



November 2023

# EPLA

Quarterly Newsletter

## Miscarriage Medical Expense Relief Fund

After years of planning and saving, **we are thrilled to announce our pilot miscarriage bill pay program at Hillsdale Hospital!** Miscarriage care kits given out at Hillsdale Hospital and Hidden Meadows OBGYN will include information about applying for funds from a special relief fund, which will be funded by EPLA and administered by Hillsdale Hospital. Each applicant can receive up to \$500 in relief funds, after all other discounts and insurances are applied.



## Local Memorial Bench

EPLA has purchased a plot at Hillsdale's Oak Grove Cemetery, thanks to support from private donations. With this and some other money set aside for this project, we are X% of the way toward fully funding a beautiful memorial. Please consider a donation to this project so that we can create a permanent place for families to grieve their lost babies.

## Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month

October was Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month and EPLA stayed very busy working to provide services and raise awareness about pregnancy loss.

EPLA once again participated in the **Walk of Remembrance at Baw Beese Lake in Hillsdale**, sponsored by Hillsdale Hospital. This year Mayor Adam Stockford presented a declaration by the City of Hillsdale recognizing October 15th as Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Day. We are thankful for this local support to bring awareness to the grief carried by so many.

Other initiatives this month included additional podcasts and blog posts; multiple local presentations to civic groups, church groups, and medical professionals; increased social media campaigns, and our bulb sale.

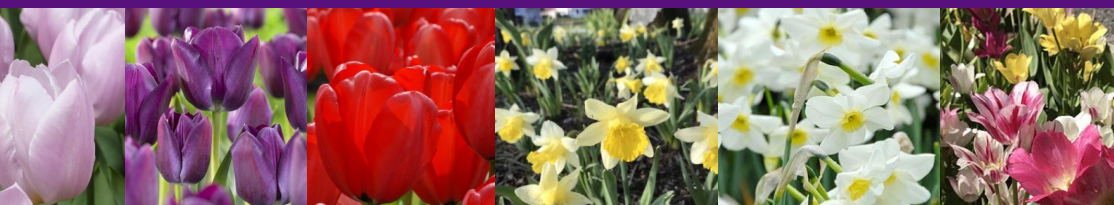
## 2023 Care Kit Distribution Statistics

We have significantly increased our distribution of large miscarriage care kits for women to use when anticipating a miscarriage at home. So far this year, we have distributed 87 large kits, both to individuals and hospitals/healthcare providers (an increase of more than 50 over 2022). We are happy to think that we are able to get supplies in the hands of women when they need them.

In addition, we have distributed over 700 small care kits, mainly in Michigan, but also across the country when we receive requests through our website. 500 of those small kits were put together by Hillsdale College student volunteers during Homecoming week and delivered to Metro Detroit Share, who will disperse them among hospitals and doctors' offices across the state.

## Bulbs Remaining!

There is still time to get bulbs in the ground and we still have some bulbs available! Email us at [miscarriagecare@gmail.com](mailto:miscarriagecare@gmail.com) and we will let you know the current availability. Bulbs are \$12 per bag of 10 bulbs.



## The Great Give!

Join us again this year during The Great Give, a Giving Tuesday event sponsored by the Hillsdale County Community Foundation. This year, we hope to raise \$3,500 to purchase a **memorial bench** for Oak Grove Cemetery and an additional \$10,000 to support our **Medical Bill Relief Program**.

## Miscarriage Care Kits Available

Miscarriage care kits are always available. Now you can request miscarriage care kits online here: [Miscarriage Care Kit Request](#)

Due to a very generous donation from the Hillsdale College Goal Program, we have new kits ready for Hillsdale County. It is our goal to distribute 100 small care kits in Hillsdale before the end of 2023. We want everyone in Hillsdale to know how to access a care kit! Please help us spread the word.

## We need small blankets!

We recently sent 500 care kits to Metro Detroit and we need more blankets! Blankets can be knitted, crocheted, quilted, or sewn. We ask that they are no smaller than 4in x 6in and no larger than 6in x 6in. We prefer gender neutral colors and patterns that will be comforting to grieving families.

These blankets are included in all of our kits as a keepsake.



## Don't Miss Our Favorite Recent Podcast Episodes:

["Miscarriage Myths"](#)

["Miscarriage Perspectives: A Grandmother Weighs In"](#)

featuring board member Linda Tibbitts

["Miscarriage Perspectives: How Can Churches Help More?"](#)

You can find our podcast, ["Hope Blooms: Surviving Miscarriage Together"](#) on any of your favorite streaming services. New episodes are out the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month!



## Scenes from the Walk of Remembrance

