn day
at nearby Como Park.*

Dear Philomena Friend,

We preemptively wish a happy fall to all of you, as we're preparing to say good-bye to these precious summer months.

The Philomena board members and volunteers gathered in August at the house, and said hello to our newest arrival, little "Gregory." He was being passed around among many loving arms, as we delighted in his presence.

His mother, "Katherine," has quite a story to tell. Philomena staff found her nine months pregnant, living in a car with her boyfriend and two cats. We got her into the house immediately, giving her a clean place to sleep, a shower and lots of food in the fridge. She gave birth to Gregory two weeks later!

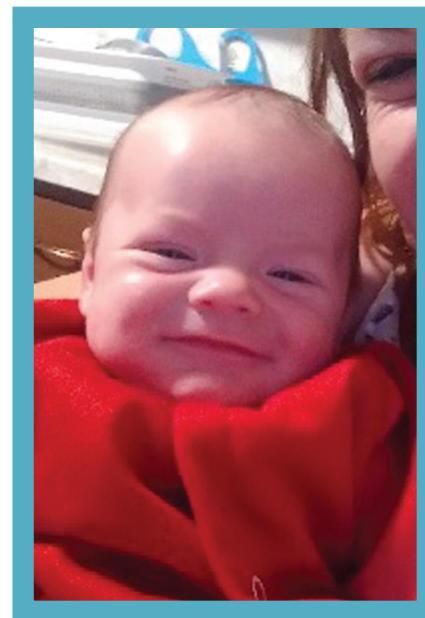
As we got to know her better, we discovered that Katherine has a high school diploma, tried studying various subjects in college, and wants to go back to school someday.

She has a history of employment and will be welcomed back to her former employer as a manager imminently. We've found her to have good organizational skills, and to be articulate, bright and curious.

This is Katherine's fifth child, so we have had a lot of deep discussions with her about how she can keep her son with her and perhaps get custody of her other children someday.

She's a very loving mom, and is trying hard to take good care of her son, who is already smiling, cooing and scooting. Also, Katherine is mentoring other, less experienced mothers in the house who are anxious about labor, delivery and motherhood.

Katherine is on a list for housing in Washington County, and we're hoping the move and a stable job will launch her into a steadier life for herself and her son. In the meantime, we're so thankful for your support so that we can be a stepping stone for her and Gregory as they move forward together.



Gregory is such a happy baby!

She told us, "Philomena House is such a resource and hidden treasure. I am so grateful for everything, for all that you have done."

Blessings,

Annamarie Adkins
Annamarie Adkins, Volunteer