



MARILLAC MOMS

A Transitional Housing Program for Pregnant Women



“Every time she hits a big milestone, even little milestones, it’s exciting because you’re like, I didn’t know if we would get there, when we’d get there, or how we’d get there — but we got there.” - Marillac Team Member



Bringing Families from Crisis to Stability: Marillac Moms Continues to Grow

Saint Vincent de Paul Georgia’s Marillac Moms continues to grow as both a housing program and a source of hope for mothers and children in need. We are currently walking closely with four families housed through the Marillac Moms apartments, providing safe housing, case management, mentoring, and practical support as they work toward greater stability and independence.

At the same time, the mission of Marillac Moms reaches beyond the apartment doors. Through shelter referrals, emergency assistance, resource coordination, and ongoing encouragement, we have also helped six additional families stabilize outside of Marillac housing. Whether a family is living in one of our apartments or receiving support through community resources, our goal remains the same: to meet mothers and children with compassion, dignity, and practical help as they take the next step forward. This work is only possible because of the faithful support and generosity of our parish partners, volunteers, and individual donors who continue to walk alongside these families with us.

WHAT’S NEW

TRANSFIGURATION
Welcome & Happy Birthday,
Candace

HOLY SPIRIT
Jaiza’s Journey Continues

MARY OUR QUEEN
Adayshia issue in June

TRANSFIGURATION
Farewell & God Bless

Welcome and Happy Birthday to Candace!

By Karla Colman

Please join us in welcoming our newest Marillac Moms program participant, **Candace C.**, and wishing her a very happy birthday!

Candace, her 4-year-old daughter Melanie, and baby boy C., who will be joining the family close to or on **July 12**, first came to Marillac Moms this past January in need of assistance and shelter. Candace had made the journey from the Midwest to Georgia, hoping to find work, stability, and a better life for her growing family.

As sometimes happens, housing and employment did not come together as quickly as expected. Candace reached out to **SvDP Georgia's Marillac Moms program** for help. Although there was sadly "no room at the inn" at that time, Marillac Moms was able to refer Candace and Melanie to shelter, and they found temporary housing at **MUST Ministries' Elizabeth Inn**.

Candace made the most of her time there. She secured a job and daycare for Melanie, but as the shelter's one-month time limit came to a close, she was not yet able to secure an apartment on her own.

"I love this place . . ."

-Candace C



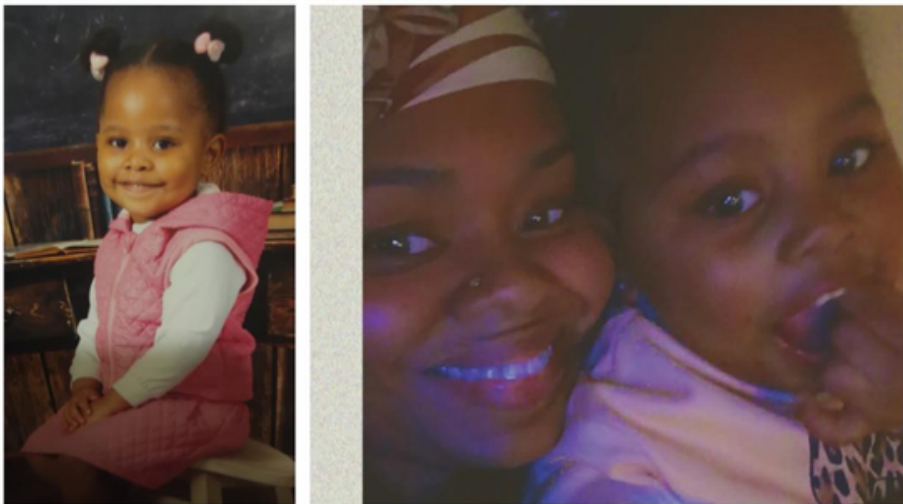
Candace continued checking in with Marillac Moms about her place on the waitlist. When there was still no immediate opening, she and Melanie made their way to East Point and entered another shelter. Even from there, Candace stayed committed to moving forward. Each weekday, she and Melanie traveled from East Point to Marietta — Candace to keep her job at a retirement village as a dietary aide, and Melanie to attend daycare.

Through it all, Candace continued to persevere, stay connected, and advocate for her family.

Then, this May, a spot became available.

Candace and Melanie are now settling into their new home at **Walton Ridge Apartments**, closer to work, daycare, and the supportive community they have been hoping for. They are thrilled to be there, and we are so grateful to welcome them into the Marillac Moms family.

Candace celebrated her 34th birthday Monday, May 18, 2026 with the Transfiguration Care Team.



"pink is my favorite color"

-Melanie, 4

The Transfiguration Care Team will sponsor a baby shower for Candace in the Adult Lounge, June 20, 2026, 12p.m. – 2 p.m. To help with planning or attend the shower, click [HERE](#).

If you would like to make a contribution or purchase toward Candace's shower gift, see her Amazon Registry or contact Karla Colman at 770-363-0451 or kcolman@svdpgeorgia.org.

Welcome, Candace, Melanie, and baby boy C.! We are so happy you are here.

A BABY SHOWER COLLABORATIVE



St. Brigid's Catholic Church and Mary Our Queen Catholic Church came together to help plan a joyful baby shower for Adayshia M. and her growing family. What began as coordination around Adayshia's baby registry quickly became a generous shared effort, with parishioners and Marillac Moms volunteers working together to gather needed baby items, plan refreshments, and create a welcoming space for celebration.

The shower was warm, personal, and meaningful. Parishioners, Marillac Moms volunteers, Adayshia's family, and her 4-year-old son, Asher, gathered in the apartment community's study room to celebrate the upcoming arrival of Adayshia's baby boy. The room was beautifully decorated with baby clothes, blue floral centerpieces, balloons, desserts, and thoughtful gifts.

Special thanks to all who contributed time, gifts, food, and encouragement. Many baby items were generously provided through the St. Brigid Walking with Mom's in Need storage unit, and the remaining larger needs — including a crib, car seat, and stroller — were also addressed through additional support.

Adayshia expressed sincere gratitude after the shower, and the event reflected exactly what Marillac Moms hopes to offer: practical help, loving encouragement, and a community willing to walk alongside a mother and her children during an important season of transition.



"The whole building of relationships is so big."

Team Member



Mary Our Queen Welcomes Baby Boy, Amir

By Suzanne Strang

Marillac Moms is joyful to celebrate the healthy arrival of baby Amir, born naturally at 12:56 p.m. on June 2 at Northside Hospital, weighing 10 lbs. 6 oz. We are grateful to share that both Amir and his mother, Adayshia, are doing well.

This special day was made possible through the loving support of family and volunteers. Adayshia's brother and sister cared for her young son, Asher, so she could get to the hospital, while Suzanne and Irene, a volunteer from Mary Our Queen, were able to be by her side throughout the morning and during delivery. Adayshia's mother arrived shortly after Amir was born, surrounding the new mom and baby with family care and support.

Marillac Moms celebrates another healthy birth, a healthy mom, and a delighted extended family. Welcome to the world, baby Amir!

"There is joy even in the midst of struggle"

Holy Spirit Says “Yes” to Marillac Moms

By Terry Trout



Stepping Out in Faith

In December, Holy Spirit Catholic Church took an exciting step of faith by committing to sponsor a Marillac Moms apartment. What began as a parish commitment quickly became a beautiful example of many ministries working together to support life, welcome a family, and live the Gospel in a very practical way.

By January, St. Vincent de Paul Georgia had secured a two-bedroom apartment at Walton on the Chattahoochee, and Holy Spirit volunteers began preparing to receive the family who would soon call it home. Parishioners responded generously with household essentials, baby items, and thoughtful donations. The response was so strong that the Marillac Moms Support Circle was created to help parishioners stay connected and respond to needs as they arose.

The home itself began to take shape through the help of St. Vincent de Paul Georgia, Fully Furnished Ministries, and Holy Spirit volunteers. Beds were built, furniture was assembled, and even a nursing rocking chair was placed with care. Vincentians, Knights of Columbus members, and many parish ministries helped transport donations, stock the apartment, assemble furniture, and prepare each room so that the family would be welcomed with dignity, comfort, and hope. Father Cossio also blessed the apartment and prayed for the family who would soon move in.

In February, the Holy Spirit Marillac Moms team completed training and prepared to serve as mentors, coaches, companions, and prayerful supporters. Volunteers stepped forward to help with budgeting, career development, life skills, tutoring, household support, and encouragement. The Marillac Moms housing and program structure allows Holy Spirit volunteers to focus on the community, friendship, and loving support

Welcome

Holy Spirit joyfully welcomed Jaiza, known as Jazz, and her two young daughters, Iriyah and Xyla, into their new home through the Marillac Moms program. After leaving an unhealthy living situation and spending several months staying with friends, walking into a fully furnished apartment was an emotional and hopeful fresh start. Jazz is warm, determined, and deeply committed to building a stable future for her family as she prepares to welcome a baby boy later this summer.

Since moving in, Jazz and the girls have begun settling into both their apartment and the Holy Spirit community. Mentor visits have focused on building trust, budgeting, employment, transportation, and long-term stability. Jazz first secured work at an Extended Stay hotel, and by April she was working at FedEx and driving Lyft to continue supporting her family. The girls have been enjoying daycare, and the family has joined in parish moments such as the Fish Fry and Easter Egg Hunt.

Holy Spirit parishioners have continued to surround the family with love. Religious Education students collected books, made cards, and created drawings for Iriyah and Xyla, which were later transformed into a keepsake quilt and handmade blankets. Mother's Day brought another beautiful outpouring of support, including flowers, gift cards, and items to make the family's patio more comfortable.

Jazz shared that she had never felt so loved or cared for. The next parish opportunity to support her growing family will be the Marillac Moms baby shower in partnership with Walking with Moms in Need on June 27 at 10:30 AM in McDonough Hall.

Farewell and Blessings to Jackie and Her Family

By Karla Colman

This spring, Marillac Moms says farewell with gratitude and prayers to Jackie Laster and her children, Nevaeh, Asher, and baby Journey. Jackie entered the Marillac Moms program in November 2025 during a season of uncertainty, pregnancy, and transition. Over the months that followed, her family became part of a caring circle of parishioners, volunteers, mentors, and community partners who walked alongside them with encouragement, practical support, and prayer.

One of the greatest joys of Jackie's time with Marillac Moms was the birth of baby Journey on January 30, 2026. Her arrival was a beautiful reminder of the heart of this ministry: welcoming new life, supporting mothers, and surrounding families with love during both joyful and challenging moments. The team was grateful to celebrate Journey's birth and to help provide meals, baby supplies, encouragement, and support as Jackie adjusted to life with three children.

During her time in the program, Jackie and her family received temporary housing, transportation assistance, financial coaching, childcare planning support, and help connecting with legal and

"My mom has so many friends now."

Nevaeh



Community resources. Volunteers also offered mentorship, spiritual encouragement, and support for the children. Nevaeh began receiving attention for academic needs, and the family was surrounded by people who wanted to help create stability and hope for the future.

As Jackie's time in the Marillac Moms apartment came to a close, the team continued to assist with a thoughtful transition plan. Temporary housing was arranged so Nevaeh could complete the school year, and Jackie remained connected with legal and community resources that may continue to support her family moving forward. These efforts reflect the mission of Marillac Moms: to meet families with compassion, to walk with them during important seasons of life, and to help build bridges toward greater stability.

We are thankful for the time Jackie, Nevaeh, Asher, and Journey spent with Marillac Moms. Their family will remain in our prayers, and we send them forward with hope, encouragement, and sincere wishes for peace, strength, and continued growth in the days ahead.



HOW TO CONNECT:

- ✓ Give to create a new beginning
- ✓ Bring Marillac Moms to your parish
- ✓ Help with a baby shower
- ✓ Become a Care Team member
- ✓ Subscribe



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